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FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION
So Close and Yet so FAR: DevOps and Federal Regulations

The Federal Acquisition Regulation, the guidelines dictating how Federal agencies procure goods and services, is not flexible enough to keep pace with modernizing agencies, according to Jennifer Hoover, DevOps program manager for the Transportation Security Administration.

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WORKFORCE
Millennials Drive Federal Cloud Adoption

One of the drives for agencies to move to a mobile, cloud environment is to attract millennials, who are used to having their data on demand.

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CLOUD
Cloud Lets Agencies Focus on More Important Issues

Cloud helps organizations focus on the important parts of their mission, rather than wasting their time on maintenance and compliance, according to Peter Cutts, senior vice president of hybrid cloud platforms at Dell EMC.

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Future of AI: Humans Try to Curb Robot Dominance

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WEBINAR
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Join our Aug. 2 webinar to hear Federal and big industry leaders as they discuss the role of data analytics in agency IT modernization and organizational streamlining, big data leadership and how to give agency leaders more control over their data strategy, and the best practices for moving data initiatives forward.

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Subject: The Department of Education News Briefing for July 14, 2017

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS
DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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- A GOP Congressman Wants To Make Sure The Fed Isn't Planning A Student Loan Bailout.
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- NOAA: Climate-Warming Gases Spiked In 2016 Due To Strong El Niño Weather Pattern.
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- Study: In Final Weeks Of 2016 Race, Trump Held Edge Over Clinton On Twitter.
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- AP Exclusive: Democrat Donnelly Criticizes Outsourcing, But Profits From Practice.
- Aided By Trump, MacArthur Raises \$1.13M In Second Quarter.
- With Trump In White House, Democratic Candidates Flock To Congressional Races.
- Ryan Has \$11.5M Banked For Reelection Race.
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- WPost's Long: Trump Economic Team Making Mistake With "Concrete" Growth Promise.
- AEI Fellow: Trump Should Withdraw US From G-20's Financial Stability Board.
- National Review: Oregon's New Abortion Bill "Aggressive" And "Radical."
- NYTimes: Overturning Of Silver's Conviction Does Not Exonerate Him.
- WPost: DC Metro Shouldn't Sell Naming Rights For Stations.

The Big Picture

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Secretary and Department News

DeVos Holds "Listening Sessions" With Sexual Assault Victims, Wrongfully Accused, College Officials.

CBS News

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=002-a19&t=c> (7/13, Guild, 3.91M) reports online that on Thursday, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos "held two separate roundtable listening sessions with both survivors of rape -- as well as students who have been wrongly accused of sexual assault," with a third session following "representing advocates arguing for both sides-- the accusers and the accused-- as well as higher education officials." According to the New York Times, the ED's "Office for Civil Rights currently has hundreds of open sexual assault cases...with an average case taking 703 days to reach resolution, although the department is required to complete 80 percent of its investigations within just 180 days." The CBS website carries video coverage from CBS This Morning, which highlighted how 55 universities are currently under federal investigation for campus sexual assaults.

The AP

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=003-d59&t=c> (7/13, Brown, Svrluga) reports that "during the Thursday session devoted to wrongful accusations, about a half-dozen students (including one woman) told their stories, often tearfully, according to Cynthia Garrett, co-president of Families Advocating for Campus Equality, who was in the meeting." Garrett said, "The secretary was extremely attentive to these students. We had young

men breaking down telling their stories.” The AP adds that some victims advocates and “lawyers believe that the problem is not with the [federal] guidance” on campus sexual assault investigations, “but with the way some colleges have interpreted it.” Additional coverage is provided by a brief AP
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=004-acd&t=c>> (7/13) report.

Meanwhile, the International Business Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=005-454&t=c>> (7/13, Prasad, 518K) highlights “concerns of advocates of survivors of sexual abuse...over reports that DeVos” was to “meet men’s rights group and accused rapists as a part of her consultations on campus sexual assault Thursday,” including “the National Coalition for Men (NCFM), Stop Abusive and Violent Environments (SAVE), and Families Advocating for Campus Equality (FACE).”

The Seventy Four
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=006-4b8&t=c>> (7/13) says that at the sessions, “DeVos and Candice Jackson, acting head of the department’s Office for Civil Rights, met individually with ‘survivors of sexual violence,’ ‘students who have been falsely accused and disciplined under Title IX,’ and ‘representatives of educational institutions and subject matter experts.’” Stop Abusive and Violent Environments (SAVE) Deputy Executive Director Chris Perry “told The 74 he felt optimistic following his session with DeVos. At the meeting, Perry said, was a college student who was accused of verbal sexual harassment and suspended without a hearing three weeks before graduation. Perry said the accusation was fabricated.”

The Huffington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=007-caf&t=c>> (7/13, Vagianos, 6.63M) quotes End Rape on Campus Managing Director Jess Davidson as saying “the meeting was intimate. About 20 people were in the room, about half of them advocates and survivors, and the rest DeVos and other department officials.” Sexual Assault Survivor Fabiana Diaz “said she felt heard, but sharing her story wasn’t easy.” Diaz said she told those in the meeting, “Students and survivors have held their schools accountable rather than the Department of Education holding these schools accountable, and that has to change. Personally, I’m exhausted from the emotional labor that I have put into this. I’m sure everyone who was at that table is as well. But the difference is I’m not getting paid for it. And I think that really resonated with DeVos.”

DeVos Suggests Revision Of Obama-Era Sexual Assault Policies.

The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=008-nytimes&t=c>> (7/13, New York Times, 1.2M) reports that DeVos “told a group of survivors of sexual assault that he was ‘not getting paid for it.’”

ation&r=email-6074&l=008-815&t=c> (7/13, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that after the listening sessions on Thursday, "Education Secretary Betsy DeVos signaled...that she intends to take a hard look at whether the Obama administration's campus rape policies deprived accused students of their rights, saying that 'a system without due process ultimately serves no one in the end.'" DeVos' comments "came at a news conference after what she called a 'really emotionally draining day' of meeting with victims, students who had been accused and higher education officials." DeVos said, "It was clear that their stories have not often been told, and that there are lives that have been ruined and lives that are lost in the process," while being "careful to say that she intends to protect victims' rights as well."

Meanwhile, U.S. News & World Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=009-2db&t=c>> (7/13, Camera, 1.67M) says DeVos' comments "made it clear...that Obama-era guidance regarding how campuses investigate sexual assault needs updating and clarifying, but she did not tip her hat as to what specific policy changes the administration would make." DeVos told reporters, "There are substantive legal questions to be addressed, including the evidentiary standard, due process and lack of public input." Diverse Education <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=00a-332&t=c>> (7/13, Morris) quotes DeVos as saying, "Today's summit made it clear to me that there's work to be done. This issue is hurting too many students, so we'll get to work to figure out the best way to solve this problem, to stop and reduce sexual harassment and assault while respecting due process and the rule of law." The article provides additional analysis of the existing ED policies governing universities' investigations into claims of sexual assault.

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=00b-27e&t=c>> (7/14, Toppo, 10.05M) reports that after the listening sessions, "DeVos said the department should more equally weigh the claims of assault victims and the due-process rights of the accused." DeVos said, "All their stories are important. No student should be the victim of sexual assault. No student should feel unsafe. No student should feel like there isn't a way to seek justice, and no student should feel that the scales are tipped against him or her. We need to get this right." DeVos added that "stories of sexual assault she heard Thursday 'reminded me of the disgusting behavior of some in our society. We must expect more of our young men and women.'" DeVos reportedly "acknowledged that colleges can't go back to the days when allegations were 'swept under the rug,'" saying "of those claiming to be wrongly accused of sexual assault, 'It was clear that their stories are not often told.'"

Additional coverage is provided by Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=00c-561&t=c>> (7/13, Wermund, 2.89M). ABC News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=00d-5b7&t=c>> (7/13) carries video coverage online of excerpts of DeVos' press conference.

DeVos Urges Congress To Clarify Title IX. The Weekly Standard
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=00e-8d3&t=c>> (7/13, Lloyd, 360K) quotes DeVos as saying regarding Title IX, "There has been a lack of clarity. This department is not going to make laws. It's high time for Congress to look at a law that was passed in 1972 and address these issues and finally speak to them and clarify them." The article says these comments indicate DeVos "will defer to Congress to interpret and implement Title IX."

Democrats Oppose Revision Of Obama-Era Title IX Policies.

U.S. News & World Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=00f-6dc&t=c>> (7/13, Camera, 1.67M) reports, "More than 100 advocates of survivors of sexual assault rallied at the Department of Education on Thursday morning, urging Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to focus more on survivors' stories and their concerns and spend less time on the rights of those accused." US Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) joined the rally, stating, "I'm very concerned that [DeVos] is going to roll back Title IX protections for students on campus."

Reporting on DeVos' concerns that "too many students have been treated unfairly as colleges have sought to comply with Obama-era policy on handling sexual assault," the Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=010-b08&t=c>> (7/13, Brown, 12.92M) says that "advocates for survivors of sexual assault have been alarmed by what they view as DeVos's outsized interest in hearing from wrongfully accused students, given that only a small fraction of rape reports are found to be false." Emanating from this "alarm," the Post reports that "dozens of survivors and their allies gathered outside the Education Department Thursday to urge DeVos not to roll back federal protections for victims of sexual violence, and to decry what they view as the Trump administration's lack of commitment to enforcing federal civil rights law."

CNN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=011-3ba&t=c>> (7/13, Tatum, Stafford, 44.83M) highlights "backlash" to the announcement "that students and parents involved in the National Coalition for Men Carolinas would be present" at the DeVos' listening sessions. USA Today
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=012-70f&t=c>> (7/13, 10.05M) carries video coverage

online of Democratic House members' opposition to revision of Title IX.

BuzzFeed

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=013-592&t=c>> (7/13, Kingkade, 8.29M) and Yahoo!

News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=014-b7c&t=c>> (7/13, Munslow, 9.92M) provide coverage of Democratic Senators' criticism of DeVos' approach to investigating sexual assault on college campuses.

Advocates Oppose Revision Of Obama-Era Title IX Policies.

Cornell University assistant professor Peggy Drexler writes in an opinion piece carried by CNN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=015-717&t=c>> (7/13, 44.83M) to oppose revision of Obama-era sexual assault policies. Brooklyn College President Michelle J. Anderson writes in the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=016-591&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) urging preservation of Obama-era Title IX policies. In her "Answer Sheet" column for the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=017-8f2&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M), Valerie Strauss suggests DeVos should not be giving equal time to those wrongfully accused of sexual assault, citing how "some experts estimate that the percentage among allegations" of sexual assault on campus "that are actually false is no more than 8 percent."

NY Daily News Praises DeVos For Promoting Due Process Rights For Students Accused Of Sexual Assault.

The New York Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=018-d75&t=c>> (7/13, 3.65M) says that on Thursday, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos "reiterated her agency's commitment to enforce the federal law," editorializing, "Going forward, the Trump administration's guidance must return professional law enforcement to its proper place, including open proceedings where clear and convincing evidence is the standard of proof." The editorial concludes, "Our nation's education leaders not long ago let their understandable sympathies for victims of sexual assault lure them into creating a parallel, Potemkin justice system. Students deserve justice as real as the violations suffered."

Jackson Again Apologizes For Remarks On "Drunk" Rape Allegations.

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401educ>

ation&r=email-6074&l=019-f44&t=c> (7/13, story 6, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Acting Assistant Secretary of Education for Civil Rights Candice Jackson said in an interview with the New York Times that 90 percent of rape allegations “fall into the category of ‘we were both drunk,’ ‘we broke up, and six months later I found myself’...under investigation.” Jackson, “who said she herself is a rape survivor, apologized...directly to rape victims” in meetings on Thursday.

On its website, NBC News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=01a-6d6&t=c>> (7/13, Silva, 4.92M) quotes Jackson as apologizing on Wednesday, “What I said was flippant, and I am sorry. All sexual harassment and sexual assault must be taken seriously – which has always been my position and will always be the position of this department.” Then, on Thursday, Jackson stated, “As a survivor of rape myself, I would never seek to diminish anyone’s experience. My words in The New York Times poorly characterized the conversations I’ve had with countless groups of advocates.” The ED said in a news release on its website, “The Secretary and senior Department officials have been engaged in ongoing discussions with students, parents, schools, advocacy groups and experts to learn about their experiences and hear their views of how the Department can best fulfill its obligations to protect students under Title IX.” Jessica Davidson, managing director of the advocacy group End Rape on Campus, “was at the meeting with sexual assault victims” on Thursday, and told NBC News that the session “was very emotional.”

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=01b-da7&t=c>> (7/13, Kellman, Feldman) highlights how Jackson’s “‘flippant’ remarks are raising questions about the government’s commitment to fighting campus sexual violence, even as she issued her second apology in as many days for” the remark. The AP adds that Education Secretary Betsy “DeVos also met Thursday with people who say they were falsely accused and disciplined and representatives of colleges and universities to talk about the impact of stepped-up efforts by the Obama administration to enforce the law known as Title IX as it relates to sexual assault.” DeVos said, “We can’t go back to the days when allegations were swept under the rug. And I acknowledge there was a time when women were essentially dismissed. That is not acceptable. It’s clear that there are failings in this process. A system without due process protections ultimately serves no one in the end.”

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=01c-1b2&t=c>> (7/13, Wermund, 2.97M) reports National Women’s Law Center President Fatima Goss Graves was present for Jackson’s Thursday apology and “wasn’t satisfied” with Jackson’s explanation of her remarks. Graves said, “There’s no way to take it back, unfortunately. It’s been put out there.”

Additional coverage is provided by the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=01d-535&t=c>> (7/13, Mettler, 12.92M) "Morning Mix" briefing, the Independent (UK)

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=01e-e1c&t=c>> (7/13, Wilts, 2.2M), MLive (MI)

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=01f-dc0&t=c>> (7/13, 882K), Consumerist

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=020-d0d&t=c>> (7/12, Morran, 32K), Salon

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=021-682&t=c>> (7/13, Maldonado, 551K), the Advocate

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=022-d96&t=c>> (7/13, Gilchrist, 548K), Glamour Magazine

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=023-e4e&t=c>> (7/13, Clark, 10.04M), the Daily Beast

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=024-aa6&t=c>> (7/12, 874K),

DeVos Emphasizes Importance Of Proper Policy Regarding Campus Sexual Assault Investigations. In a video on the website of USA Today <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=025-917&t=c>> (7/13, 10.05M), DeVos responded to questions on Jackson's remarks, saying Jackson "has since then apologized and corrected her statement for that." DeVos added, "We are listening and we know that this policy has not worked in too many ways and in too many places. And we need to get it right. And so we are determined through the course of conversation and the course of discussion with all parties to ensure that whatever is done in the future will address the issues and get them right."

SFChronicle: Despite Apologies, "Damage Is Done" From Jackson's Remarks. The San Francisco Chronicle <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=026-692&t=c>> (7/13, 2.64M) editorializes that in spite of Jackson's apologies, "the damage is done," as "no campus or classroom topic is more volatile or more loaded." The editorial calls campus sexual assault "a real problem, not a case of government overreach or personal crusade," admonishing Jackson's "crass" remarks.

OCR Plans To Set Out New Title IX Enforcement Agenda.

National Review

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=027-666&t=c>> (7/13, Kaufman, 754K) reports that the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) appears to be altering its course on Title IX investigations and intends to "consciously set out a new enforcement agenda." In a speech given to the National Association of College and University Attorneys, which

according to Inside Higher Ed was well received, acting head of the OCR Candace Jackson said the OCR “is now ‘committed to discontinuing the legally dubious practice of issuing subregulatory guidance that is then treated through enforcement as binding mandates.’” Jackson also said that the OCR “will investigate on a case-by-case basis, seeking to avoid turning each individual investigation into a lengthy search for ‘systemic’ problems within an institution” in hopes of speeding up the process and clearing a “huge backlog of cases.”

DeVos To Speak At ALEC Annual Meeting Next Week.

Reporting that “Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is scheduled to speak in Denver next week at the annual meeting of the American Legislative Exchange Council” (ALEC), Chalkbeat

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=028-621&t=c> (7/13, Gorski) predicts “DeVos will find a friendly audience at ALEC,” although “liberal activists and union leaders” likely will “protest DeVos’s agenda.” Chalkbeat adds, “DeVos shares ALEC’s support for charter schools and the use of tax dollars to pay for private school education through vouchers, tax-credit scholarships and education savings accounts.” ALEC’s Education and Workforce Development Task Force Director Inez Feltscher Stepman “lauded DeVos’s support for school choice and for making clear that decision-making about education should be invested in states.”

NCAN Sees Surge In FAFSA Applications, Credits DeVos For Enabling Filings.

Diverse Education

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=029-1f8&t=c> (7/12, Abdul-Alim) reported data compiled by the National College Access Network (NCAN) show “the percentage of high school seniors who by June 30 had filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid” (FAFSA) “reached a new high level this year after several years of decline.” NCAN Director of Policy and Advocacy Carrie Warick called the increase “exciting,” saying, “It’s very exciting to see those numbers increase, which means more students – both high school seniors and adults – are considering higher education.” Warick said Education Secretary “Betsy DeVos deserves credit for enabling students to use alternative forms of verification during the IRS DRT outage,” citing how “in lieu of the IRS DRT, or obtaining an IRS transcript, DeVos allowed colleges and universities to use a signed paper copy of the 2015 IRS tax return as documentation to verify information provided on the FAFSA.”

Montana Releases Draft Plan For ESSA Compliance.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=02a-14f&t=c>> (7/13) reports that on Wednesday, Montana state “Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen released her office’s draft plan for schools to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.” The plan “calls for a 4 percent increase in math and English proficiency for all students in each of the next several school years, as measured by standardized tests,” and “for closing the achievement gap seen among the economically disadvantaged, children with disabilities, English learners and American Indians.” The AP adds, “The draft plan is open for public comment through August and must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by Sept. 18.”

California Board of Education Defines “Ineffective Teacher” For ESSA, Vaguely.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=02b-cc8&t=c>> (7/12, Resmovits, 4.57M) reports that on Wednesday, the California Board of Education, in order to satisfy the Every Student Succeeds Act, officially defined an “ineffective teacher” as one that “is improperly assigned or does not have proper credentials.” California’s definition is being criticized by some education advocates, like the Education Trust West, which wrote of the definition in a letter, “It refuses to consider teacher effectiveness...as something related to performance and impact on students.” Board President Mike Kirst stated, “The lack of detail was deliberate, and part of a long-running effort to not let the federal government direct California’s schools.”

Indiana Board Of Education Wants To Weigh Student Proficiency Over Growth In New ESSA Draft Plan.

The Indianapolis Star

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=02c-e37&t=c>> (7/13, Herron, 636K) reports that on Thursday, the Indiana State Board of Education said it wants “student proficiency to be given more weight than student growth” in a reversal of last year’s new grading system, which “gave equal weight to student improvement and performance on standardized tests.” This announcement comes as part of Indiana’s plan to comply with the Every Student Succeeds Act. The board will likely revisit the weighting issue in its August meeting and “Indiana will collect feedback on its draft plan through July 20.”

Alexander Says Botel “Hasn’t Read” ESSA Carefully.

Alyson Klein writes in the Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=02d-969&t=c> (7/13, 132K) "Politics K-12" blog that Senate HELP Chairman Lamar Alexander, "one of the main architects" of ESSA, said of Acting Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education Jason Botel, "I think we have a case of an assistant secretary who hasn't read the law carefully." The statement was regarding "a feedback letter Botel sent to Delaware on its ESSA plan, telling the state that it hadn't been 'ambitious' enough in setting long-term goals for student achievement" which Alexander felt violated "the heart of the entire law...that it's the state's decision to set goals, to decide what 'ambitious' means."

NPR's Sanchez: States Are Anything But Optimistic About ESSA.

NPR

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=02e-6a4&t=c> (7/13, Sanchez, 3.51M) education correspondent Claudio Sanchez features the opinions of education professionals at the annual conference of the Education Commission of the States, saying, "The mood recently at the annual conference of the Education Commission of the States...[was] anything but optimistic about the future, or about" the ESSA. Sanchez also writes that he "heard lots of reasons at the ECS meeting" as to why states aren't happy with ESSA, but most prominently that "states have had little time to prepare" amid a host of other problems and budget crises in their individual states.

Delaware's Special Education Program Earns Department Of Education's Highest Rating.

The Wilmington (DE) News Journal

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=02f-ca0&t=c> (7/13, Bies, 434K) reports that Delaware has "earned the highest rating possible from the US Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs" this year for its special education program, a marked improvement over the score the program received in 2013 of "needs intervention." In a statement, Delaware Secretary of Education Susan Bunting said, "Although more work remains, this is confirmation that we are continuing to move in the right direction." Bunting's statement coincides with results of the 2016 TELL Delaware Survey released this week which "indicated teachers still feel underprepared when it comes to serving special education students." House Spending Proposal Cuts \$2.3B Title II Program For Teacher Training.

In its "Teacher Beat" blog, Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=030-6b5&t=c> (7/13, Loewus, 132K) says "the

education spending plan released by the U.S. House of Representatives” on Wednesday “would eliminate a key federal funding stream for teacher professional development and class-size reduction--underscoring that even longstanding programs face an uncertain future in the Trump era.” The proposal cuts the \$2.3 billion Title II program, which is “generally spent on things like professional development, hiring more teachers to reduce class sizes, mentoring and induction, and revising certification programs.” The blog speculates that cutting the program “could hamper implementation of the new Every Student Succeeds Act, lead to teacher layoffs, and make it tougher for educators to reach special populations of students, or use technology in their classrooms.”

EdWeek Analysis: Vouchers Will Not Contribute To Segregation Of Schools.

Arianna Prothero writes in the Education Week <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=031-6e1&t=c> (7/13, 132K) “Charters & Choice” blog on the role of school vouchers in segregation, in response to a new policy brief from the Center for American Progress which argues that “vouchers were once deployed during the Jim Crow era to perpetuate segregated school systems post Brown v. Board of Education.” Prothero counters that “wealthy and middle class white families don’t have to rely on private schools to isolate themselves.” EdChoice CEO Robert Enlow said in a statement, “Assigning students to schools based on where they live...created a system where quality schools are linked to property values. Those families who can afford to move to ‘better’ districts do, and those who can’t remain in low-performing schools or have to find another way out.”

Burke: Trump Administration Should Not Encourage School Choice Via Scholarship Tax Credits.

In National Review <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=032-ea1&t=c> (7/13, 754K), Lindsey Burke, director of the Heritage Foundation Center for Education Policy, argues that the Trump Administration should not enact a new federal tax credit to encourage “school choice” via scholarship tax credits (STCs) that would allow the offset of “contributions to nonprofits providing scholarships to private schools.” Burke writes that, although STCs have worked for states, which take into account the differing needs of local communities, “the federal tax code is an inappropriate level for establishing STCs” and “would further entangle Washington in local school policy and private education.”

Additional Reading

House Lawmakers Advance Funding Bill Without Trump-DeVos Choice Programs.

Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=033-98c&t=c>> (7/13, Ujifusa, 132K)

Principals Are Loath To Give Teachers Bad Ratings.

Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=034-6db&t=c>> (7/13, Loewus, 132K)

Tennessee Comptroller To Investigate Corporal Punishment Of Students With Disabilities.

The Tennessean

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=035-5d3&t=c>> (7/13, Balakit, 423K)

Louisiana Officials Optimistic On Federal Approval For Plan To Revamp Public Schools.

The Baton Rouge (LA) Advocate

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=036-a7b&t=c>> (7/13, Sentell, 95K)

3 Reasons Why Betsy DeVos Doesn't Make The Grade.

Forbes

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=037-fdb&t=c>> (7/13, Boswell, 14.59M)

Bureaucracy Is Running Amok.

The Wheeling (WV) Intelligencer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=038-76a&t=c>> (7/13, Editorial Board, 57K)



Early Learning

New Memphis Summer Learning Programs, From STEM To Art, Help Fight "Learning Loss."

Chalkbeat

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=039-126&t=c>> (7/13, Brighenti) reports that this summer, for the first time, Memphis offered a variety of new education programs in an effort to prevent "summer learning loss", a phenomenon that is "a large contributor to the achievement gap." The programs, ranging "from STEM and robotics to art and test prep," were introduced to provide opportunities for low-income students who "usually don't get the same summer enrichment opportunities as their more affluent peers." Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland "estimated that 10,000 children and teens are being reached this summer."

Six Students From Hunterdon County, New Jersey Compete And Win At FCCLA Leadership Conference in Nashville.

NJ News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=03a-fe3&t=c>> (7/13, Roberts, 1.16M) reports that "six students from Hunterdon County Polytech's Teacher Academy and Early Childhood Education Program recently competed at the Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) National Leadership Conference," held earlier this month in Nashville. Each member of the group "earned either a gold or a silver national medal."

Additional Reading

Who Is That Giving Advice To Parents Of Young Children? Why, It's A Lead Singer Of The Flobots.

Chalkbeat

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=03b-b88&t=c>> (7/13, Schimke)

Playground Meetings Ease Transition For Lansing Kindergartners.

The Ithaca (NY) Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=03b-b88&t=c>>

ation&r=email-6074&l=03c-d7c&t=c> (7/13, Montague, 34K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Assessment Scores In Wyoming Show Students Improved In Math And Science, Slightly Declined In Reading.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=03d-70f&t=c>> (7/13) reports that Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students scores that were released on Thursday showed “improvement in math and science, while reading registered a slight decline.” The tests are administered in “reading and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and in science for grades 4 and 8,”

Changes To Student Data Caused Confusion Over Standardized Test Results in Texas.

The Houston Chronicle

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=03e-afd&t=c>> (7/13, Webb, Carpenter, 2.12M) reports that there is confusion in Texas school districts over State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results after the Texas Education Agency “changed which students it includes in its data.” The 2017 results “include students who, in years prior, took two alternative assessments: the STAAR-A, offered to students with learning disabilities, and the STAAR-L, given to students learning English.” This is because STAAR-A and STAAR-L were not administered this year. The lack of comparable data has made comparisons to previous years difficult and individual school districts “have resorted to creating their own data sets.” The Dallas Morning News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=03f-2df&t=c>> (7/13, Ayala, 894K) also covers this story.

Analysis: International Schools Help To Close “Achievement Gap” Between Immigrant Students And Their Peers.

In a 2,700-word analysis, The Atlantic

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=040-4bd&t=c>> (7/13, Gross, 19.86M) discusses the efficacy of international school programs like the International Academy at Cardozo Education Campus in Washington that were created to better serve the unique needs of English-language learners (ELLs). Although the programs have provided benefits to ELL student in terms of raised

graduation rates and improved performance, closing the “achievement gap” for immigrant children, “some critics liken the separate learning environments to segregation practices of old.” Critics of the programs include NAACP President Bob Ross, who “told The Washington Post that the schools were putting the needs of newcomers ‘ahead of the needs of those who are already here.’”

No More Preferential Enrollment For Children Of Public Officials In District Of Columbia.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=041-571&t=c>> (7/13, Jamison, 12.92M) reports that District of Columbia Schools Chancellor Antwan Wilson announced in letter on Tuesday that a new policy will be implemented to bar government officials “from receiving special treatment for their children in the District’s notoriously competitive school-enrollment process,” although it will still allow transfers for “students who require them for special education or because of disabilities, those who are physically endangered at their schools and the children of military families.” The policy was created in response to “a D.C. inspector general’s report that found that while she was schools chancellor, Kaya Henderson gave preferential treatment to public officials’ children by helping enroll them directly in coveted schools.”

Perdue Defends Administration’s Relaxation Of School Nutrition Standards.

Politico Morning Agriculture

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=042-570&t=c>> (7/13, Boudreau, 2.89M) reports that on Wednesday, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue “defended the Trump administration’s recent controversial move to relax some of the school-nutrition standards championed by former first lady Michelle Obama,” speaking to “some 7,000 professionals at the School Nutrition Association’s annual conference in Atlanta.” The crowd reportedly “cheered, applauded and laughed as Perdue told them that he believed they know much more about their communities and kids than Washington does.” Perdue said, “Some have said in the press, as you’ve read, that we’re ‘rolling back’, [that] these rules ‘roll back progress.’ I don’t agree with that. We’re freezing things in place to help us evaluate what the palatability, what the acceptance of these changes have been and to reduce the burdens on schools to get you back to feeding kids and not doing paperwork so much anymore.”

On its website, WTVC-TV

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=043-edd&t=c>> Chattanooga, TN (7/13, 39K) quotes

Perdue as telling school nutritionists, "If you look at the obesity epidemic out there, it's not happening at schools it's happening at home and on the way to and from school." The Hays (KS) Daily News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=044-81f&t=c>> (7/13, Bluestein, 35K) quotes Perdue as saying, "Hungry children cannot learn. I don't mean to sound so profound for that. That's simple and basic, and it can get lost in the conversation. Food that's thrown in the trash cannot nourish any child, and frankly that trash can doesn't need any nourishment."

NH Prosecutors Investigate Alleged Sexual Assaults At St. Paul's.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=045-a84&t=c>> (7/13) reports, "The New Hampshire Attorney General's Office announced Thursday that it is launching a criminal investigation into allegations of sexual assault and misconduct at" St. Paul's School in Concord. This announcement follows the elite prep school's "release of a report in May detailing sexual assaults by teachers on their students, earlier information about student sexual conquest rituals and allegations of a similar ritual reported in June."

The Boston Globe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=046-c35&t=c>> (7/13, McDonald, 1.06M) provides additional coverage.

Georgia Seeks Additional \$48M In Federal Dollars For School Nurses.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=047-1f0&t=c>> (7/13, Tagami, 1.26M) reports, "In a joint effort with the Georgia Department of Education, the [state's] Department of Community Health board voted to approve a nursing services reimbursement program that would draw an estimated \$48.6 million in additional federal dollars" for school nurses, "assuming no major changes to Medicaid." The AJC notes, "There were 1,629 nurses and 307 unlicensed health care and clinic workers in Georgia schools last spring," pointing out "they are the only medical workers some students see, especially in rural areas where hospitals have closed and doctors are scarce."

Nevada Allocates \$34.2M To Struggling Students In Clark County.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=048-d26&t=c>> (7/13, Delaney, 542K) reports that at

the Nevada state Board of Education meeting Thursday, the board announced “an extra \$34.2 million to help poor students in Clark County or those learning English stay on track academically.” The article specifies, “The money can be used by schools on programs and services specifically targeting two categories of students determined to be in need of more help to perform on the same level as their peers.”

Arizona School District Rolling Out Plan To Help At-Risk Students Through Enrollment.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=049-0a9&t=c>> (7/13) reports that Tucson Unified School District Interim Superintendent Gabriel Trujillo “is rolling out the short-term plan that focuses on returning at-risk students to school and customer service” in order to “reverse its continuous decline in student enrollment.”

Colorado Department Of Education Launches New Website To Allow The Public To Track School Spending.

The Denver Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=04a-f6f&t=c>> (7/13, Whaley, 1.01M) reports that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) has launched a new website, Financial Transparency for Colorado Schools, which “allows side-to-side comparisons among schools and school districts.” Colorado Education Association President Kerrie Dallman cautions that while the website allows for greater transparency for community members, “it is somewhat limited. It doesn’t give you the full picture.” CDE officials “say they are aware of concerns about the website and it likely will be revamped this year.”

Florida School District Eliminates Homework For Elementary Students.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=04b-984&t=c>> (7/13, Price, 1.26M) reports Marion County School District Superintendent Heidi Maier announced Wednesday that the Florida school district would be eliminating homework assignments in its elementary schools. The article adds, “Instead of homework, Maier has asked parents to read with their children for 20 minutes every evening.” School district official Kevin Christian said the rule is not “100 percent absolute,” adding, “We are just talking about the everyday homework assignment that a lot of people feel is just homework for the sake of homework.” The New York Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=04c-5c7&t=c>> (7/13, Burke, 3.65M) reports similarly.

“Elevate [Math]” Summer Program Aimed At Helping Kids Improve Math Skills.

The San Jose (CA) Mercury News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=04d-8c7&t=c>> (7/13, Brassil, 821K) reports that the Silicon Valley Education Foundation is sponsoring “Elevate [Math],” a new summer program which “covers Common Core-aligned topics, like variables, linear equations and graphs as well as beginning algebra and geometry.” Elevate [Math] is targeted towards “Bay Area students between 6th and 10th grade who just barely missed meeting the required standards on California’s annual standardized exams.” The goal of the program is to help improve students math skills and to help them become more engaged in school by providing out of classroom activities like college visits and “corporate guest speakers lead in-class activities, called STEM workshops.”

Dev Bootcamp Announces It Will Close Its Doors.

The Chicago Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=04e-aba&t=c>> (7/13, Meyerson, 1.85M) reports that Dev Bootcamp, “one of the earliest companies to launch an intensive coding school program,” announced Wednesday in an email to alumni that it will be closing its doors on Dec. 8. Dev Bootcamp President Tarlin Ray stated in the letter, “Despite tremendous efforts from a lot of talented people, we’ve determined that we simply can’t achieve a sustainable business model without compromising our mission of delivering a high-quality coding education that is accessible to a diverse population of students.”

Flight Night Drone Institute Teaches Tulsa Educators To Build, Fly Drones.

The Tulsa (OK) World

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=04f-40b&t=c>> (7/13, Pickard, 344K) reports that Flight Night Drone Institute, “a nonprofit focused on STEM programs and projects,” has trained 85 teachers and staff from more than 20 school districts to fly drones. The program was aimed at instructing teachers “to design, develop, program and fly drones so they can train their students to do the same.” Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance communications

coordinator Sabrina Bevins said, "Learning to build and fly drones helps students develop problem-solving skills needed in the workforce of various industries in Oklahoma."

Preliminary Findings Of New Study Suggests Wearing Lab Coats May Help Inspire Kids To Be Scientists.

NJ News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=050-8a0&t=c>> (7/13, Rojas, 1.16M) reports that education professors Lauren Madden and Marissa Bellino and recent graduate Rachel DiVanno, along with researchers from North Carolina State and East Carolina universities, teamed up to study "how elementary school students view themselves as scientists and engineers when wearing lab coats and whether it influences their learning." The study consisted of 80 students at Bear Tavern Elementary School – "two traditional classes and two classes from the school's STEM Academy" – with one class from each program wearing the lab coat for 10 lessons. Madden stated, "Preliminary findings suggest that those who wore the lab coats had improved self-efficacy, or confidence in their abilities, and could better identify careers in science."

"Peace Teachers" Program Aims To Bring Peace-Building Skills To The Classroom.

In its "Teaching Now" blog, Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=051-a35&t=c>> (7/13, Mammina, 132K) reports on the "Peace Teachers" program, which "is one of several education initiatives offered by USIP, a nonpartisan institute seeking to prevent and reduce violent conflict around the world." The blog says, "For the second year now, the program has connected a small group of middle and high school teachers with the training, resources, and support necessary to bring concepts of peace and conflict resolution to the classroom." For example, this past year, the program included "a Skype call with a secretary of state, a 5K run for human rights, and an anti-gun-violence march in Chicago."

Michigan Teen Pleads Guilty To Threatening To Shoot Up School.

MLive (MI)

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=052-6f1&t=c>> (7/13, 882K) reports 18-year-old Nicholas L. Rochow of Bay County, Michigan "pleaded guilty to false report or threat of terrorism" after he was "accused of threatening to open fire on his high school." Rochow told the judge, "I threatened to

bring a loaded firearm into Bay City Central High School and hurt innocent people.”

Maryland Debuts Electronic School Bus Inspection System.

The Baltimore Sun

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=053-acf&t=c>> (7/13, Campbell, 703K) reports that the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration announced Thursday that it “has installed a new electronic system of reporting school bus inspections, replacing its old, paper-based system.” MVA Administrator Christine Nizer said in a statement, “School bus inspections are critical to ensuring the safety of our children being transported to and from school. This new system allows us to more efficiently monitor the safety of school buses operated on Maryland roadways.”

Additional Reading

An Ingenious Bid To Force Improvements In Mississippi Schools.

The Economist

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=054-693&t=c>> (7/13, 7.89M)

1967 Newark Riots: What They Can Teach Us About Education.

Fortune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=055-490&t=c>> (7/13, Morel, 7.44M)

Georgia School Districts Challenged To Fill All Teaching Posts.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=056-6e4&t=c>> (7/13, Walker, 1.26M)

Host Of New Faces Arrive In Detroit Schools As Vitti Rebuilds.

The Detroit Free Press

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=057-739&t=c>> (7/14, 1.11M)



Post-Secondary Education

OCR Probes Claims Of Sexual Violence At Two Missouri Colleges.

Relying on information in the St. Louis (MO) Post-Dispatch

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=058-c05&t=c>> (7/13, Jost, 857K), the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=059-dba&t=c>> (7/13) reports the ED's Office of Civil Rights opened investigations into three claims of sexual violence at Washington University and Springfield's Baptist Bible College in Missouri. The AP notes that "Missouri University of Science and Technology is the only public university under investigation in the state," with a probe having been opened three years ago.

House To Act On Bipartisan Measure To Expand GI Bill.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=05a-6e3&t=c>> (7/13, Yen) reports House Republicans and Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday "that would provide the biggest expansion of college aid for military veterans in a decade, removing a 15-year time limit to tap into benefits and increasing money for thousands in the National Guard and Reserve." House Veterans' Affairs Chairman Phil Roe said he would schedule a committee vote next week. The bipartisan measure represents "a sweeping effort to fill coverage gaps in the post-9/11 GI Bill amid a rapidly changing job market."

Commentary Considers ED's Revision Of Student Loan Consumer Protection Rules.

Responding to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' plans to revise Obama-era student loan consumer protection rules, the MetroWest (MA) Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=05b-97f&t=c>> (7/13, 63K) editorializes that while it is "reasonable for DeVos to review the regulations inherited by her from the previous administration," federal law "ordinarily requires agencies to go through just as open and evidence-based a process to change a rule as to create one." Forbes

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401educ>

ation&r=email-6074&l=05c-933&t=c> (7/13, 14.59M) cartoonist Ed Hall expresses concern that students are “drowning” in debt.

Chronicle of Higher Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=05d-b09&t=c>> (7/13, 44K) contributor Nell Gluckman provides an analysis of how the “lawsuit filed last week by a group of state attorneys general against the U.S. Department of Education may indicate that states will ramp up their regulation of the for-profit sector” in response to the rule revision. Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=05e-8e8&t=c>> (7/13, Dlouhy, Levin, 3.08M) also mentions the lawsuit. Behind a paywall, the Charlotte (NC) Business Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=05f-f11&t=c>> (7/13, Chemtob, Subscription Publication, 903K) focuses on the rule revision’s impact in North Carolina.

More FAFSAs Filed In Ohio And Across the US.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=060-6fa&t=c>> (7/13, Farkas, 898K) reports that according to the National College Access Network, FAFSAs filed by high school seniors through June 30 “increased 9 percent nationally and 6 percent in Ohio.” This increase could possibly be attributed to a simpler application and the US Department of Education “allowing students to begin filing the form in October instead of January.” This is significant because “a high school student who completes the FAFSA is 63 percent more likely to attend a college.”

Columbia University Settles Lawsuit By Accused In “Mattress Girl” Case.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=061-e6e&t=c>> (7/13, Shapiro, 12.92M) reports that Columbia University settled a 2015 Title IX lawsuit filed by Paul Nungesser, “a former male student whose case attracted national attention after a young woman protested against the administration’s handling of her sexual assault allegations by carrying a mattress around campus.” The case prompted a nationwide discussion about how accusers and accused are treated in Title IX cases.

Outgoing B-CU President To Retire Early.

WESH-TV

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=062-80a&t=c>> Orlando, FL (7/13, 144K) reports online that Bethune Cookman University "President Edison Jackson announced to the board of trustees he's retiring a year early." Discussing his early retirement, Jackson briefly discussed his decision to invite Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to be the university's May commencement speaker.

Additional Reading

Another Consequence Of Rising College Costs: Declining Homeownership.

MarketWatch

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=063-8c6&t=c>> (7/13, Berman, 1.02M)

A GOP Congressman Wants To Make Sure The Fed Isn't Planning A Student Loan Bailout.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=064-3f8&t=c>> (7/13, Long, 12.92M)

Accreditor Rejects EDMC Deal Due To 'Insufficient Information And Evidence'.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=065-7c5&t=c>> (7/13, Moore, 559K)

Here's How Much It Costs To Go To College In The US Compared To Other Countries.

CNBC

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=066-480&t=c>> (7/13, Hess, 3.58M)

Parent Loans: How To Borrow For Your Child's College Bills.

Money



<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=067-c30&t=c>> (7/13, Mulhere, 5.16M)

3 Student Loan Risks Parent Borrowers Should Avoid.

Nerd Wallet

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=068-aab&t=c>> (7/13, Helhoski, 530K)

Other Washington News

Trump Defends Son, Downplays Significance Of Veselnitskaya Meeting.

President Trump's comments during a joint news conference with French President Emmanuel Macron about his son Donald Trump Jr.'s meeting with a Russian lawyer dominate what continues to be heavy media coverage of Russia story. Trump is portrayed almost universally as defending his son and downplaying the significance of the meeting – amid vocal criticism from Democrats and calls for Trump Jr. to testify before Congress. In what is generally cast as an attempt to shift blame away from his White House, Trump also opened a new front in the story, claiming that the Obama Administration was responsible for letting the Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, into the country.

Cecilia Vega said on ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=069-cb0&t=c>> (7/13, story 2, 3:45, Muir, 14.63M)

that Trump's visit to France was "overshadowed" by the story, and Lester Holt, in the lead story for NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=06a-c64&t=c>> (7/13, lead story, 3:00, 16.61M)

called Trump's defense of his son "uncharacteristically muted," while

Kristen Welker said Trump was "steadfastly defending his son." Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=06b-632&t=c>> (7/13, Key, 2.16M) says Trump

"defended his son's decision to take a meeting with a Russian attorney,"

while the New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=06c-662&t=c>> (7/13, Fredericks, 3.2M) reports that

Trump "staunchly defended his eldest son," saying, "I think the press made a very big deal over something that really a lot of people would do." Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=06d-0f7&t=c>> (7/13, McCaskill, 2.97M) says Trump

"downplay[ed] the significance" of the meeting. Mark Phillips said on the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401educ>

ation&r=email-6074&l=06e-a13&t=c> (7/13, story 2, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M)
that Trump "was sticking to his story, that it was all part of the nasty
game of politics," and "he insisted, the story was being overblown, not
because the meeting shouldn't have taken place, but apparently because
it produced nothing useful." Phillips added that Trump's answers "won't
likely satisfy those who say that Donald Trump Jr. should never have
taken that meeting. Instead, they say, he should have reported the
approach to the FBI."

On its cover, TIME

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=06f-ea1&t=c>> (7/13, Von Drehle, 6.82M) features a
black and white photo of Trump Jr. and the words "Red Handed" below his
face. The cover story, which calls the revelation of Trump Jr.'s
"enthusiastic response to 'obviously very high level and sensitive'
morsels supposedly collected by the Kremlin" a "bombshell," declares,
"So much for White House efforts to deny a Russia problem." TIME adds
that while "treason" is "an extremely hard case to make," a "more
plausible charge is obstruction of justice – and here the President
himself might be vulnerable."

Trump, the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=070-66b&t=c>> (7/13, Jalonick, Tucker) reports,
characterized the meeting "as standard campaign practice and
maintain[ed] that 'nothing happened' as a result of the June sit-down."
Trump told reporters that "politics is not the nicest business in the
world" and that "it's standard for candidates to welcome negative
information about an opponent." Trump added that in this case, "nothing
happened from the meeting, zero happened from the meeting." The AP
highlights that the President's comments "stood in contrast to the
position of his nominee for FBI director, Christopher Wray" during his
confirmation hearing Wednesday.

Townhall

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=071-bd7&t=c>> (7/13, Pavlich, 450K) says Trump
"defended" his son, as does the New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=072-2e8&t=c>> (7/13, Haberman, Subscription
Publication, 14.49M), which quotes the President as calling Trump Jr. a
"wonderful young man," who "took a meeting with a Russian lawyer. Not a
government lawyer; a Russian lawyer." The Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=073-346&t=c>> (7/13, Parker, 12.92M) quotes Trump
as saying, "I do think this: I think from a practical standpoint most
people would have taken that meeting. ... It's called opposition
research or even research into your opponent."

However, USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=074-01e&t=c>> (7/13, Jackson, Schouten, 10.05M)

reports that “campaign and ethics experts have also disputed the Trumps’ claims that the meeting constituted normal opposition research,” and Vega said on ABC World News Tonight
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=075-02d&t=c>> (7/13, story 2, 3:45, Muir, 14.63M) that while Trump said the lawyer was “not a government lawyer,” in “those emails, it was crystal clear. Don Jr. agreed to meet with a quote, ‘Russian government attorney,’ who he was told had incriminating information on Hillary Clinton.”

In a comment that media reports cast as an attempt to shift some responsibility on to the Obama Administration, Trump also claimed Veselnitskaya was allowed into the country “by the Obama Justice Department under extraordinary circumstances on a lobbying campaign with Congress and others to change US adoption policy toward Russia,” the Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=076-c4b&t=c>> (7/13, Boyer, 458K) reports. Trump said, “She was in the halls of Congress, also. ... Somebody said that her visa or her passport to come into the country was approved by Attorney General [Loretta] Lynch. Maybe that’s wrong. I just heard that a little while ago. That’s why she was here, because of Lynch.” John Roberts reported on Fox News’ Special Report
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=077-02c&t=c>> (7/13, 1.53M) that Trump “pointed fingers at the press, arguing the incident have been overblown, blaming the Obama Administration for the fact that...Veselnitskaya was in the country at all.”

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=078-e8b&t=c>> (7/13, Fabian, 1.61M) says Trump “appeared to blame the Obama administration” for allowing Veselnitskaya into the country, and calls the comment “an attempt to deflect attention away from his son’s decision to take the meeting.” Similarly, Roll Call
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=079-e35&t=c>> (7/13, Bennett, 91K) says the comment “appeared an attempt to at the least shift blame for her presence on top Democrats, and at most suggest top Democrats knew about her pending meeting with Trump Jr. and wanted it to occur.” Tucker Carlson said on Fox News Tucker Carlson Tonight
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=07a-2d8&t=c>> (7/13) that Lynch “personally got involved in helping that lawyer come to the United States. Once here, the lawyer/spy/diabolical hacker of democracy didn’t just meet with Donald Trump Jr. She also sat in on a congressional hearing, she lobbied on behalf of her government, she went to events around Washington, including a dinner attended by at least one member of Congress who, for the record, is not named Trump. In other words, the story is considerably more complex than you may have heard.”

Rep. Adam Schiff, ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence

Committee, blasted Trump's comments on CNN's The Lead
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=07b-a64&t=c>> (7/13, 320K), saying that "for the President today...to defend Donald Jr. by saying, first of all, well this attorney wasn't a government attorney when that's how she was purported to be, and to go on to say, well, lots of people would have taken that meeting, is the equivalent of saying lots of people do unethical things, and so we did too. And we're okay with that. It's not okay. ... Whether it's illegal is another question, but it ought to be appalling to anyone with ethical standards."

Senate Intelligence Committee ranking member Mark Warner said on Fox News' Special Report
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=07c-3a1&t=c>> (7/13, 1.53M) he "can't believe" that Trump would describe Trump Jr.'s actions as standard politics. Warner said, "Here it was in black and white, an email that said 'hey, meet with this Russian lawyer acting as an agent of the Russian government.' This is part of the Russian government's effort to help then-candidate Trump and discredit Clinton.' I don't know anybody, Democrat or Republican, that would take that kind of meeting with not only a foreign government, but a foreign adversary, and frankly a government that we've learned was trying to hack into our whole electoral process." When asked if he's seen other evidence of collusion, Warner said the committee is just now beginning to talk to people affiliated with the Trump campaign so "there is no evidence yet."

Sen. Ben Cardin said on CNN's Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=07d-2b5&t=c>> (7/13, 554K) that Trump Jr. owes the American people "an explanation. What he did is extremely troubling" and it is "not standard politics." When asked about Trump saying Lynch let the Russian lawyer into the country, Cardin said, "Getting into the country is certainly not relevant to meeting with a person to get information to use in a campaign from another country. We let foreigners in our country. What is unusual is a campaign accepting information from a foreign agent that could be used against your opponent."

Sen. Amy Klobuchar said on MSNBC's Morning Joe
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=07e-8bc&t=c>> (7/13, 270K), "We heard time and time again how the Hillary campaign wasn't as good as the Trump campaign when it came to this targeting and social media. That may be true but if you start to learn that the reason is that the Trump campaign was colluding with a foreign entity, that's a whole other world. . . . I don't know all the facts here, I'm a former prosecutor, I like to wait until I see the facts, but this is a very grave matter."

Rep. Joaquin Castro said on CNN's Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=07f-21d&t=c>> (7/13, 554K), "I completely disagree" with Trump's claim that Trump Jr.'s actions are common in politics.

Castro said, "Yes, opposition research is common in politics, but meeting with officials of...an adversary" of the US "is not standard practice at all."

Major Garrett reported on the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=080-7bf&t=c>> (7/13, story 3, 1:10, Mason, 11.17M) that "the Senate Intelligence Committee will request documents from Trump Jr. and Jared Kushner about that meeting, and it wants to interview, as you might expect, anyone in the Trump campaign who had contact with Russians." Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse said on MSNBC's Morning Joe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=081-05e&t=c>> (7/13, 270K) that Trump is "the only President or presidential candidate not to reveal his tax returns. There is credible information to suggest that the tax returns would reveal contacts with Russia. He is exactly the model of the business man that the Russians target in their election interference strategies which has been written up over and over again, and he won't do it."

Michael Gerson writes in the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=082-28a&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) that while some have "employed the excuse that members of the Trump team are new to politics," the "their innocence...is proved by their guilt." Gerson argues that this explanation "does not cover egregious acts of wrongdoing. Putting a future president in the debt of a foreign power — and subject, presumably, to blackmail by that power — is the height of sleazy stupidity." Rather than "a mistake born of greenness; it is evidence of a vacant conscience." Charles Krauthammer said on Fox News' Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=083-758&t=c>> (7/13, 1.53M), "I'm not impressed by the story about the lawyer. I think it's a red herring the size of a whale. She was a pawn. It doesn't change the central fact of the scandal. The scandal is the email received from an intermediary by Donald Trump, Jr. that said a Russian government lawyer...would be coming with dirt on Hillary and that the Kremlin was supporting his campaign and that the...state prosecutor in the Kremlin had a trove of documents. That's the story. I don't think it's illegal. I don't think anybody's claiming it's illegal," but it "totally undermines a six-month story from the White House, to which I was sympathetic, that there wasn't any collusion."

Senate Majority Whip Cornyn said on Fox News' Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=084-0bd&t=c>> (7/13, 831K), "I firmly believe that Putin was trying to interfere with our election. He expected Hillary Clinton to win. It didn't turn out that way. But this is not about personalities, which is what the mainstream media wants to make it. This is Russia against the United States. Always has been, always will be. And that's what we ought to be focusing on and protecting our elections

and institutions from." The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=085-1f4&t=c>> (7/13, story 5, 1:35, Mason, 11.17M) showed part of "a discussion with CBS News contributor Frank Luntz," between six Republican and six Democratic members of Congress about Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Trump: Democrats' Focus On Russia Is "A Big Mistake." According to a pool report released Thursday, in remarks to reporters on Air Force One Wednesday, Trump argued "that Democrats had overplayed their hand on what he called 'the Russia thing,' saying the American people don't believe the accusations against him," Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=086-012&t=c>> (7/13, Conway, 2.97M) reports. Trump said, "It's a witch hunt and they understand that. ... When they say 'treason' — you know what treason is? That's Julius and Ethel Rosenberg for giving the atomic bomb, OK?" Trump added that Democrats are "making a big mistake" by focusing on the issue. Said Trump, "My people and the people that support me, who are incredible people, those people are angry because they feel it's being unfair and a witch hunt." In a piece for the Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=087-0da&t=c>> (7/13, 403K), Michael Barone warns Democrats against "overreach," writing that the "overeagerness to find a smoking gun ignores the fact that the Constitution's standard for impeachment and removal from office is not the criminal code but 'high crimes and misdemeanors' — breaches of the public trust serious enough that two-thirds of senators feel justified in overriding the results of a presidential election."

Trump Says Putin Would Have Preferred Clinton As President.

Also Thursday, in a pre-taped interview broadcast on Christian Broadcasting Network's 700 Club

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=088-5b4&t=c>> (7/13, 3K), Trump said Russian President Vladimir Putin would have preferred if Hillary Clinton had won the election. Trump argued, "We're the most powerful country in the world, and we're getting more and more powerful because I'm a big military person. As an example, if Hillary had won, our military would be decimated, our energy would be much more expensive. That's what Putin doesn't like about me. ... From day one, I want a strong military; he doesn't want to see that. From day one, I want fracking and everything else to get energy prices low and to create tremendous energy. We're going to be self-supporting. ... He doesn't like that. He would like Hillary, where she wants to have windmills. ... There are many things I do that are the exact opposite of what he would want. When I keep hearing he would rather have Trump, I think, probably not." Trump also said in an interview broadcast on Christian Broadcasting Network's 700 Club

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=089-ac0&t=c>> that he and Putin "had a good meeting," adding, "I do believe it is important to have a dialogue. if

you don't have a dialogue, it is a lot of problems for our country and for their country." Later

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=08a-023&t=c>> in the interview, Trump said Putin "wants what is good for Russia and I want what is good for the United States" and "sometimes you're not going to get along on things, and sometimes you will." Trump added, "I think we got along very well, and that's a good thing, that's not a bad thing."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=08b-9e1&t=c>> (7/13, Haberman, Landler, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) says Trump told reporters on Air Force One that he confronted Putin twice about allegations that Russia interfered in the 2016 election, "and changed the subject after Mr. Putin flatly denied it because, 'What do you do? End up in a fistfight?'" In his "first extended account of a dramatic closed-door meeting he held with Mr. Putin last week in Hamburg, Germany," Trump said, "I said to him, 'Were you involved in the meddling with the election?' ... He said, 'Absolutely not. I was not involved.' He was very strong on it. I then said to him, in a totally different way, 'Were you involved with the meddling?' He said, 'I was not — absolutely not.'"

Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=08c-82b&t=c>> (7/13, Epstein, Sink, 3.08M) reports that while Trump "repeatedly sidestepp[ed] questions about whether he believed Putin's denials of meddling in the 2016 presidential election," he told reporters on Air Force One that "he's willing to invite Russian President Vladimir Putin to the White House 'at the right time.'" Trump said, "Look, it's very easy for me to say absolutely, I won't" invite Putin to Washington, adding, "That's the easy thing for me to do, but that's the stupid thing to do. Let's be the smart people not the stupid people." Bloomberg also reports that Trump's comments to reporters during the flight were given "on condition their conversation wouldn't be published," but those conditions "were reversed hours later by Trump himself." In his Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=08d-0b2&t=c>> (7/13, Zakaria, 12.92M) column, Fareed Zakaria questions why Trump has "had such a rosy attitude toward Russia" and Putin. Zakaria posits that Trump just "admires Putin as a leader" or "has bought in to the worldview of his senior adviser Stephen K. Bannon, in which Russia is not an ideological foe but a cultural friend, a white Christian country battling swarthy Muslims." Or there could be "some other explanation for this decade-long fawning over Russia and its leader."

Trump Voters Seemingly Unfazed By Russia Story. The Tennessean

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=08e-0d6&t=c>> (7/13, Boucher, 423K) reports that residents of Wayne County, Tennessee, which "overwhelmingly voted for Trump," are largely unfazed by the Russia story. The story features comments from a number of local residents, including one Trump voter

said that while “talk of Russia, special prosecutors and election tampering won’t change his mind,” he “might support someone else in the next election if Trump can’t deliver on health care.”

Study Criticizes Media, Contrasts Trump-Russia Coverage With Clinton-Uranium Coverage. The Washington Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=08f-b0d&t=c>> (7/13, Harper, 458K) reports that a new study for the “conservative press watchdog” Newsbusters.org says that over the past four nights, “the “Big Three” networks devoted over 62 minutes of airtime” to the Russia story, but “those same news sources all but ignored ‘Hillary Clinton’s Russia-Uranium scandal’ two years ago.” According to analyst Geoffrey Dickens, the networks dedicated “a grand total of three minutes during the entire two-year period” to that story.

In an op-ed for the Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=090-3a6&t=c>> (7/13, Abernathy, 12.92M), Gary Abernathy, publisher and editor of the (Hillsboro, Ohio) Times-Gazette, that while journalists react to Trump’s claims of “fake news” with “public outrage, their popping veins nearly bursting through their thin skins,” the media “has approval numbers lower than the president’s,” and it is “hard to persuade most Americans to feel our pain.” Abernathy adds that “even liberals can’t argue with a straight face that he’s wrong about mainstream media bias.” If the media “can prove Trump wrong through the evidence of their work,” he continues, “the president’s attacks will lose their steam. That day is not here.”

Breitbart: Veselnitskaya Worked For “Many Democrats,” May Have Opposed Trump Election. Breitbart
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=091-840&t=c>> (7/13, Wong, 2.16M) reports that while Democrats have portrayed Veselnitskaya as a Russian government official, “numerous reports and photos show she has a long record of working with US political figures, including many Democrats.” Breitbart adds that although “critics have accused her of being a high-level Russian agent trying to help the Trump administration, there is no indication she ever wanted to help the Trump campaign, and there are indications she actually opposed Trump’s election.”

Ryan: Trump Jr. Should Testify Before Congress. Reuters
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=092-314&t=c>> (7/13, Rascoe, Zengerle) reports that House Speaker Ryan on Thursday urged Trump Jr. “to testify to a congressional committee about the alleged links between Trump’s election team and Russia.” According to CNN, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley “planned to send a letter on Thursday to the younger Trump to ask him to appear before his committee in a public session.”

As part of a more than 2,000 word profile of Trump Jr. for Politico Magazine

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=093-d5a&t=c>> (7/13, 2.89M), author Gwenda Blair writes that it is not clear whether the meeting “will lead to criminal charges or be written off as what White House chief of staff Reince Priebus has called ‘a big nothing burger,’” but it “provides an opportunity to see whether Donald Jr....has finally emerged as his own man; or whether, in wanting too much to please his father, he has been an overeager and incautious servant.”

Democrats Call For Kushner’s Security Clearance To Be Revoked.

Peter Alexander said on NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=094-820&t=c>> (7/13, story 2, 1:55, Holt, 16.61M) that Democrats are questioning why Jared Kushner “still has his security clearance,” as he is “under scrutiny for sitting in that meeting with the Kremlin connected Russian lawyer, later omitting it on his security form.” Alexander added that Trump “is the only person who can revoke Kushner’s top security clearance or fire him.”

McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=095-5a1&t=c>> (7/13, Daugherty, 95K) reports that Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz has introduced two amendments to revoke Kushner’s security clearance. The first amendment “would prohibit federal funding for presidential security clearances for someone who is under a criminal investigation by a federal law enforcement agency for aiding a foreign government.” The second would bar “funding for security credentials for anyone who ‘deliberately fails’ to disclose a meeting with a foreign national if the disclosure is required as part of the individual’s security clearance credentialing process.” Both failed on a party-line vote in committee.

Asked on MSNBC’s Morning Joe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=096-ef2&t=c>> (7/13, 270K) if Kushner should lose his security clearance, Sen. Chris Murphy said, “I think the bigger question is why Jared Kushner still has a job. There seems to be two scenarios here. Either Jared Kushner didn’t tell his superiors, didn’t tell his boss, the President of the United States that he had this meeting,” and he was “potentially compromised inside the White House,” or “he did tell people that he had this meeting, that he changed his disclosure forms, and the White House, from the President on down to his spokesman, continued to lie about their campaign’s contacts with the Russian government. Either scenario is damning for this White House.” In his New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=097-6cc&t=c>> (7/13, Subscription Publication, 14.49M), Nicholas Kristof argues for stripping Kushner of his security clearance, arguing that he “attended a secret meeting whose stated purpose was to advance a Kremlin effort to interfere in the US election, he then failed to report it, and finally he sought a secret channel to communicate with the Kremlin.”

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=098-222&t=c>> (7/13, Palmeri, 2.97M) reports that Kushner "has been pressing other White House aides to more vigorously defend the meeting," but "has faced resistance from some of Trump's top press aides, according to six sources familiar with the matter." According to those sources, Kushner "wants the White House to more aggressively push out surrogates and talking points to change the narrative around the latest twist in the Russia scandal," but "some of the communications aides, including press secretary Sean Spicer, and other senior staffers have expressed reservations," arguing that it is "best to leave it to outside counsel to handle the furor around Trump Jr."

Eugene Robinson writes in the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=099-7dd&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) that while Kushner and his wife, Ivanka Trump, "have tried their best to soar gracefully above the raging dumpster fire" of the Trump Administration, "unhappily for the handsome couple, gravity makes no allowances for charm."

Groups File FEC Complaint Against Trump Jr., Kushner, Manafort.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=09a-a39&t=c>> (7/13, Rascoe, Zengerle) reports that "watchdog groups" have filed a complaint with the FEC against Trump Jr., the President's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner, and former campaign manager Paul Manafort, "arguing the three violated the law by meeting with the Russian." Meanwhile, the FEC "declined on Thursday to conduct a review of foreign interference in the 2016 election," as the three Republicans on the five-member panel "said they could not support moving forward because not all the facts were available."

Bloomberg Analysis: Investigators Scrutinizing Trump's 2013

Visit To Moscow. A Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=09b-5c1&t=c>> (7/13, Silver, Pismennaya, 3.08M) analysis highlights Trump's 2013 visit to Moscow, during which he "hobnobbed with Russian-Azerbaijani pop star Emin Agalarov, the son of the pageant's host," who "last year had his manager, Rob Goldstone, arrange" the meeting between Trump Jr. and Veselnitskaya. Bloomberg says that with "multiple probes scrutiniz[ing] Trump ties to Russia, nearly every moment of that November 2013 weekend in Moscow is fraught with potential significance." It is, Bloomberg adds, "a microcosm of both his business world and the legal storm now engulfing his presidency."

Begala: US Should Consider Bombing Russia Over Election

Meddling. Townhall

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=09c-4ec&t=c>> (7/13, Vespa, 450K) reports that Democratic strategist Paul Begala suggested on CNN Wednesday that the US

"bomb Russia in response to their election meddling." Begala argued, "We were and are under attack by a hostile foreign power, and they seem to be abetting that hostile foreign power, We should be debating how many sanctions we should place on Russia or whether we should blow up the KGB, GSU, or GRU [Russia's foreign military intelligence agency]. We should be retaliating massively because, by the way, if I were a Trump supporter I would want to retaliate massively because it has tainted his victory."

Spokesman: Pence Did Not Meet With Officials Linked To Russian Government During Campaign. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=09d-a1b&t=c>> (7/13, Nussbaum, 2.97M) reports that "after repeatedly dodging the question" during a Fox News interview, Vice President Pence's spokesman Marc Lotter said the Vice President did not meet with any officials linked to the Russian government during the 2016 campaign. Fox News asked Lotter three times "whether Pence had any such meetings," but he "declined to answer." In a statement Thursday, Lotter said, "The Vice President had no meetings with any individual associated with the Russian government during the campaign or transition."

Sessions Releases Government Form Detailing His Contacts With Foreign Nationals. Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=09e-88f&t=c>> (7/13, Ainsley) reports that Attorney General Sessions on Thursday released a largely redacted "government form dealing with contacts he has had with foreign nationals, including Russian government officials." While the form "indicated Sessions has had no immediate contact with any foreign government or its representatives in the past seven years," he "has said he met with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak in the run-up to the 2016 US presidential election." The Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=09f-7f6&t=c>> (7/13, Nakashima, 12.92M) reports that while officials say Sessions' omission of the Kislyak meetings "may not be a violation of security clearance rules as long as the contacts occurred in his capacity as a lawmaker," other experts "say he should have erred on the side of transparency."

Gorka: Administration May Return Diplomatic Compounds To Russia. The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a0-3f3&t=c>> (7/13, Quinn, 403K) reports that deputy assistant to the President Sebastian Gorka told CNN <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a1-a47&t=c>> Thursday that "the Trump administration is weighing the return of two Russian diplomatic compounds because it wants to give 'collaboration and cooperation a chance.'" Gorka said, "The fact is we may not share the same philosophy, we may not share the same type of statesman view of the world but the fact is there are some issues of common concern." According to Gorka,

"the White House may decide to return the compounds if the administration sees 'acts of good faith' from Russia and cited the recent ceasefire in Russia as an example." He said, "If we see good faith, remember more than 400,000 people have been killed in Syria. That is horrific. If we can see acts of good faith come out of the Kremlin with regards to things such as a ceasefire, then perhaps there is a chance for what [Secretary of State] Rex Tillerson wants to see happen, which is an improvement in relations between our two capitals."

Clinton Campaign Spokesman: Democrats "Erred" In Mocking Romney Over Russia. The Washington Free Beacon
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a2-e72&t=c>> (7/13, Rutz, 117K) reports that Hillary Clinton's former campaign spokesman Brian Fallon tweeted Wednesday that "Democrats 'erred' in their mocking of Mitt Romney in 2012 for calling Russia the nation's top geopolitical foe." Along with link "to a clip of Max Boot, who advised Romney on foreign policy in 2012, sparring with Fox News host Tucker Carlson on Wednesday evening," Fallon tweeted
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a3-603&t=c>> , "Bravo @MaxBoot for calling out Putin lovers in Trump's GOP. We Dems erred in '12 by mocking Boot/Romney Russia worry."

WPost Analysis: Trump Won't Follow Advice Of His Lawyers. Under the headline "Trump's Legal Team Faces Tensions – And A Client Who Often Takes His Own Counsel," the Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a4-e6c&t=c>> (7/13, A1, Rucker, Parker, Barrett, 12.92M) reports, "The challenge for President Trump's attorneys has become, at its core, managing the unmanageable – their client. He won't follow instructions," or "compartmentalize" or "discipline himself. Trump's legal team, led by Marc E. Kasowitz of New York, is laboring to underscore the potential risk to the president if he engages without a lawyer in discussions with other people under scrutiny in widening Russia inquiries, including Jared Kushner." The Post adds that Trump's "and Kushner's attorneys are struggling to enforce traditional legal boundaries to protect their clients, according to half a dozen people with knowledge of the internal dynamics and ongoing interactions. ... Compounding the challenges have been tensions between Trump's and Kushner's legal teams in a frenzied, siege-like environment."

Senate Panel "Very Interested" In Smith's Oppo Research Operation. The Chicago Sun-Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a5-2bb&t=c>> (7/13, Sweet, 862K) reports, "An adjunct faculty member at the Illinois Institute of Technology and a recently deceased Lake Forest business executive who played a key role in disclosing sexual misconduct allegations against President Bill Clinton in the 1990s have surfaced as players in the Trump Russia scandal." The Sun-Times says "that the Senate Intelligence Committee, which is investigating Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential

campaign and whether there was collusion with the Trump campaign, is 'very interested' in the opposition research operation put together by Peter W. Smith, the Lake Forest resident who died on May 14, and his business associate, John J. Szobocsan" of IIT. The Sun-Times quotes "a source close to the committee" as saying, "The committee will want to speak with or get documents from everybody associated with the Peter Smith operation."

The Chicago Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a6-de4&t=c>> (7/13, Skiba, 1.85M) reports that Smith a GOP "donor and operative...who said he had tried to obtain Hillary Clinton's missing emails from Russian hackers," committed suicide "in a Minnesota hotel room days after talking to The Wall Street Journal about his efforts, public records show." The Tribune says that the Journal "reported it had seen emails written by Smith showing his team considered retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn, then a top adviser to Republican Donald Trump's campaign, as an ally."

Kasowitz Says He'll Apologize For Email Threats. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a7-476&t=c>> (7/13, Lafraniere, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that Trump's lawyer Marc Kasowitz said Thursday that he will "apologize for a series of threatening and profane emails he sent to a stranger who had suggested that he resign." According to ProPublica, which published the email exchange, the unidentified stranger "sent Mr. Kasowitz's law firm an email with the subject line 'Resign Now,'" in which he "wrote that while he did not know Mr. Kasowitz, he believed that 'no good can come' from the lawyer's efforts to defend Mr. Trump." In response, Kasowitz sent "four obscenity-laced emails in 33 minutes," in which he "gave a phone number, demanded that the man call him and told him to 'watch his back.'" Kasowitz wrote, "I already know where you live, I'm on you. ... You will see me. I promise." Kasowitz said in a statement released by his spokesman that "his response to the man was 'inappropriate' and that he wished he could take back his words."

Fusion GPS Founder Won't Testify Before Senate Panel Next Week. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a8-bc5&t=c>> (7/13, Dawsey, Cheney, 2.97M) reports that Fusion GPS Co-founder Glenn Simpson "will not testify next week before the Senate Judiciary Committee, according to two sources familiar with his plans." Earlier this week, the panel announced a July 19 hearing that listed Simpson as a witness, but "the request for Simpson to appear was voluntary, and it's unclear whether the committee will seek to compel his testimony."

Media Analyses: Trump Takes Warmer Approach To Macron During Paris Trip.

Media coverage of the President's trip to Paris cast his meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron as warmer than their first meeting. Reports – including coverage on all three networks Thursday night – also cast Trump as presenting a much friendlier view of Paris than he has in the past, but his remarks to the French First Lady are drawing negative coverage. ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0a9-20d&t=c>> (7/13, story 2, 3:45, Muir, 14.63M), for example, said Trump's "new-found friendship" with Macron was "on display" Thursday, "but it wasn't always that way. ... Starting with that handshake tug of war during their first meeting. Not to mention, the President's repeated Paris bashing." NBC Nightly News
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0aa-d90&t=c>> (7/13, lead story, 3:00, 16.61M) reported that while Trump "has repeatedly disparaged the city of Paris," he took a "very different tone" on Thursday. Trump: "You're going to have a very, very peaceful and beautiful Paris, and I'm coming back."

Sara Murray reported on CNN's Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ab-55c&t=c>> (7/13, 554K) reported that while Trump made Paris "his punching bag in the past, particularly on national security issues," on Thursday the President "lavished praise on his French counterpart." The CBS Evening News
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ac-00a&t=c>> (7/13, story 2, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) said "the hope is this visit might cement what seemed to be a fractious relationship between the two presidents."

The Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ad-26a&t=c>> (7/13, Johnson, McAuley, 12.92M) reports the two leaders and their wives dined Thursday evening at the Eiffel Tower after "a day filled with frequent backslaps, handshakes, toothy smiles, knee pats, photo ops and a shared determination to find common ground." While their relationship "up til now...has been largely defined by their stark differences...it is becoming clear the two leaders have a lot in common."

The New York Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ae-800&t=c>> (7/13, Brown, 3.2M) notes the two leaders "exchanged a warm handshake" as Macron received the President and First Lady "in a grand arrival ceremony at Les Invalides museum, home to Napoleon's tomb." The Post called it a "very different scene to their famously tense greeting at a NATO summit in May." Politico Europe
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0af-dd9&t=c>> (7/13, Herszenhorn, 37K) likewise says Thursday's meeting was visit "full of pomp and circumstance," and the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b0-d5f&t=c>> (7/13, Ballhaus, Horobin, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports the two leaders praised each other as they touted the growing bond between their two nations. Trump told reporters the two allies are “together, perhaps more so than ever” and called Macron a “great leader” and a “tough president.”

Trump, Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b1-7c9&t=c>> (7/13, Lough, Rascoe) reports even “held the door open to a reversal of his decision to pull the United States out of the Paris climate accord,” but “did not say what he would need in return to persuade him to do so.” Speaking to reporters at a joint news conference with Macron, Trump said, “Something could happen with respect to the Paris accords, let’s see what happens. If it happens, that will be wonderful, and if it doesn’t, that’ll be OK too.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b2-6bd&t=c>> (7/13, Bhatti, Onyanga-Omara, Jackson, 10.05M) reports Trump also pledged that the US “would work to protect the environment,” dispute leaving the accord. “The United States remains committed to being a leader in environmental protection,” he said. For his part, Macron said while the leaders have a “number of disagreements” on the threat of global warming, he respected Trump’s decision to pull out of the agreement. The AP <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b3-b5f&t=c>> (7/13, Salama) says the two leaders “set aside lingering differences on climate change...asserting that it shouldn’t prevent them from working together toward a post-war roadmap for Syria and to enhance Mideast security.” While acknowledging their differences, Macron said, “Should that have an impact on the discussions we’re having on all other topics? No, absolutely not.”

Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b4-f9f&t=c>> (7/13, Montgomery, 2.16M) reports Macron said the two had a “long discussion” on a range of different security challenges, and Trump indicated they discussed ways their countries could “strengthen [their] vital security partnerships.”

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b5-b61&t=c>> (7/13, Taylor, 458K) reports that protesters have planned rallies for Thursday night and Friday, angered by Macron’s invitation to Trump. They also plan to “slam Mr. Trump’s withdrawal from the Paris climate...as well as the Trump administration’s ban on refugees and travel to the US from several Muslim-majority nations.” The protests, however, “are not expected to turn violent.”

Trump’s Comments About French First Lady Prompt Criticism. The

New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b6-9fb&t=c>> (7/13, Stack, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that shortly after he arrived in France, President Trump “took a moment to tell the country’s first lady, Brigitte Macron, what he thought of her physical appearance.” The President was overheard telling Mrs. Macron, “You’re in such good shape.” He then turned to Macron, and said, “She’s in such good physical shape. Beautiful.” The encounter was “broadcast live on a Facebook video stream on Mr. Macron’s official Facebook account,” and quickly went viral. McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b7-21d&t=c>> (7/13, Hadley, 95K) says Trump’s “often controversial relationship with women took another downward turn” after many viewed the comments “as sexist and objectifying.” On social media, “many users blasted” Trump’s comments, calling them “creepy” and “inappropriate.” Others, however, “defended Trump’s comments and said they have been blown out of proportion.” Politico Europe
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b8-16a&t=c>> (7/13, Murphy, 37K) also reports the exchange.

US Journalists Angered At Trump For Calling On Chinese Reporter. The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0b9-bbc&t=c>> (7/13, Boyer, 458K) reports that American journalists traveling with President Trump in Paris “were in a huff Thursday after he called on a Chinese reporter at a press conference instead of a US journalist.” The “perceived slight” came at a joint press conference with French President Emmanuel Macron. The Times notes that it was the “second press kerfuffle of the day in Paris.” Earlier, when Trump greeted staff at the US Embassy, “pool reporters were kept out of the event.”

White House Releases Remarks After Trump Asks Why Off-The-Record Comments Weren’t Published. USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ba-535&t=c>> (7/13, Estepa, 10.05M) reports President Trump had an off-the-record conversation on Wednesday with reporters aboard Air Force One. According to pool reports, deputy press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders “declared that it was off the record,” but the President later “asked why his comments weren’t used.” White House official officials later told reporters that “excerpts of the conversation would be released.” USA Today notes that “this does appear to be the first time the White House has retroactively made a conversation on the record.”

Nice To Mark One-Year Anniversary Of Terror Attack. The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0bb-8df&t=c>> (7/13, Taylor, 458K) reports that on Friday, Nice will mark the one-year anniversary of an ISIS-inspired

attack in which a terrorist drove a large, white truck into a crowd celebrating Bastille Day. The Times says that while Paris “was rocked in November 2015 by a coordinated assault that killed 130 people, authorities say, the Nice massacre was a kind of watershed moment that was followed by a macabre wave of similar low-tech terrorist strikes in several Western European nations.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0bc-7ba&t=c>> (7/13, Berton, 10.05M) reports that Hanane Charrihi, whose mother was killed in last year’s terror attack in Nice, plans to mark the anniversary of her mother’s death on Friday by launching “an association aimed at stopping the radicalization of young Muslims through education.”

Media Analyses: New Healthcare Bill Already Opposed By Two GOP Senators.

Senate Majority Leader McConnell rolled out a revised version <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0bd-a4f&t=c>> of the Better Care Reconciliation Act on Thursday, with analysts saying that most of the changes were intended to win over conservatives who opposed the original legislation. But while Sen. Ted Cruz said that he now supports the bill, most coverage says that the bill – and GOP prospects for repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act as a whole – are in danger because Sens. Susan Collins and Rand Paul remain opposed, meaning that no other Republicans can vote “no” without killing the legislation.

On ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0be-bed&t=c>> (7/13, story 3, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M), Mary Bruce reported, “A new healthcare bill, but the same old problem: Can it get the votes to pass? To appease conservatives, the new version would allow insurers to offer cheaper bare-bones plans that don’t cover essential health benefits. It could bring down costs for some. ... But critics worry Americans that need the most care, like people with preexisting conditions could end up paying a lot more.” Collins: “We’re talking about the health infrastructure in rural America and some of our most vulnerable citizens.” Bruce: “To try and sway other moderates, the new version keeps two Obamacare taxes on the wealthy, includes \$70 billion that could be used to help reduce premiums, and adds \$45 billion to fight the opioid epidemic. But right now, two Republicans say they’re voting no. Just one more no vote would sink the bill.”

Anthony Mason said on the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0bf-b98&t=c>> (7/13, story 7, 1:45, 11.17M) that the “retooled healthcare plan” is “already in critical condition.” CBS’ Nancy Cordes: “The response from Republican hold-outs to their party’s

'Plan B' was cautious best." Sen. Dean Heller: "We'll read it over the weekend and come up with a decision and see if there is any improvement." Cordes: "The new bill reinstates those taxes to help pay for \$45 billion in new opioid funding. But it does not reverse the first bill's deep cuts to Medicaid, the big sticking point for moderates like Ohio's Rob Portman." Portman: "We're still working on ways to ensure that folks who are currently getting coverage under expanded Medicaid have only shuns." Cordes: "The only Republican who went from 'no' to 'yes' today was Ted Cruz."

Kasie Hunt reported on NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c0-231&t=c>> (7/13, story 3, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M)

that McConnell "has to convince every one of the 50 remaining Republicans to vote yes or the bill fails. What's your bet on whether Mitch McConnell can pull this off?" Senate Majority Whip Cornyn: "Well, he's good. He's pulled more than one rabbit out of the hat." The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c1-82b&t=c>> (7/13, Howell, 458K) reports that

Cornyn said on Fox News, "A 'no' vote on this bill is essentially a vote for Obamacare." But the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c2-5ed&t=c>> (7/13, Werner, Fram) reports under the headline "New Senate GOP Health Care Bill Teeters On The Brink" that GOP leaders are "increasingly desperate," and Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c3-de3&t=c>> (7/13, Cornwell) says the new bill is "already in trouble."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c4-23f&t=c>> (7/13, A1, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription

Publication, 14.49M) says the changes "may not have been enough to bridge the vast divide that has opened" between GOP conservatives and moderates. While the GOP "said the revised bill would provide roughly \$70 billion in additional funds that states could use to help reduce premiums, hold down out-of-pocket costs and otherwise make health care more affordable," it "would still convert Medicaid from an open-ended entitlement to a system of fixed payments to states." The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c5-ad1&t=c>> (7/13, A1, Sullivan, Snell, Eilperin, 12.92M) says the draft also "leaves in place proposed deep cuts to Medicaid."

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c6-ca0&t=c>> (7/13, Sullivan, 1.61M) writes that

"overall, McConnell appears to have shifted the revised bill more toward the conservatives than the moderates," while USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c6-ca0&t=c>>

ation&r=email-6074&l=0c7-0eb&t=c> (7/13, Kelly, Collins, 10.05M)
headlines a report "Republicans Woo Conservatives In Latest Draft." The
Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c8-a5b&t=c>> (7/13, A1, Armour, Peterson,
Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the most significant
changes were those sought by Cruz and Sen. Mike Lee to permit insurers
that sell ACA-compliant plans to also offer plans that do not comply.
USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0c9-e9d&t=c>> (7/13, O'Donnell, 10.05M) reports
that the Cruz-Lee measure has been criticized by insurers who say it
"would lead to an 'un-level playing field.'" The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ca-195&t=c>> (7/13, Park, Parlapiano, Sanger-Katz,
Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that the new bill also "lets
people use money from health savings accounts to pay premiums,"
something sought by conservatives.

Still, one key conservative was unmoved. Paul said on Fox News'
Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0cb-613&t=c>> (7/13, 831K), "The new plan actually
doesn't repeal Obamacare. It keeps about half of the Obamacare taxes,
keeps most of the Obamacare regulations, keeps most of the Obamacare
subsidies and it creates a giant insurance bailout superfund. And I just
can't vote for a bill that creates a \$200 billion dollar fund to bail
out insurance companies."

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0cc-80f&t=c>> (7/13, Mascaro, Levey, 4.57M) writes
that "with their bid to roll back the Affordable Care Act only a vote
away from collapse, Republican leaders scrambled Thursday to rally GOP
senators behind revised healthcare legislation in hopes of passing it
next week." But Medicaid "appeared to remain as a major stumbling bloc
for at least half a dozen wavering GOP senators." Kayla Tausche said on
CNBC's Closing Bell

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0cd-996&t=c>> (7/13, 142K) that "there are about
half a dozen undecideds who either they need to read the bill further,
they want to talk about exactly changes could be coming, or they need to
talk to their constituents about whether this bill makes wholesale
changes far enough to actually win their support." Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ce-6c2&t=c>> (7/13, Everett, Haberkorn,
Karlin-Smith, 2.97M) reports, "Senate Republican leaders are praying
that their fragile whip count holds over the weekend."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0cf-fb6&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) says in an editorial

that the new version “is arguably worse than the unpopular bill that preceded it.” It “would deeply slash Medicaid” and “would still use the savings to fund an array of tax cuts, including a break for medical-device manufacturers. It would even add a new tax break expanding tax-advantaged health savings accounts, which would mostly benefit wealthier people who have savings to put into them.” The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d0-fdb&t=c>> (7/13, Board, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) similarly editorializes, “Republican leaders in the Senate have accomplished what seemed impossible a few weeks ago: They have made their proposal to destroy the Affordable Care Act even worse.” McConnell “has clearly chosen to make the legislation more appealing to conservatives...rather than find ways to address the concerns of centrists.” However, the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d1-c5f&t=c>> (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) says in an editorial that the new version retains a tax on investment income, something supported by moderates, but that they still will not commit to the bill.

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d2-861&t=c>> (7/13, story 8, 1:50, Mason, 11.17M) ran a feature on how “the proposed cuts in Medicaid” could impact residents of McConnell’s home state of Kentucky. McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d3-d22&t=c>> (7/13, Pugh, Clark, 95K), the Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d4-35d&t=c>> (7/13, King, 403K), and Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d5-d2e&t=c>> (7/13, Williams, 91K) also have reports on the new legislation.

Alaska Would Get Extra Federal Funding Under Bill. Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d6-856&t=c>> (7/13, Edney, Recht, Litvan, 3.08M) reports that another change “would send hundreds of millions of extra federal dollars to Alaska,” home to wavering Sen. Lisa Murkowski. The money “comes from the legislation’s \$182 billion in funding meant to help stabilize insurance markets and help states provide coverage. Under the formulas, states – in this case just Alaska – with disproportionately higher premiums would get extra funds from that account.”

Graham, Cassidy Working On Alternative Bill. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d7-891&t=c>> (7/13, Everett, 2.97M) reports that Sen. Lindsey Graham is floating a proposal that he is crafting with Sen. Bill Cassidy that would direct a large share of ACA funding directly to

the states. Politico says it “could offer a starting point for Congress if the Senate GOP effort fails next week.”

Trump: Healthcare Is “The Only Thing More Difficult” Than Mideast Peace.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d8-04b&t=c>> (7/13, Lahut, 2.97M) reports that in comments to reporters aboard Air Force One on Wednesday night, President Trump said, “We have a thing called healthcare. I’m sure you haven’t been reading about it too much. I’d say the only thing more difficult than peace between Israel and the Palestinians is healthcare.” Regarding Senate Majority Leader McConnell’s efforts to secure 50 votes, Trump said, “It’s like this narrow road that’s about a quarter of an inch wide. You get a couple here and you say, great, and then you find out you just lost four over here.”

US Charges Hundreds In Nationwide Healthcare, Opioid Fraud Schemes.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0d9-c55&t=c>> (7/13, Noble, 458K) reports that more than 400 people, “including doctors, pharmacists and nurses, were charged in connection with a series of health care fraud schemes that bilked the federal government of more than \$1 billion, officials from the Justice Department and Department of Health and Human Services announced Thursday” According to the Times, “describing some of the cases brought, Attorney General Sessions said trusted medical professionals ‘have chosen to violate their oaths and put greed ahead of their patients,’” and Health and Human Services Secretary Price “said the health care fraud bust targeted those who ‘maliciously contributed’ to the nation’s opioid epidemic.” A total of 412 people, including 56 doctors, “were charged as a result of the nationwide operation. ‘Some doctors wrote out more prescriptions for controlled substances than entire hospitals were writing,’ said FBI acting Director Andrew McCabe.”
Staff Of NIH Clinical Center Still Hurt By Effects Of Red Team Report.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0da-498&t=c>> (7/13, Burton, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports staff morale at the NIH Clinical Center is still suffering from a report by an outside Red Team that concluded that the hospital prioritized research over patient safety. Many of the hospital’s staff believe the Red Team report hurt the hospital’s reputation and was unfair to them.

CBO Report Sees Trump's Budget Proposal As "Overly Optimistic."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0db-2af&t=c>> (7/13, Rappeport, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that a CBO report released Thursday cast President Trump's inaugural budget "as overly optimistic, expressing doubt about his promises to balance the federal budget." While Trump's budget "projected that by 2027, the economy would achieve a small budget surplus," the CBO analysis said that "the deficit would remain at \$720 billion, or 2.6 percent of gross domestic product." The Times adds that the CBO "did not agree that its proposals would generate as much economic growth as the White House has suggested." The budget office "said that the average gross domestic product growth over 10 years is currently 1.8, and that under Mr. Trump's plan it would be 1.9 percent — far lower than the 3 percent the administration assumes." The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0dc-d84&t=c>> (7/13, Dinan, 458K) says the report, which said that Trump's "deep spending cuts on everything from health care to education would save an additional \$3.3 trillion over the next 10 years," but "still never reaches balance," undercuts "the White House's claims that the president would solve the sea of red ink within a decade."

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0dd-505&t=c>> (7/13, Davidson, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the CBO said it did not have sufficient information about Trump's economic policy proposals to determine their impact on the budget. The report said, "The president's proposals would affect the economy in a variety of ways; however, because the details on many of the proposed policies are not available at this time, CBO cannot provide an analysis of all their macroeconomic effects or of the budgetary feedback that would result from those effects."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0de-cbb&t=c>> (7/13, Paletta, Swanson, Ehrenfreund, 12.92M) says the CBO report "cast[s] doubt on a plan the White House has touted as central to achieving the president's domestic agenda." The Post says the CBO report was "one of several big questions that emerged Thursday about whether Trump would be able to deliver on the central promises of his populist agenda for governing." The "combination of setbacks and delays on key policy initiatives," the Post adds, "highlight how the president is struggling to advance a populist vision of governing in a Republican Party that historically has not been receptive to such an approach." The Washington Free Beacon
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0df-175&t=c>> (7/13, Meyer, 117K) offers a more

positive assessment of the CBO report, highlighting that the budget office said Trump's budget "would reduce the deficit over the next decade by \$160 billion and increase GDP at the same time."

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e0-61f&t=c>> (7/13, Collins, 10.05M) says the CBO report came a day after "the White House released a video accusing the CBO of inaccurately forecasting economic statistics in the health care legislation Republicans are trying to pass."

Federal Budget Ran \$90 Billion Deficit In June.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e1-1f7&t=c>> (7/13, Davidson, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the federal budget deficit for June was \$90 billion, in contrast with the \$6 billion surplus of June 2016. Since October, when the current fiscal year began, the deficit is up 31 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Trustees See Social Security And Medicare Fund Depletions Nearing.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e2-32b&t=c>> (7/13, Zumbrun, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that an annual report from the trustees of the major US entitlements indicates that the trust fund for Social Security's disability program will last until 2028, five years longer than previously projected. If Social Security's retirement and disability funds are combined into one program, their funds will be exhausted in 2034, unchanged from last year. The Medicare trust funds are expected to be depleted by 2029.

Social Security Payments To Increase 2.2 Percent. The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e3-7dd&t=c>> (7/13, story 9, 0:15, Mason, 11.17M) reported that the Social Security Administration announced Thursday that "recipients will get a cost of living adjustment next year of 2.2 percent, the biggest increase in six years." The increase is "about \$28 a month," and there "will be no change in Medicare premiums."

Administration's Transportation Cuts Face Congressional Opposition.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e4-c7c&t=c>> (7/13, Shepardson) reports that there is "strong resistance in Congress" to White House plans "to cut transportation spending, privatize air traffic control and scrap long-distance train service." During a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing Thursday, Sen. Susan Collins told Transportation Secretary Chao that "she was disappointed in many proposed cuts." Also this week, a House Appropriations Committee panel "rejected a White House plan to end subsidies for Amtrak to operate long-distance train service," as well as "a plan to eliminate \$150 million in annual subsidies for commercial air service to rural airports."

Laffer And Moore: Trump Tax Cuts Would Help Cities And States.

In a Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e5-a1c&t=c>> (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) op-ed, economist Arthur Laffer and Stephen Moore of the Heritage Foundation, co-chairmen of the Committee to Unleash Prosperity, argue that federal tax cuts will be beneficial to states and cities because they would leave more money in the hands of local businesses and consumers. Rather than pressing for federal aid, they argue, governors and mayors should be lobbying for the tax cuts proposed by President Trump.

Feinstein Signals Support For "Speedy" Vote On Wray.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e6-b99&t=c>> (7/13, Kim, 2.97M) reports Sen. Dianne Feinstein "is willing to help" Senate Republicans seeking a "speedy" vote on Christopher Wray's confirmation as FBI director. Feinstein said she believes Wray should get a committee vote next week, as "it's been the tradition" to forgo the one-week delay for FBI director nominees. She cautioned that the nine Democrats on the Judiciary Committee had yet to discuss whether a delay would be necessary to allow more time for vetting. Meanwhile, Sen. Richard Blumenthal said earlier this week that he would favor a delay. Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley has scheduled the vote for July 20.

Lewandowski: Democrats' Pace On Trump Nominees "A De Facto Government Shutdown."

Corey Lewandowski writes in The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e7-28d&t=c>> (7/13, 1.61M) that Senate Democrats

"are jeopardizing our economic and national security by refusing to allow President Trump to appoint key staffers to critical positions" and "are implementing a de facto government shutdown themselves." He charges Democrats with a "quiet sabotage of the Trump agenda" due to their "slow-walking and blocking qualified nominees to make our federal government fail."

Former Envoys, ADL Director: US Needs Anti-Semitism Envoy.

Ira Forman and Hannah Rosenthal, who each served as the State Department's special envoy to monitor and combat anti-Semitism, and Jonathan Greenblatt, chief executive and national director of the Anti-Defamation League, write in the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e8-b28&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) that under the Trump Administration, the State Department post of special envoy to monitor and combat anti-Semitism has remained vacant, and "judging by recent remarks from Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, the administration is still vacillating on whether it is important enough — or enough of a priority — to continue the office." They argue that the post is still needed, nothing that "threats to Jews have not diminished," and "America's voice in the fight to counter anti-Semitism is desperately needed — now more than ever."

Trump Considering Quotas, Tariffs On Chinese Steel.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0e9-5d2&t=c>> (7/13, Rascoe) reports President Trump said he is considering quotas and tariffs to deal with the "big problem" of steel dumping from China. "They're dumping steel and destroying our steel industry, they've been doing it for decades, and I'm stopping it. It'll stop," he told reporters on Air Force One en route to France. "There are two ways: quotas and tariffs. Maybe I'll do both," he said. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ea-104&t=c>> (7/13, Palmer, 2.97M) reports the President's comments came as the Commerce Department is "preparing to make its recommendation in two separate investigations into whether it is necessary to restrict steel and aluminum imports in order to protect national security."

Trump: Trade Deals With China "A Lot Easier" If They Help With North Korea. Asked in an interview broadcast on Christian Broadcasting Network's 700 Club

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0eb-101&t=c>> (7/13, 3K) if the US might need to destroy North Korea's intercontinental missiles "on the launch-pad or

right after launch," President Trump said, "We wouldn't want to be speaking about anything, but we're looking at lots of different ways and we're working with lots of different countries, including China. I think China would like to see this problem go away, it is a big problem for them." Asked what leverage the US has to influence China, Trump said, "Our leverage with China is that China makes hundreds of billions of dollars a year with us on trade and I want to renegotiate trade deals. I would certainly be a lot easier on a trade deal if they were going to help us with North Korea than if they weren't."

North Korean Trade With China Rises To Highest Level. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ec-9cb&t=c>> (7/13, Fifield, 12.92M) reports North Korea's trade deficit with China has risen "to its highest level, as trade between the two countries continues to rise, suggesting there is little distress in the North Korean economy despite rounds of international sanctions on Pyongyang designed to punish it for its weapons program." The Post says the latest official trade numbers from Beijing "suggest that China, as President Trump tweeted last week, is not using its economic leverage over its defiant neighbor."

Kochs-Backed Group's Ads Urge GOP Lawmakers To Drop Border-Tax Proposal.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ed-3e7&t=c>> (7/13, Jagoda, 1.61M) reported that the Koch brothers-backed Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce on Thursday began airing ads "urging members of the House Ways and Means Committee to give up on the Republican border-adjustment tax proposal. Among the lawmakers targeted in the digital ads are Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady (R-Texas) and tax-policy subcommittee Chairman Peter Roskam (R-Ill.), who support the proposal to tax imports and exempt exports." Supporters of the border-adjustment tax (BAT) "argue that it would remove incentives for companies to move jobs overseas and would raise revenue to help pay for tax cuts." Opponents, including "a number of GOP lawmakers, conservative groups and retailers," worry "it would amount to a consumer tax."

Wisconsin "Under Serious Consideration" For Major Foxconn Investment.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ee-a0c&t=c>> (7/13, Stein, Marley, 746K) reports Wisconsin is "under serious consideration" as a potential site for a "major investment" by Foxconn, "drawing multiple visits from top executives and boosting private hopes of the state winning a

once-in-a-generation opportunity." Bound by a NDA, state officials were reluctant to talk details, but one economic development official said a visit this week was "at least the third trip if not more." Indeed, the Sentinel says "word has seeped out" following "a number of meetings" and potential factory site visits, in addition to a barbecue at Gov. Scott Walker's Lake Mendota mansion Tuesday night. Still, other states are vying for the rumored more than \$10 billion deal that could create thousands of jobs. And despite Wisconsin's advantages – including interstates, proximity to Chicago, and an income tax exemption on manufacturing profits – it "would need huge efforts to supply enough tech-savvy workers."

DHS Introduces Facial Recognition Technology In Airports.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ef-7d3&t=c>> (7/13, story 5, 2:05, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the Department of Homeland Security "is rolling out new bio-metric facial recognition technology to verify the identity of passengers leaving the US, including American citizens." US Customs and Border Protection agents are beginning to use facial recognition software to compare outbound passengers' faces with all photos already on file "in passports, visas or other sources." The new bio-metric technology, which Congress ordered "years ago," is now being tested in airports in Washington, Houston, Atlanta, and Chicago "before rolling out nationally," as Homeland Security seeks to better monitor passengers entering and exiting the country. NBC added that "The ultimate hope is that they can integrate the bio-metric screening process with the airline check-in process, doing away with paper tickets."

House Set To Vote On Controversial Study Of Islam.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f0-4fa&t=c>> (7/13, Bade, Bresnahan, 2.97M) reports that the House is set to vote today "on a controversial GOP proposal identifying 'Islamic religious doctrines, concepts or schools of thought' that could be used by terrorist groups – something opponents say is unconstitutional and will lead to the targeting of Muslims." The amendment, "drafted by conservative Rep. Trent Franks (R-Ariz.), also calls for the Pentagon to identify Islamic leaders who preach peaceful beliefs versus those who espouse extremist views." According to Politico, "the proposal has drawn heavy criticism from Muslim lawmakers serving in Congress, Muslim interest groups and the American Civil Liberties Union, who say the proposal would unfairly target Muslims."

US Soldier Arrested For Ties To ISIS Entertained Various Conspiracy

Theories.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f1-57e&t=c>> (7/13, Kelleher, Jones) reports that Army Sergeant Ikaika Kang, a US soldier arrested July 8 after being accused of having ties to ISIS, “believed the moon landing was faked, questioned the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and thought the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were an inside job coordinated by the US government,” according to former Army bunkmate Dustin Lyles. Lyles said he and Kang “debated about conspiracies, including that 9/11 was a false flag attack staged by the US to spark wars in the Middle East.” Kang was scheduled to appear in federal court in Honolulu Thursday.

Former Guantanamo Detainee: Terrorism Is Never Justified.

In an op-ed for USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f2-902&t=c>> (7/13, 10.05M), Mustafa Ait Idir, a former Guantanamo Bay detainee released in 2008 after being found innocent, argues that no level of “suffering” can justify acts of terrorism. Addressing “any of my Muslim brothers and sisters” and “anyone else, contemplating violence,” he writes, “I beg of you, choose peace. Whatever complaints one might have about particular policies and politicians, and I assure you I have several, violence will only make matters worse.” Idir argues that “bigots and fear-mongers” are “emboldened” by acts of terrors, and concludes that “Neither Allah nor any god of any religion could ever support such cruelty to our fellow man.”

Hawaii Federal Judge Expands List Of Exemptions To Travel Ban.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f3-b59&t=c>> (7/14, Kelleher) reports that US District Judge Derrick Watson in Honolulu “expanded the list of family relationships needed by people seeking new visas from six mostly Muslim countries to avoid” President Trump’s travel ban, ordering the government “not to enforce the ban on grandparents, grandchildren, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins” of those in the US. Watson said in his ruling, “Common sense, for instance, dictates that close family members be defined to include grandparents.” Another AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f4-1ed&t=c>> (7/14) report says the ruling also said that the “travel ban can’t be enforced against refugees who have assurance that an agency will receive the refugee and provide placement

services.”

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f5-ec9&t=c>> (7/14, Schmidt, 12.92M) reports that the state of Hawaii “had asked Watson to rule on the federal government’s interpretation of the Supreme Court’s ruling on Trump’s executive order, arguing that the list of exemptions to the travel ban was too narrow.” Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f6-83b&t=c>> (7/14, Levine, Rosenberg) says that Watson’s ruling “dealt a fresh courtroom defeat” to the President.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f7-501&t=c>> (7/14, Hesson, 2.97M) reports that Neal Katyal, “an attorney for the plaintiffs, the state of Hawaii and a local imam, celebrated the momentary legal win, which could be met with appeals by the federal government.” Katyal tweeted

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f8-fd4&t=c>> , “Sweeping victory in #hawaiiivstrump just now.”

Trump: “Anywhere From 700 To 900 Miles” Of Border Wall All That Is Needed.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0f9-d5a&t=c>> (7/13, Caldwell) reports that in “informal” remarks to reporters aboard Air Force One, President Trump said that he “doesn’t see the need for a proposed border wall to stretch” the full length US-Mexico border. The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0fa-d97&t=c>> (7/13, Lauter, 4.57M) reports that Trump said, “You don’t need 2,000 miles of wall because you have a lot of natural barriers. You have mountains. You have some rivers that are violent and vicious. You have some areas that are so far away that you don’t really have people crossing. So you don’t need that. You’ll need anywhere from 700 to 900 miles.” About 600 miles of the border already have walls, fences, and barriers, and “it was not clear from Trump’s remarks if the figure he cited referred to new border protections or included those already in existence.”

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0fb-5e9&t=c>> (7/13, Dinan, 458K) reports that the President “agreed with border security experts who say the wall needs to allow visibility through to the Mexican side, as a safety precaution.”

Trump said smugglers “will throw heavy sacks of drugs up over the fence,” causing a danger to CBP agents. On the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401educ>

ation&r=email-6074&l=0fc-639&t=c> (7/13, story 4, 0:45, Mason, 11.17M), Major Garrett briefly recounted the President's words.

Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0fd-9f0&t=c>> (7/13, Talev, 3.08M) says that this was "not the first time since he took office that Trump has raised the possibility of a wall that doesn't stretch across the entire border. He said in a Feb. 9 interview with MSNBC that the wall only would 'need 1,000' miles of coverage because of natural barriers."

Trump Hopes For "Comprehensive Immigration Plan." The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0fe-366&t=c>> (7/13, Dinan, 458K) reports that Trump also "said he wished Congress would pass 'a comprehensive immigration plan,' though he said the country's not ready for that." The Times calls this "a stunning remark from Mr. Trump, who during the campaign had said he wanted to see a crackdown on illegal immigration."

State Department: US Will Require Additional Traveler Vetting Data From All Nations.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=0ff-555&t=c>> (7/13, Mohammed, Rosenberg) reports that a State Department cable indicates that the US "will require all nations to provide extensive data to help it vet visa applicants and determine whether a traveler poses a terrorist threat," with those failing to comply possibly facing travel sanctions. The cable <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=100-1e1&t=c>>, obtained by Reuters, said in part, "This is the first time that the US Government is setting standards for the information that is required from all countries specifically in support of immigration and traveler vetting."

Supporters And Opponents Agree That Courts Will Likely Strike Down DACA.

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=101-020&t=c>> (7/13, Gomez, 10.05M) reports that both supporters and opponents of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which "has protected 800,000 young undocumented immigrants from deportation," agree that it is "likely to be struck down soon by federal courts." Legal challenges to DACA are based on claims that President Obama "lacked authority to grant 'amnesty' to DREAMers."

NYTimes Analysis: Immigration Tops All Other Priorities At DHS.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=102-ff3&t=c>> (7/13, Nixon, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that immigration has become the top priority at DHS, with “other responsibilities, like protecting the nation’s critical infrastructure, including computer systems, ensuring airline passenger safety or even protecting the president himself” absent from President Trump’s January remarks to the department’s employees. An Obama-era DHS official told the Times, “It’s all immigration, it’s the wall and it’s enforcement. Nothing about FEMA or cyber or counterintelligence.” However, DHS Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Jonathan Hoffman said other responsibilities are not being neglected. Hoffman said, “No one is going to tell you that immigration and border security aren’t priorities; they are the priorities that the President ran on. But the focus on these issues isn’t so much that we have neglected any part of the Department of Homeland Security.”

CBP Official Says Visa Overstay System Should Come Next Year.

Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=103-617&t=c>> (7/13, Clark, 2.16M) reports that CBP deputy executive assistant commissioner John Wagner said at a Senate hearing on Wednesday that DHS “will start deploying a long-delayed computer system in 2018 to detect when foreign visitors and temporary workers fail to depart the United States on time.” Wagner said, “I expect by early next year you would start to deploy this at a lot of the major airports.” Brietbart runs the story under a photo of the smoking World Trade Center towers, and writes, “Since the 9/11 atrocity in 2001, when several of the 19 attackers overstayed their visas, Congress and agencies have loudly promised to deploy a visa overstay system.”

LAPD Chief Tells Senate Democrats That Random Immigration Enforcement Hurts Public Safety.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=104-66a&t=c>> (7/13, Wire, 4.57M) reports in a brief item that Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck said at the Senate Democrats’ weekly luncheon “that increased random enforcement of immigration laws has caused fewer people to call 911, report crimes, and come forward as witnesses.” Beck, who was invited to address the Democrats by Sen. Kamala Harris, said “It makes all of us less safe when

that social contract we have between each other breaks down, and that's what this does."

Christie Vetoes Bill Aimed At Barring Port Authority From Enforcing Trump Travel Ban.

NJ News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=105-ee4&t=c>> (7/13, Johnson, 1.16M) reports that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) on Thursday "vetoed a bill that would prohibit the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey from enforcing President Donald Trump's controversial travel ban." Christie, who denounced the bill "as a 'political stunt,'" had been "expected to reject the Democratic-backed measure (S3006/A4589), which would have blocked employees at the bi-state agency from helping enforce Trump's executive order and prohibit the use of agency resources and facilities to do so." NJ News adds, "Both houses of the New Jersey Legislature...passed the Port Authority measure mostly along party lines earlier this year. Democrats make up the majority of both chambers."

Judge Orders ICE To Provide Information On Detained Iraqis.

The Detroit News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=106-33a&t=c>> (7/13, Kozlowski, 747K) reports that US District Judge Mark Goldsmith has ordered ICE "to provide the names, locations and other information about detained Iraqi nationals to attorneys working to stop them from getting deported to a land where they might face torture or death." The order "came at a hearing as a temporary stay is set to expire July 24 for 1,400 Iraqi nationals across the country facing deportation." Acting ICE Director Thomas Homan said in a statement, "I am disappointed that the court's decision fails to take into account the robust and already-existing procedural process to address petitioners' claims as well as the clear public safety threat posed by these aliens – the vast majority of whom are convicted criminals."

Christian Refugee Admissions Top Those Of Muslims So Far This Year.

Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=107-5bf&t=c>> (7/13, Binder, 2.16M) reports under the headline "More Christian Refugees Arriving Under Trump Than Muslims" that since President Trump took office, "nearly 9,600 refugees who are affiliated with the Christian faith have been resettled in the US" – about one-half of the total – compared with 7,250 Muslim refugees, or

about 38 percent of all admissions.

Congolese Refugee Family Settles In Arkansas. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=108-0c5&t=c>> (7/13, Jordan, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) has a profile of a refugee family from the Democratic Republic of Congo that has been settled in Arkansas. The Mwenda family was “one of the last refugee families without close relations in the country to be allowed in before President Trump’s moratorium took effect.”

Somali-Born Couple Suing US Over Border Incident In 2015.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=109-5d4&t=c>> (7/13, Hauslohner, 12.92M) reports that Abdisalam Wilwal and Sagal Abdigani, a Somali couple who have resided in the US for 17 years, are suing the federal government for detaining them and their four children for nearly 11 hours at the US border with Canada on their way back home to Minnesota in March 2015. They allege that after they handed over their documents, “border officials emerged from their office, guns drawn and pointed at the family.” The ACLU “contends that the ordeal occurred because Wilwal had been placed – unbeknownst to him, and for no apparent reason – on the secretive watch list, a database that includes records on approximately one million people.” The family says that CBP officers “kept Wilwal handcuffed and secluded for more than 10 hours, even after he fainted and required medical attention,” and “accused Wilwal of being a terrorist, asked him whether he was Muslim, and denied him access to food.”

Trump Asks Sessions To Issue Guidance On Religious Protections For Federal Agencies.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=10a-1fa&t=c>> (7/13, Greenwood, 1.61M) reports President Trump has directed Attorney General Sessions to issue to government agencies new guidance for interpreting federal religious liberty protections. The Attorney General revealed the directive Tuesday in a speech to “the conservative Christian legal group Alliance Defending Freedom.”

ABC, NBC Label Christian Group A “Hate Group.” The Federalist
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=10b-d89&t=c>> (7/13, Hemingway, 109K) reports ABC News’ Pete Madden and Erin Galloway “smeared Christians who believe the

Bill of Rights secures religious liberty” as a “hate group,” in an article this week headlined, “Jeff Sessions Addresses ‘Anti-LGBT Hate Group,’ But DOJ Won’t Release His Remarks.” The story read: “Attorney General Jeff Sessions delivered a speech to an alleged hate group at an event closed to reporters on Tuesday night, but the Department of Justice is refusing to reveal what he said.” Townhall

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=10c-c2a&t=c>> (7/13, Barkoukis, 450K) reports that both ABC and NBC News described the Alliance Defending Freedom as a “hate group” in headlines this week after Sessions addressed the group. NBC’s headline read: “Attorney General Jeff Sessions Criticized for Speaking to ‘Hate Group.’”

House To Act On Bipartisan Measure To Expand GI Bill.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=10d-754&t=c>> (7/13, Yen) reports House Republicans and Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday “that would provide the biggest expansion of college aid for military veterans in a decade, removing a 15-year time limit to tap into benefits and increasing money for thousands in the National Guard and Reserve.” Rep. Phil Roe, chairman of the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee, said he would schedule a committee vote next week. The bipartisan measure represents “a sweeping effort to fill coverage gaps in the post-9/11 GI Bill amid a rapidly changing job market.”

Ryan Signals Openness To August Recess Delay.

Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=10e-ec4&t=c>> (7/13, Rahman, 91K) reports House Speaker Ryan said Thursday “if the Senate delivers a health care bill before the summer is over, he’d be open to joining Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell in keeping his chamber in during at least part of the August recess.” Ryan told reporters that if the Senate produces a health care bill, “we’re going to stay and finish health care.”

Ryan Reviewing House Dress Code. The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=10f-c62&t=c>> (7/13, story 13, 0:30, Mason, 11.17M) reported briefly that House Speaker Ryan said Thursday “he’s looking at modernizing the century’s old dress code” in the chamber. Said Ryan, “A dress code in the chamber, in the lobby makes sense, but we also don’t need to bar otherwise accepted contemporary business attire. So look for a change on that soon.”

Bannon Incorrectly Reported Mortgage Debt On Disclosure Form.

The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=110-248&t=c>> (7/13, Phillips, 403K) reports that Steve Bannon “incorrectly reported \$2 million in mortgage debt in his White House financial disclosure form,” according to the Center for Public Integrity. Rather than “stating the creditors for the four home loans he reported,” Banno “wrote ‘HOME LOAN’ on each line. ... Disclosure of creditors is essential to ensure government officials are not receiving preferential treatment from banks.”

Kobach Discusses “Left-Wing Efforts To Obstruct” Trump Voter Commission.

Under the headline “The Left Is Outraged Bipartisan Group Dares To Investigate Voter Fraud,” John Hayward wrote at Breitbart <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=111-cc4&t=c>> (7/13, Hayward, 2.16M) reported that Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach, vice chairman of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, on Thursday spoke with Brietbart News Daily about “left-wing efforts to obstruct his commission.” Kobach pointed to lawsuits filed by the ACLU, the Lawyers Committee on Human Rights, and “a couple of other left-wing” groups, saying, “They are literally seeking to stop the commission. Two of the lawsuits are trying to prevent the first meeting on Wednesday from occurring.” Kobach added, “These lawsuits are intended to stop the gathering of data and stop the meeting of the commission. It does make you think that some people out there don’t want us to see what amount of voter fraud there is.”

Scalise’s Condition Upgraded To Fair After Undergoing Surgery To Treat Infection.

Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=112-db4&t=c>> (7/13, McPherson, 91K) reported that House Majority Whip Steve Scalise’s “condition was upgraded to fair after he underwent surgery Thursday to manage a deep tissue infection he developed from his bullet wounds after being shot last month during Republicans’ congressional baseball practice.” In a statement, MedStar Washington Hospital said that Scalise on Thursday “underwent surgery for the management of deep tissue infection related to his bullet wounds. He is in fair condition, and will require careful monitoring to see if and when further interventions are necessary.”

WTimes Analysis: Lawmakers “Quickly” Break Vows To Tone Down

Rhetoric. Under the headline “With Scalise Still On The Mend, Lawmakers Break Promises Of Toning Down Partisan Rhetoric,” the Washington Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=113-806&t=c>> (7/13, Sherfinski, 458K) reports that in the month since the shooting spree at the congressional GOP baseball practice spurred “promises to turn down the partisan rhetorical thermostat,” those pledges “have quickly faded. Instead, those on both sides of the aisle are back at it, insulting each other, questioning their motives and intelligence – and in the case of one Democrat, even suggesting that President Trump could be guilty of treason, a crime punishable by execution.”

FEC: Congressional Members Can Use Campaign Funds For Home Security. The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=114-c02&t=c>> (7/13, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that leaders in Congress, “shaken by last month’s shooting at a Republican congressional baseball practice and a spike in threats to their members, want to be able to use campaign funds to tighten lawmakers’ home security.” On Thursday, the Federal Election Commission said “that given the threats, it would approve that use, so long as the improvements were ‘nonstructural.’” The FEC “unanimously authorized the use of campaign funds to pay for only the installation or upgrade, and the monitoring costs, of cameras, sensors, distress devices and similar security devices in and around lawmakers’ residences. Lawmakers will be required to report those expenses to the” FEC, “but it did not set a cap on how much a lawmaker could spend on the security systems.”

24 House Republicans Join Democrats To Kill Ban On DOD-Funded Sex Change Surgeries.

The Washington Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=115-161&t=c>> (7/13, Scarborough, 458K) reports 24 House Republicans “broke with their pro-defense brethren” yesterday when they helped Democrats kill an amendment to the annual National Defense Authorization Act that would have prohibited the military from funding transgender sex reassignment surgeries and hormone therapies. The Times says the move “means the military health care system will be called on to provide such surgeries as routine treatments for the first time, unless the Trump administration changes Obama-era policies that allow transgender troops to remain on duty.” Rep. Vicky Hartzler, who brought the amendment, said the amendment “does not prevent anyone from joining the military or receiving standard medical care.” Rather, it “makes sure our defense resources are allocated in a way that is smart and good for our national defense.”

NYTimes Analysis: Yellen “Carefully Conciliatory” On Regulatory

Concerns At Senate Hearing.

Though the stated purpose of Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen's testimony before the Senate Banking Committee yesterday was monetary policy, the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=116-f86&t=c>> (7/13, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the session "was devoted mostly to regulatory issues," which is indicative of lawmakers' confidence in the strength of the American economy. In response to Democrats' request that she affirm the importance of regulations imposed on financial institutions since the 2008 crisis, Yellen "made it clear that she was proud of her work" and said that some Trump-era rollbacks might increase the chances of a new crisis. Still, she was "carefully conciliatory," agreeing to a certain extent with Republicans' insistence that some rules might be too strict and expressing a willingness to consider changes. Yellen also reaffirmed her support for deregulating community banks, an issue with bipartisan support, "though," the Times says, "specifics are hard to come by."

US Stocks Rise Slightly, With Financials Leading Ahead Of Profit Reports.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=117-754&t=c>> (7/13) reports US stock markets had "slight gains" yesterday, with financials rising ahead of profit reports due today from many large American banks. Indeed, the financial index outperformed the other 10 major S&P sectors, finishing up 0.61 percent. The Dow Jones Industrial Average posted another record-high close, increasing 0.1 percent to 21,553.09. The S&P 500 likewise rose, increasing 0.19 percent to 2,447.86, and the Nasdaq Composite added 0.21 percent, reaching 6,274.44. Reuters says the S&P 500 healthcare rose just 0.09 percent, "barely moving" in reaction to Senate Majority Leader McConnell introducing a revised healthcare bill.

NOAA: Climate-Warming Gases Spiked In 2016 Due To Strong El Niño Weather Pattern.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=118-9bb&t=c>> (7/13, Friedman, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released the Annual Greenhouse Gas Index this week, reporting that emissions rose more quickly last year than they have in almost two decades – a phenomenon scientists attribute partly to a strong El Niño weather pattern. The index also shows that global

greenhouse gas emissions that lead to warming rose 40 percent between 1990 and 2016, “a significant measure of man’s influence on the climate,” says the Times. In a “notable shift” from Obama-era releases of indices, this year’s “does not directly link human activity to emissions.” NOAA officials explained that while “the role of greenhouse gases on influencing global temperatures is well understood by scientists,” it’s “a complicated topic that can be difficult to communicate.”

Brown “Scrambling” For Bipartisan Support To Extend California’s Cap-And-Trade Program.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=119-e29&t=c>> (7/13, Dillon, Mason, 4.57M) reports California Gov. Jerry Brown testified before the state Senate Environmental Quality Committee yesterday morning, “warning...of threats to human existence and American democracy” if lawmakers don’t pass climate-change legislation scheduled for a vote on Monday. Speaking to the crowd, Brown, 79, said, “You’re going to be alive in a horrible situation. This isn’t for me, I’m going to be dead. This is for you, and it’s real!” Brown framed California as a world leader in the fight against global warming, contrasting the state’s position with the federal government’s. Yesterday was the first public hearing for the legislation – which needs a two-thirds vote to withstand legal challenges – that proposes extending the state’s cap-and-trade program through 2030 and strengthening its air quality rules.

According to the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=11a-807&t=c>> (7/13, Cooper), Brown “is scrambling to line up support for his plan in the face of opposition from conservatives who warn about costs and liberals who say it doesn’t do enough to protect the environment and clean dirty air.” Though the bill includes a repeal of the fire prevention fee and tax exemptions for power companies, all Assembly Republicans and 11 of 13 Senate Republicans said yesterday that they opposed the measure because it lacks sufficient tax cuts and regulatory relief. Meanwhile, “environmental justice” advocates insist that concessions Brown made to the oil industry will take too much of a toll on the environment.

WSJournal: GOP Support For Brown’s Bill Would Ensure Permanent Superminority. The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=11b-f20&t=c>> (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) editorializes that if Republicans go along with Brown’s current plan to extend cap and trade, they will relieve pressure from Democrats in low-income districts that face competitive reelection races. These Democrats are reluctant to extend the program after voting earlier this year to raise gas taxes and impose a new vehicle registration fee,

policies that already will strain the finances of manufacturers, oil refiners, and food processors – major employers in low-income areas.

Brzezinski, Scarborough Trashing Trump During Public Appearances.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=11c-c83&t=c>> (7/13, Hesse, 12.92M) reports that MSNBC “Morning Joe” co-hosts Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough, who have been engaged in a public war of words with President Trump, “continued riding their fame wave on Tuesday night by appearing at the National Archives in Washington,” followed by a Wednesday appearance at Harvard Kennedy School’s Institute of Politics. The Post says the pair, during a Tuesday appearance on “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert,” were “perfectly content to lob casual insults and anecdotes that made” Trump “look like a boundary-challenged middle school weirdo.” The two, adds the Post, “offer a preview of what the lecture circuit will look like in the frenzied months after Trump’s administration ends: gaggles of politicians and talking heads who used to be in Trump’s circle, now racing for the nearest podium to share just how crazy it all was.”

Study: In Final Weeks Of 2016 Race, Trump Held Edge Over Clinton On Twitter.

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=11d-5b0&t=c>> (7/13, Rossman, 10.05M) reports that a University of Edinburgh “study of viral tweets in the run-up to the presidential election showed posts favoring” Donald Trump “nearly doubled that of challenger Hillary Clinton, who was three times as likely to be criticized than praised on Twitter in the campaign’s final days.” Researchers at the university “analyzed the 50 most viral election tweets for each of the final 68 days of the 2016 presidential campaign – Sept. 1 through Nov. 8” – dividing “the tweets into pro-Clinton and pro-Trump categories and” examining “the use of slogans, mentions of swing states and the credibility of linked news sources. Nearly two-thirds of the 3,450 viral tweets – which were retweeted about 26 million times – either attacked Clinton (39%) or supported Trump (23%). The other third either supported Clinton (14%) or attacked Trump (19%).”
Brooks, Strange Battling Over Loyalty To Trump In Special Election.

In a report on this year’s special election for the seat currently held by appointed Sen. Luther Strange (R-AL), Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=11e-c53&t=c>> (7/13, Pathé, 91K) said that while President Trump “may be embroiled in scandal in” the nation’s Capital, “in Alabama – a state he won by nearly 30 points last fall – he remains

extremely popular.” Consequently, Strange and one of his top GOP primary foes, Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL) – “with their supporters’ help – are trying to outdo each other in expressing loyalty to the president.” Roll Call said that the Senate Leadership Fund, a super PAC aligned with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R), is out with a TV ad accusing Brooks “of siding with Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi against Trump.” Brooks, meanwhile, recently “released a digital ad (which he said will go on TV), expressing his commitment to building Trump’s wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.”

Freedom Caucus Chair Meadows Warns McConnell Over Ad Attacking Brooks. The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=11f-137&t=c>> (7/13, Wong, 1.61M) reported that House Freedom Caucus Chairman Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC), a “conservative firebrand credited with pressuring then-Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) to resign in 2015,” on Thursday warned Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell “and his establishment allies.” Speaking with reporters, Meadows said, “Anytime leadership goes after Freedom Caucus members, it’s not the prudent thing to do.” Meadows was commenting on the SLF ad attacking Brooks – a member of the Freedom Caucus – “as a ‘career politician’ who has teamed up with liberals Nancy Pelosi and Elizabeth Warren in attacking President Trump.” Meadows “suggested the SLF is attacking Brooks so aggressively in ads and press releases because the congressman is rising in the polls. ‘Of course he’s a viable candidate. I think he wins,’ Meadows predicted.”

Trump Supporter Stewart Vows To Run “Vicious, Ruthless Campaign” Against Kaine.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=120-26b&t=c>> (7/13, Simpson) reports that Prince William County Supervisor Corey Stewart (R-VA), a “blunt-speaking supporter of President Donald Trump,” on Thursday announced a 2018 challenge to Sen. Tim Kaine (D), vowing “a ‘vicious, ruthless campaign.’” Speaking with reporters, Stewart – who earlier this year narrowly lost to ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie (R) in Virginia’s GOP gubernatorial primary, said, “I’m going to run the most vicious, ruthless campaign to dethrone Tim Kaine in the United States Senate. It’s time that Republicans take back that seat.” During his bid for governor, Stewart “ran on a campaign that featured Confederate flags at rallies, calls for deportation of illegal immigrants and disdain for the Republican establishment.”

On its website, CNN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=121-bad&t=c>> (7/13, Hauck, Stark, 44.83M) reported that Stewart, who suffered a one-point loss to Gillespie, “cited the closeness of the gubernatorial race as his motivation for pursuing the

Senate seat. He said the Republican Party has been fighting a 'UFC fight' to improve the economy and added that he wants to 'get back in the ring.' 'There's an appetite for a Republican fighter. They're looking for a vicious, ruthless, Republican, conservative fighter,' Stewart said."

Under the headline "Stewart Challenges Kaine And GOP With Virginia Senate Run," Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=122-f1e&t=c>> (7/13, Robillard, 2.97M) reported that in announcing his challenge to Kaine, Stewart also "cast his campaign as a challenge to the rest of the" GOP, portraying "his combative, Trump-inspired style as the future of the Republican Party. 'The era of the kinder, gentler Republican is over,' Stewart said." He "also reserved plenty of rancor for Kaine, Hillary Clinton's vice presidential running mate in 2016. 'As an obedient servant to Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, Tim Kaine is the leading obstructionist against Trump's America First agenda,' Stewart said."

Under the headline "Confederacy-Loving Republican To Challenge Tim Kaine For Virginia Senate Seat," the Huffington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=123-9ab&t=c>> (7/13, Marans, 6.63M) described Stewart as "a right-wing rabble-rouser who claims he was 'Trump before Trump was Trump,'" saying that that his gubernatorial campaign centered around "protect[ing] Virginia's Confederate monuments and crack[ing] down on illegal immigration." In a brief analysis for National Journal <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=124-3f3&t=c>> (7/13, Trygstad, Subscription Publication, 35K), Kyle Trygstad said, "There is no separating Stewart from...Trump, and after nearly six months in the White House that is a dangerous starting point for next year's midterms in one of the only states where Clinton improved on President Obama's 2012 margin." Roll Call <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=125-3f4&t=c>> (7/13, Pathé, 91K) reported, "Inside Elections with Nathan L. Gonzales rates the race Likely Democratic."

Stewart's Run May "Complicate" Gillespie's 2017 Bid. The Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=126-169&t=c>> (7/13, Wilson, 338K) reports that Stewart's announcement may "complicate" Gillespie's 2017 bid to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D). One day before announcing his run, Stewart told the Washington Post that "Gillespie should 'maybe take some testosterone supplements and just get out there and start beating the hell out of'" out of his rival, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D-VA). John Fredericks, "a radio show host and political analyst," told the Times-Dispatch, "Stewart's entrance into the Senate race and his active campaigning puts pressure on Gillespie from a stylistic standpoint. Republicans are going to see Corey absolutely going ballistic on Tim Kaine and being very forceful, and Ed's style is very different than

that.”

Stabenow Raises \$2.1M In Second Quarter, Has \$5.8M In Campaign Warchest.

The Detroit News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=127-615&t=c>> (7/13, Burke, 747K) reports that Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) on Thursday announced that she raised “\$2.1 million in the second quarter and has \$5.8 million on hand in her bid for re-election next year.” Lena Epstein (R), who was co-chair of President Trump’s Michigan campaign, “said Thursday she had raised more than \$460,000 in the five weeks since announcing her campaign May 22. She had more than \$455,000 on hand on June 30.”

Kid Rock Says His Potential 2018 Bid “Not A Hoax.” The New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=128-243&t=c>> (7/13, Perez, 3.2M) reports that Kid Rock “says he isn’t kidding around when it comes to his” potential 2018 challenge to Stabenow, “amid widespread speculation that his political aspirations were a publicity stunt. Several media outlets have called Rock out for not yet registering to run in Michigan’s upcoming Republican primaries, and have pointed out how the website attached to his campaign appeared to be registered by Warner Bros. music label.” In a Thursday post on his website, Rock wrote, “Once again the press is wrong. First of all, I’ve got 15 days from my announcement to file paperwork with the FEC! Second, I’m not signed to Warner Bros!!! – which simple fact-checking would have revealed.” Rock added, “Like politicians write books during their campaigns, I’m planning on putting out music during mine and IT ALL STARTS TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT. It’s not a hoax, it’s a strategy and marketing 101!”

Manchin Raises Over \$1.4M In Q2, Has Nearly \$3.5M Banked For 2018 Race.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=129-342&t=c>> (7/13) reports that Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) on Thursday announced that he “raised more than \$1.4 million in the most recent quarter and has nearly \$3.5 million on hand” for his 2018 reelection race. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=12a-a94&t=c>> (7/13, Schor, 2.97M) reported that Manchin’s Q2 haul “more than doubles the \$552,000 he took in during the first” quarter. Unemployed miner Bo Copley (R), Rep. Evan Jenkins (R-WV), and state Attorney General Patrick Morrissey (R-WV) are running in the GOP primary. The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401educ>

ation&r=email-6074&l=12b-c18&t=c> (7/13, Savransky, 1.61M) reported that Manchin “is considered one of the more vulnerable Democratic senators as President Trump won his state by a large margin.”

Democrat O’Rourke Bests Cruz In Q2 Fundraising, But Trails In Cash On Hand.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=12c-ccf&t=c>> (7/13) reports that Rep. Beto O’Rourke (D-TX), who is mounting a 2018 challenge to Sen. Ted Cruz, “outraised” the GOP incumbent during the second quarter of this year. O’Rourke on Thursday announced that he raised “more than \$2 million” in Q2, ending the period with “nearly \$1.9 million” cash on hand. Cruz spokeswoman Catherine Frazier “said Cruz raised \$1.6 million in 2017’s second quarter, and had \$5.7 million in cash on-hand.”

The Texas Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=12d-ab0&t=c>> (7/13, Livingston, 15K) reports that O’Rourke’s Q2 take “surpassed the fundraising of some US Senate Democratic incumbents in other states who are the subject of major party pushes to hold their seats in 2018.” The Dallas Morning News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=12e-8d5&t=c>> (7/13, Kelly, 894K) reports that O’Rourke’s “bid is considered a long shot because reliably GOP Texas hasn’t had a Democratic senator since 1994, and although he has raised funds quickly since announcing his candidacy, O’Rourke had only \$535,000 in campaign funds at the end of March – then one-tenth of Cruz’s war chest.”

“ZodiacPAC” Seizes On “Viral Meme” To Target Cruz. Meanwhile, The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=12f-87f&t=c>> (7/13, Thomsen, 1.61M) reported that a new PAC targeting Cruz “is taking advantage of the viral meme alleging that the senator is the Zodiac Killer, who has never been identified. The founders of ‘ZodiacPAC’ say they’re creating the group to oppose Cruz and other conservative politicians in Texas who they say don’t represent their values.” The PAC acknowledges “it doesn’t actually believe that Cruz is the Zodiac Killer – who murdered at least five people in Northern California in the late 1960s – but that the meme is an opportunity for them to highlight Cruz’s qualities and stances. ‘The zodiac meme is like a political cartoon for the digital age,’ the PAC’s website reads. ‘It’s outlandish, but it highlights Ted Cruz’s fundamental meanness – someone who cares more about his own ambition and fame than the people of Texas.’”

Warren Raises \$3.5M In Q2, Has Over \$11M Cash On Hand.

The Boston Globe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=130-e94&t=c>> (7/13, McGrane, 1.06M) reports that Sen. Elizabeth Warren “continued on her fund-raising tear for the second quarter, building up her 2018 war chest to more than \$11 million.”

Warren raised “\$3.5 million in” Q2. The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=131-134&t=c>> (7/13) reported that Warren’s Q2 fundraising haul “was lower than in the” first quarter, when “she reported more than \$5.2 million in donations. Yet with more than \$11 million in her campaign account at the close of the second quarter, Warren is likely to enjoy a formidable cash advantage over Republican challengers.” Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=132-3a0&t=c>> (7/13, Dezenski, 2.97M) reported, “Of the \$3.45 million Warren raised” In Q1, “98 percent came from donations of \$100 and under – the same small-dollar percentage she saw during her record first quarter fundraising.”

GOP State Rep. Diehl To Launch Challenge To Warren On Aug. 1.

Meanwhile, the Boston Herald

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=133-973&t=c>> (7/13, Dowling, 436K) reports that state Rep. Geoff Diehl (R-MA) “is finally ready to announce he’s officially running against” Warren. Speaking on Wednesday with the Herald, Diehl, who has been exploring a bid, said that he plans to enter “the race full time” on Aug. 1. Diehl, “co-chairman of Donald Trump’s presidential campaign in Massachusetts,” will join entrepreneur Shiva Ayyadurai (R) in the GOP primary.

Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=134-c3b&t=c>> (7/13, Stewart, 91K) reported that Diehl “seems to be replicating some of Trump’s campaign slogans, with a section on his website titled, ‘Put Massachusetts First.’ The description says Diehl will ‘travel the Commonwealth to work with you and make Massachusetts great again.’”

AP Exclusive: Democrat Donnelly Criticizes Outsourcing, But Profits From Practice.

In an exclusive, the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=135-b5f&t=c>> (7/13, Slodysko) reports that Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-IN), “who railed against Carrier Corp. for moving manufacturing jobs to Mexico” in 2016, “profits from a family business that relies on Mexican labor to produce its products.” According to congressional records, says the AP, Donnelly “holds up to \$50,000 in

stock with Stewart Superior Corp., an arts and crafts company that has been in his family for generations. Records show the company participates in a Mexican government program that allows companies to avoid some taxes and import duties on goods they manufacture in the country." Donnelly is facing what's expected to be a competitive reelection race next year.

Drawing from the AP dispatch, The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=136-952&t=c>> (7/13, Greenwood, 1.61M) reported, "Donnelly's brother runs Stewart Superior, though the" senator "served as a corporate officer and general counsel for the company before being elected to Congress in 2006. Donnelly's financial disclosures show that he still owns as much as \$50,000 in company stock and earned between \$15,001 and \$50,000 in dividends in 2016, according to the AP. That means that the senator has profited from some of the very policies that he has spoken out against."

Aided By Trump, MacArthur Raises \$1.13M In Second Quarter.

The New York Observer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=137-080&t=c>> (7/13, Rizzo, 344K) reported that Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-NJ) "raised \$1.13 million in the second quarter for his campaign and PAC, his staff announced Thursday. Much of that came from a fundraiser with President Trump last month that pulled in more than \$800,000." MacArthur "raised \$354,251 for his campaign in the second quarter and had \$377,679 on hand as of June 30. The congressman's PAC, MacArthur Victory, raised \$776,350 in the three-month period and had \$548,806 as of June 30. He also has the ability to self-fund; MacArthur spent around \$5 million of his money on his first campaign."

With Trump In White House, Democratic Candidates Flock To Congressional Races.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=138-098&t=c>> (7/13, Suderman) reports, "Virginia Democrats energized by opposition to President Donald Trump are lining up to run for Congress." State Democratic Party chief Susan Swecker "said there's been little need for actively recruiting candidates, unlike past election cycles. 'We've seen nothing before like what we're seeing now,' Swecker said." The AP says, "In the 2014 mid-term elections, Democrats didn't field challengers in some Republican-leaning districts and there was little competition among Democrats to run in other districts. This year, primaries are likely in several districts and Swecker said every Republican-held district will get a Democratic challenger." As one example, the AP says that "seven Democrats" are

ving to take on Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA), whose “swing district favored [Hillary] Clinton by 10 percentage points though Comstock easily” won reelection last year.

Ryan Has \$11.5M Banked For Reelection Race.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=139-89e&t=c>> (7/13) reports House Speaker Ryan “finished the first half of 2017 with \$11.15 million on hand,” after raising “\$3.4 million during the first six months of the year.”

McClatchy: Ryan Challenger Bruce “Progressive Left’s Newest Celebrity Candidate.” Meanwhile, McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=13a-c5b&t=c>> (7/13, Roarty, 95K) profiles Paul’s most prominent 2018 challenger, “former iron worker” Randy Bryce (D), who “spent this winter installing windows hundreds of feet up in the freezing air, helping to finish a Milwaukee skyscraper. Now, he’s the progressive left’s newest celebrity candidate as he vows to give...Ryan his toughest re-election test in nearly twenty years.” Bryce’s “unconventional profile – he calls himself ‘IronStache’ on Twitter – has helped make him a star among liberals, who in turn have contributed to his campaign coffers en masse. He’s raised more than a half-million dollars in less than a month, his campaign says, from more than 20,000 donors.”

Rauner’s 2018 Reelection Race May Be Priciest Statewide Contest In US History.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=13b-840&t=c>> (7/13, Korecki, Isenstadt, 2.97M) reported that Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner’s (R) 2018 reelection race “is on pace to be the most expensive statewide election in US history, a spending bonanza expected to cost more than a quarter-billion dollars next year.” Several local and national “party officials think the contest might run well in excess of \$300 million, blowing away the current record-holder for statewide office – the \$280 million California governor’s race between former eBay executive Meg Whitman and Jerry Brown in 2010.” Candidates “on both sides have already raised upward of \$90 million.” A number of candidates are running, but the contest features “two self-funders”: billionaire J.B. Pritzker (D), “among the wealthiest individuals in the world and the...multimillionaire...Rauner.”

Sanders Endorses Jealous’ Bid To Oust Maryland Gov Hogan.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=13c-6dc&t=c>> (7/13, Wiggins, Hicks, 12.92M) reports that Sen. Bernie Sanders on Thursday endorsed ex-NAACP chief Ben Jealous' (D) 2018 bid to oust Gov. Larry Hogan (D-MD). During a campaign event in Silver Spring, Maryland, Sanders said that with President Trump now commander in chief, "we need more than ever, at the statewide level, a very different kind of leadership," adding, "And what Ben Jealous is about, he has a radical idea that maybe, just maybe, government should represent all of the people and not just the one percent." Jealous is battling several other candidates in the Democratic primary.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=13d-418&t=c>> (7/13, Kamisar, 1.61M) report that Jealous, meanwhile, "cast Hogan as a tool for Trump's agenda. 'We are gathered today on Trump's doorstep to let him know we are going to get rid of his doormat,' he said." The Hill added that Sanders' "decision to back Jealous had been expected – Jealous serves on the board of Our Revolution, the Sanders-backed political group that sponsored the endorsement event."

Two Ex-House Aides Indicted For Sharing Nude Footage Of Congresswoman.

The New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=13e-93a&t=c>> (7/13, Perez, 3.2M) reports, "Two former staff members of Congress were indicted Thursday in connection to a cyberstalking case that involved sharing nude photos and videos of a female lawmaker and her husband on Facebook. Juan R. McCullum, 35, and Dorene Browne-Louis, 45, were busted after pictures were circulated last year of a House...member identified simply as 'Delegate S.P.,' according to prosecutors. The pair had been employed by Rep. Stacey Plaskett — a Democrat from the Virgin Islands who claimed to have been hacked last summer. Her office confirmed to US News & World Report on Thursday night that she was, in fact, the aforementioned victim." The Post says, "On Tuesday, McCullum was finally indicted by a grand jury on two counts of cyberstalking," while "Browne-Lewis was slapped with two counts of obstruction of justice."

Federal Appeals Court Overturns Conviction Of Former New York Lawmaker.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=13f-b13&t=c>> (7/13, Weiser, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that a three-judge panel of the 2nd Circuit

Court of Appeals in Manhattan on Thursday “overturned the 2015 corruption conviction of Sheldon Silver, once the powerful speaker of the New York State Assembly, saying the judge’s jury instructions were in error in light of a United States Supreme Court decision that has since narrowed the legal definition of corruption.” Silver was convicted “on charges that he had obtained nearly \$4 million in illicit payments in return for taking a series of official actions that benefited others,” but in the jury instructions, “the judge’s explanation of an official action was too broad, the appeals court found, because it swept in some conduct that the Supreme Court’s decision would now exclude.” According to the Times, federal prosecutors “quickly vowed to retry the case, noting that the appeals court said that the evidence against Mr. Silver was legally sufficient to support a conviction.”

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=140-980&t=c>> (7/13, Zapotosky, 12.92M) reports that legal analysts said the appeals court decision “shows how public corruption cases have become much more difficult to substantiate in the wake of a Supreme Court decision narrowing what qualifies as corruption.” In its decision, the court “wrote that while prosecutors had presented enough evidence to justify Silver’s convictions, jurors had been wrongly instructed on the action Silver would have to take to make his conduct count as criminal public corruption.” The judges “cited the Supreme Court’s decision in the case of former Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell, who also had his convictions vacated in such a way that lawyers have long warned could have wide implications for others suspected of public corruption.”

Video Shows Florida Police Officer Pulling Over State Attorney.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=141-0c2&t=c>> (7/13, Mele, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports on “the polite but somewhat awkward exchange” that happened during a traffic stop on June 19 between an Orlando, FL police officer and Aramis D. Ayala, “who is the state attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Florida and chief prosecutor in Orlando.” According to footage from a body camera worn by the officer, the officer tells Ayala “that her license plate ‘didn’t come back to anything’ after he checked it on a computer.” When Ayala asked why her license plate had been checked in the first place, “the officer, said: ‘Oh, we run tags all the time. Whether it’s a traffic light and that sort of stuff.’” He then added: “Also, the windows are really dark.” According to the Times, “at the mention of the dark windows, Ms. Ayala, who is black, smiled slightly.” Ayala said in a statement released on Wednesday, “To be clear, I violated no laws.”

President Carter Hospitalized For Dehydration.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=142-b1e&t=c>> (7/13, story 10, 0:25, Holt, 16.61M) reported former President Jimmy Carter “suffered a health scare” yesterday “when he collapsed while helping build a Habitat for Humanity home in Canada.” According to the New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=143-07d&t=c>> (7/13, Blinder, Subscription Publication, 14.49M), the Carter Center, his nonprofit, said in a statement that he was hospitalized “as a precaution,” with Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford adding later that he “was dehydrated working in the hot sun.”

White House Intruder Who Roamed Grounds For 17 Minutes Pleads Guilty.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=144-834&t=c>> (7/13, Hsu, 12.92M) reports Jonathan Tran, who breached the White House grounds and roamed free for almost 17 minutes on March 10, pleaded guilty yesterday to one count of knowingly entering and remaining on restricted grounds. Tran faces sentencing September 25 before US District Judge James Boasberg over an incident “that led to renewed criticism of the US Secret Service and further restrictions on public access to areas around the presidential residence.” The plea agreement recommends that Tran be barred from entering the District of Columbia while under any period of probation and that he be required to meet with the Secret Service to determine potential risks. He could face up to six months in prison.

WPost’s McGregor Disagrees With Pence Describing Trump As Humble.

In a piece titled “Pence Told High-school Students Good Leaders Are Humble. Then He Praised Trump,” Jena McGregor wrote on the website of the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=145-518&t=c>> (7/13, McGregor, 12.92M), “So much for that speculation about Vice President Mike Pence distancing himself from President Trump amid the uproar over Trump Jr.’s Russia emails.” Speaking Wednesday at American University, the Vice President, “who called those news reports ‘offensive,’ delivered a speech that was dripping with adulation for his boss,” holding “up Trump as an example when he talked about the importance of humility in leaders. ‘Our president, he leads by asking questions and he listens,’ Pence” said, adding, “And I believe that reflects the kind of humility that will enhance your ability to be a leader.” McGregor asserts, “Trump may be many things, but humble is not one of them.”

WPost's Long: Trump Economic Team Making Mistake With "Concrete" Growth Promise.

Heather Long writes in the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=146-86e&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) "Wonkblog" that in his Wall Street Journal op-ed announcing President Trump's "MAGAnomics" policy, OMB Director Mulvaney "gave a rehash of what Trump has been saying since he announced his run for president," but in promising three percent annual growth, "the architects of MAGAnomics are making the same error that the masterminds of Obamanomics made: They're promising far more than they are likely to deliver." Long writes, "Trump's team should have learned from Obama: Be careful with concrete economic promises."

AEI Fellow: Trump Should Withdraw US From G-20's Financial Stability Board.

In an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=147-e53&t=c>> (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M), American Enterprise Institute Senior Fellow in Financial Policy Studies Peter J. Wallison writes that President Trump's decision last week during the G-20 summit to sign on to a communiqué that praises the G-20 Financial Stability Board's progress in regulating global finance was inconsistent with the President's promises to deregulate the financial system. Wallison argues that the FSB, in conjunction with the regulatory structure established under the Dodd-Frank Act, could usher in more stringent financial regulations in the US. He concludes that the President, if he still desires greater financial deregulation, should withdraw the US from the FSB and should restrict the Financial Stability Oversight Council created by Dodd-Frank to act solely as a consultative entity without regulatory power.

National Review: Oregon's New Abortion Bill "Aggressive" And "Radical."

In an editorial, the National Review

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=148-b5a&t=c>> (7/13, 754K) writes that Oregon's House Bill 3391-B – the bill recently passed by the state's legislature that requires insurers to provide abortion coverage – is "especially aggressive," "grisly," and "radical," even compared to other state laws mandating some degree of abortion coverage. The legislation "does not exclude grisly late-term abortions (which take place long after the fetus can survive outside the womb), nor does it prohibit sex-selective abortions." National Review argues that the bill also narrows exemption

language and that "In order to qualify for an exemption from the mandate, an employer must be a nonprofit whose purpose is 'the inculcation of religious values,' and it must primarily employ and serve people who share the employer's religious tenets."

NYTimes: Overturning Of Silver's Conviction Does Not Exonerate Him.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=149-79e&t=c>> (7/14, Board, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) says in an editorial that when a federal appeals court overturned the corruption conviction of former New York legislative leader Sheldon Silver, "the judges did not find Mr. Silver to be a blameless man who'd been wronged," but instead acted because of a 2016 US Supreme Court ruling that "narrowed the definition of what types of official misconduct could sustain a corruption prosecution." The judges "flatly rejected" Silver's arguments "that there wasn't sufficient evidence to find him guilty of taking nearly \$4 million in illicit payments."

WPost: DC Metro Shouldn't Sell Naming Rights For Stations.

In an editorial, the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=14a-5c2&t=c>> (7/13, 12.92M) writes that the DC Metro Board Finance Committee's recent proposal to seek corporate sponsorship for certain stations as one option to raise revenue for the DC metro system should not be adopted. Although the Post notes that other transit systems have generated "millions of dollars selling the opportunity to name stations," it adds, "It is hard to imagine...how the system would avoid controversy if iconic names such as L'Enfant Plaza or Metro Center were muddled with corporate logos." Instead of selling naming rights, the Post argues, "Congress and the system's regional partners need to establish a dedicated revenue stream for Metro."

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

New Senate Health Bill Aims To Bridge GOP Gaps, But Resistance Remains

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=14b-8bf&t=c>>

Vanguard CEO McNabb To Step Down

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=14c-6cc&t=c>>

A Shipping Company's Bizarre Stock Maneuvers Create High Seas Intrigue

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=14d-36e&t=c>>

Uber Merges Russian Arm With Yandex. Taxi

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=14e-a84&t=c>>

New York Times:

Senate Republicans Unveil New Health Bill, But Divisions Remain

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=14f-f09&t=c>>

Revised Senate Health Bill Tries To Win Votes, But Has Fewer Winners

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=150-553&t=c>>

Trump Defends His Son And Plays Down Differences With French Leader

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=151-f87&t=c>>

Sheldon Silver's 2015 Corruption Conviction Is Overturned

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=152-08b&t=c>>

A Tide Of Opioid-Dependent Newborns Forces Doctors To Rethink Treatment

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=153-b4f&t=c>>

Liu Xiaobo, Chinese Dissident Who Won Nobel While Jailed, Dies At 61

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=154-210&t=c>>

In Brazil, Political Rivals Face A Common Threat: A Rising Judiciary

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=155-2df&t=c>>

Washington Post:

In Pa., 4 Missing Men, A Grisly Discovery And, Now, An Arrest

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=156-4fa&t=c>>

Trump Lawyers Finding He Prefers His Own Advice

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=157-70b&t=c>>

An Empty Chair, And A Life Filled With Peaceful Fury

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=158-25a&t=c>>

Trump's Agenda Threatened By Forecast Of Weak Growth

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=159-e9e&t=c>>

Doubts Linger In GOP After Release Of New Health Bill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=15a-913&t=c>>

Financial Times:

London Reforms Open Door For Saudi Aramco Listing

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=15a-913&t=c>>

ation&r=email-6074&l=15b-b54&t=c>

China's Best-Known Dissident Liu Xiaobo Dies In Custody

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=15c-797&t=c>>

Goldman Sachs Relaxes Dress Code For Tech Staff

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=15d-927&t=c>>

Trump Calls Son's Russian Meeting 'Standard Politics'

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=15e-f37&t=c>>

Washington Times:

Senate Immediately Loses 2 Republican Votes On Revised Obamacare Repeal Bill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=15f-e29&t=c>>

Visiting French President, Trump Publicly Downplays Furor At Home Over Russia Connections

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=160-a07&t=c>>

Horror Of Terror Attack Mutes Bastille Day Celebrations In Nice

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=161-f7f&t=c>>

With Scalise Still On The Mend, Lawmakers Break Promises Of Toning Down Partisan Rhetoric

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=162-297&t=c>>

Russians Have Their Say In FCC's Public Comment Process On Net Neutrality

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=163-c0c&t=c>>

Turks Grow Increasingly Restive Over Erdogan's Crackdowns In Year After Coup Attempt

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=164-f91&t=c>>

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Russia Meddling Investigation-Trump; Healthcare Reform Bill; Greece-Fatal American Beating; Severe Weather; Weather Forecast; Healthcare Fraud Takedown; Mexico-Mystery American Resort Death; Princess Juliana International Airport-Tourist Death; Time Square Mowing-Trial; Tick-Borne Disease Death; ATM Machine-Man Trapped; Wimbledon Finals; Italian Immigrant Inventor.

CBS: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Russia Meddling Investigation; Russia Meddling Investigation-WH; Trump-Border Wall; Russia Meddling Investigation-Congress; Campus Sexual Assault-Federal Rules; Healthcare Reform Bill; Healthcare Reform Bill-Impact; Social Security Adjustment; Chinese Nobel Laureate Political Prisoner Dies; California-Police Car Chase Rule Change; Severe Weather; House-Dress Code Change; CBS Anchor Centennial Celebration.

NBC: Russia Meddling Investigation-Trump; Russia Meddling Investigation-Kushner; Healthcare Reform Bill; Philadelphia-Missing Men

Murdered; Airport Security Change; San Francisco Airport-Close Call; Healthcare Fraud Takedown; Chinese Nobel Laureate Political Prisoner Dies; Princess Juliana International Airport-Tourist Death; Jimmy Carter-Health Condition; Emmy Awards Nominations; ATM Machine-Man Trapped; Surprise Wedding Proposal.

Network TV At A Glance:

Russia Meddling Investigation – 13 minutes, 45 seconds
Healthcare Reform Bill – 8 minutes, 10 seconds
Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered – 5 minutes, 55 seconds
Healthcare Fraud Takedown – 2 minutes, 25 seconds
Weather – 2 minutes, 20 seconds
Chinese Nobel Laureate Political Prisoner Dies – 1 minute, 5 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Healthcare Reform Bill;
CBS: Healthcare Reform Bill; Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Russia Meddling; Severe Weather; Honda Accord Recall; Rapper-Tax Evasion.
FOX: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Army Man Terrorism Connection Trial; Trump-France Visit.
NPR: Healthcare Reform Bill; Trump-Border Wall; Russia Meddling; Campus Sexual Assault-Federal Rules; Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Wall Street News.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participate in the French National Day Parade.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Delivers remarks at the National Governors Association Summer Meeting; .participates in a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada.

US Senate: No public schedule announced.

US House: 9:00 AM House Natural Resources subcommittee legislative hearing – Federal Lands Subcommittee legislative hearing on 'H.R. 873, Global War on Terrorism War Memorial Act', 'H.R. 1547, Udall Park Land Exchange Completion Act', 'H.R. 2582, Confirming State Land Grants for Education Act', and 'H.R. 3115, To provide for a land exchange involving Federal land in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture through the Weeks Law, and for other purposes', with testimony from bipartisan Reps. Richard Nolan, Mia Love, Martha McSally, and Mike Gallagher; Department of the Interior Acting Assistant Director for Energy, Minerals, and Realty Management Tim Spisak; Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation Executive Director Andrew Brennan; Tucson, AZ, City Manager Michael Ortega; and Utah School & Institutional Trust Lands Administration Chief Legal Counsel and Associate Director John Andrews Location: Rm 1324, Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://naturalresources.house.gov>

<https://twitter.com/NatResources>

9:00 AM House expected to vote on FY'18 NDAA – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda expected to include completion of consideration of 'H.R. 2810 – National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018' * Administration has said it strongly supports a number of provisions within the bill, saying it 'contains many promising reforms', although notes that it 'fails to authorize a new Base Realignment and Closure round' Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

9:15 AM House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on fixed income market structure – Capital Markets, Securities, and Investment Subcommittee hearing on 'A Review of Fixed Income Market Structure', with testimony from Headlands Technologies founder and CEO Matthew Andresen; Nasdaq Global Head of Fixed Income and Commodities John Shay; T. Rowe Price Vice President and Head of Fixed Income Market Structure and Electronic Trading Alex Sedgwick; former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for the Financial Stability Oversight Council Jonah Crane; and Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Executive Vice President Randy Snook Location: Rm 2128, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://financialservices.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/FinancialCmte>

10:00 AM House Foreign Affairs subcommittee hearing on Liu Xiaobo – Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations Subcommittee hearing on 'The Tragic Case of Liu Xiaobo', with testimony from Initiatives for China President Dr Yang Jianli * Nobel Peace Prize-winning Chinese political prisoner Liu died yesterday from multiple organ failure caused by liver cancer, amid an international call for Chinese authorities to release him for treatment abroad Location: Rm 2172, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://www.hcfa.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HFACrepublicans>

10:00 AM Social Security Subcommittee hearing on 'Social Security's Solvency Challenge: Status of the Social Security Trust Funds' Location: Rm 2020, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://waysandmeans.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/WaysandMeansGOP>

Other: Maverick PAC annual conference – Mavericks Conference 2017, hosted by Maverick PAC. Speakers include Republican Reps. Will Hurd, Roger Williams, Carlos Curbelo, Francis Rooney, and Scott Taylor, Susan G. Komen Foundation founder Nancy Brinker, Ohio State Rep. Niraj Antani, Member of the Canadian Parliament Michelle Rempel, Member of the Colombian Congress Frederico Hoyos, U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Karen Harbert, and former Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey Location: Washington, DC www.maverickpac.com <https://twitter.com/mavpac>

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television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform's terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva's terms of use

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017071401education&r=email-6074&l=165-858&t=c>> . The Department of Education News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at BulletinIntelligence.com, or called at (703) 483-6100.



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Department of Education News Briefing



TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

ED000091

Secretary and Department News

- DeVos Holds "Listening Sessions" With Sexual Assault Victims, Wrongfully Accused, College Officials.
- DeVos Suggests Revision Of Obama-Era Sexual Assault Policies.
- Democrats Oppose Revision Of Obama-Era Title IX Policies.
- NY Daily News Praises DeVos For Promoting Due Process Rights For Students Accused Of Sexual Assault.
- Jackson Again Apologizes For Remarks On "Drunk" Rape Allegations.
- OCR Plans To Set Out New Title IX Enforcement Agenda.
- DeVos To Speak At ALEC Annual Meeting Next Week.
- NCAN Sees Surge In FAFSA Applications, Credits DeVos For Enabling Filings.
- Montana Releases Draft Plan For ESSA Compliance.
- California Board of Education Defines "Ineffective Teacher" For ESSA, Vaguely.
- Indiana Board Of Education Wants To Weigh Student Proficiency Over Growth In New ESSA Draft Plan.
- Alexander Says Botel "Hasn't Read" ESSA Carefully.
- Delaware's Special Education Program Earns Department Of Education's Highest Rating.
- House Spending Proposal Cuts \$2.3B Title II Program For Teacher Training.
- EdWeek Analysis: Vouchers Will Not Contribute To Segregation Of Schools.
- Burke: Trump Administration Should Not Encourage School Choice Via Scholarship Tax Credits.

Additional Reading

- House Lawmakers Advance Funding Bill Without Trump-DeVos Choice Programs.
- Principals Are Loath To Give Teachers Bad Ratings.
- Tennessee Comptroller To Investigate Corporal Punishment Of Students With Disabilities.
- Louisiana Officials Optimistic On Federal Approval For Plan To Revamp Public Schools.
- 3 Reasons Why Betsy DeVos Doesn't Make The Grade.
- Bureaucracy Is Running Amok.

Early Learning

- New Memphis Summer Learning Programs, From STEM To Art, Help Fight "Learning Loss."
- Six Students From Hunterdon County, New Jersey Compete And Win At FCCLA Leadership Conference in Nashville.

Additional Reading

- Who Is That Giving Advice To Parents Of Young Children? Why, It's A Lead Singer Of The Flobots.
- Playground Meetings Ease Transition For Lansing Kindergartners.

Elementary and Secondary Education

- Assessment Scores In Wyoming Show Students Improved In Math And Science, Slightly Declined In Reading.
- Changes To Student Data Caused Confusion Over Standardized Test Results in Texas.
- Analysis: International Schools Help To Close "Achievement Gap" Between Immigrant Students And Their Peers.
- No More Preferential Enrollment For Children Of Public Officials In District Of Columbia.
- Perdue Defends Administration's Relaxation Of School Nutrition Standards.
- NH Prosecutors Investigate Alleged Sexual Assaults At St. Paul's.
- Georgia Seeks Additional \$48M In Federal Dollars For School Nurses.
- Nevada Allocates \$34.2M To Struggling Students In Clark County.
- Arizona School District Rolling Out Plan To Help At-Risk Students Through Enrollment.
- Colorado Department Of Education Launches New Website To Allow The Public To Track School Spending.
- Florida School District Eliminates Homework For Elementary Students.
- "Elevate [Math]" Summer Program Aimed At Helping Kids Improve Math Skills.
- Dev Bootcamp Announces It Will Close Its Doors.
- Flight Night Drone Institute Teaches Tulsa Educators To Build, Fly Drones.
- Preliminary Findings Of New Study Suggests Wearing Lab Coats May Help Inspire Kids To Be

Scientists.

- "Peace Teachers" Program Aims To Bring Peace-Building Skills To The Classroom.
- Michigan Teen Pleads Guilty To Threatening To Shoot Up School.
- Maryland Debuts Electronic School Bus Inspection System.

Additional Reading

- An Ingenious Bid To Force Improvements In Mississippi Schools.
- 1967 Newark Riots: What They Can Teach Us About Education.
- Georgia School Districts Challenged To Fill All Teaching Posts.
- Host Of New Faces Arrive In Detroit Schools As Vitti Rebuilds.

Post-Secondary Education

- OCR Probes Claims Of Sexual Violence At Two Missouri Colleges.
- House To Act On Bipartisan Measure To Expand GI Bill.
- Commentary Considers ED's Revision Of Student Loan Consumer Protection Rules.
- More FAFSAs Filed In Ohio And Across The US.
- Columbia University Settles Lawsuit By Accused In "Mattress Girl" Case.
- Outgoing B-CU President To Retire Early.

Additional Reading

- Another Consequence Of Rising College Costs: Declining Homeownership.
- A GOP Congressman Wants To Make Sure The Fed Isn't Planning A Student Loan Bailout.
- Accreditor Rejects EDMC Deal Due To 'Insufficient Information And Evidence'.
- Here's How Much It Costs To Go To College In The US Compared To Other Countries.
- Parent Loans: How To Borrow For Your Child's College Bills.
- 3 Student Loan Risks Parent Borrowers Should Avoid.

Other Washington News

- Trump Defends Son, Downplays Significance Of Veselnitskaya Meeting.
- Media Analyses: Trump Takes Warmer Approach To Macron During Paris Trip.
- Media Analyses: New Healthcare Bill Already Opposed By Two GOP Senators.
- Trump: Healthcare Is "The Only Thing More Difficult" Than Mideast Peace.
- US Charges Hundreds In Nationwide Healthcare, Opioid Fraud Schemes.
- Staff Of NIH Clinical Center Still Hurt By Effects Of Red Team Report.
- CBO Report Sees Trump's Budget Proposal As "Overly Optimistic."
- Federal Budget Ran \$90 Billion Deficit In June.
- Trustees See Social Security And Medicare Fund Depletions Nearing.
- Administration's Transportation Cuts Face Congressional Opposition.
- Laffer And Moore: Trump Tax Cuts Would Help Cities And States.
- Feinstein Signals Support For "Speedy" Vote On Wray.
- Lewandowski: Democrats' Pace On Trump Nominees "A De Facto Government Shutdown."
- Former Envoys, ADL Director: US Needs Anti-Semitism Envoy.
- Trump Considering Quotas, Tariffs On Chinese Steel.
- Kochs-Backed Group's Ads Urge GOP Lawmakers To Drop Border-Tax Proposal.
- Wisconsin "Under Serious Consideration" For Major Foxconn Investment.
- DHS Introduces Facial Recognition Technology In Airports.
- House Set To Vote On Controversial Study Of Islam.
- US Soldier Arrested For Ties To ISIS Entertained Various Conspiracy Theories.
- Former Guantanamo Detainee: Terrorism Is Never Justified.
- Hawaii Federal Judge Expands List Of Exemptions To Travel Ban.
- Trump: "Anywhere From 700 To 900 Miles" Of Border Wall All That Is Needed.
- State Department: US Will Require Additional Traveler Vetting Data From All Nations.
- Supporters And Opponents Agree That Courts Will Likely Strike Down DACA.
- NYTimes Analysis: Immigration Tops All Other Priorities At DHS.
- CBP Official Says Visa Overstay System Should Come Next Year.
- LAPD Chief Tells Senate Democrats That Random Immigration Enforcement Hurts Public Safety.
- Christie Vetoes Bill Aimed At Barring Port Authority From Enforcing Trump Travel Ban.
- Judge Orders ICE To Provide Information On Detained Iraqis.
- Christian Refugee Admissions Top Those Of Muslims So Far This Year.
- Somali-Born Couple Suing US Over Border Incident In 2015.
- Trump Asks Sessions To Issue Guidance On Religious Protections For Federal Agencies.

- House To Act On Bipartisan Measure To Expand GI Bill.
- Ryan Signals Openness To August Recess Delay.
- Bannon Incorrectly Reported Mortgage Debt On Disclosure Form.
- Kobach Discusses "Left-Wing Efforts To Obstruct" Trump Voter Commission.
- Scalise's Condition Upgraded To Fair After Undergoing Surgery To Treat Infection.
- 24 House Republicans Join Democrats To Kill Ban On DOD-Funded Sex Change Surgeries.
- NYTimes Analysis: Yellen "Carefully Conciliatory" On Regulatory Concerns At Senate Hearing.
- US Stocks Rise Slightly, With Financials Leading Ahead Of Profit Reports.
- NOAA: Climate-Warming Gases Spiked In 2016 Due To Strong El Niño Weather Pattern.
- Brown "Scrambling" For Bipartisan Support To Extend California's Cap-And-Trade Program.
- Brzezinski, Scarborough Trashing Trump During Public Appearances.
- Study: In Final Weeks Of 2016 Race, Trump Held Edge Over Clinton On Twitter.
- Brooks, Strange Battling Over Loyalty To Trump In Special Election.
- Trump Supporter Stewart Vows To Run "Vicious, Ruthless Campaign" Against Kaine.
- Stabenow Raises \$2.1M In Second Quarter, Has \$5.8M In Campaign Warchest.
- Manchin Raises Over \$1.4M In Q2, Has Nearly \$3.5M Banked For 2018 Race.
- Democrat O'Rourke Bests Cruz In Q2 Fundraising, But Trails In Cash On Hand.
- Warren Raises \$3.5M In Q2, Has Over \$11M Cash On Hand.
- AP Exclusive: Democrat Donnelly Criticizes Outsourcing, But Profits From Practice.
- Aided By Trump, MacArthur Raises \$1.13M In Second Quarter.
- With Trump In White House, Democratic Candidates Flock To Congressional Races.
- Ryan Has \$11.5M Banked For Reelection Race.
- Rauner's 2018 Reelection Race May Be Priciest Statewide Contest In US History.
- Sanders Endorses Jealous' Bid To Oust Maryland Gov Hogan.
- Two Ex-House Aides Indicted For Sharing Nude Footage Of Congresswoman.
- Federal Appeals Court Overturns Conviction Of Former New York Lawmaker.
- Video Shows Florida Police Officer Pulling Over State Attorney.
- President Carter Hospitalized For Dehydration.
- White House Intruder Who Roamed Grounds For 17 Minutes Pleads Guilty.
- WPost's McGregor Disagrees With Pence Describing Trump As Humble.
- WPost's Long: Trump Economic Team Making Mistake With "Concrete" Growth Promise.
- AEI Fellow: Trump Should Withdraw US From G-20's Financial Stability Board.
- National Review: Oregon's New Abortion Bill "Aggressive" And "Radical."
- NYTimes: Overturning Of Silver's Conviction Does Not Exonerate Him.
- WPost: DC Metro Shouldn't Sell Naming Rights For Stations.

The Big Picture

- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Washington's Schedule

- Today's Events In Washington.

Secretary and Department News

DeVos Holds "Listening Sessions" With Sexual Assault Victims, Wrongfully Accused, College Officials.

CBS News (7/13, Guild, 3.91M) reports online that on Thursday, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos "held two separate roundtable listening sessions with both survivors of rape – as well as students who have been wrongly accused of sexual assault," with a third session following "representing advocates arguing for both sides-- the accusers and the accused-- as well as higher education officials." According to the New York Times, the ED's "Office for Civil Rights currently has hundreds of open sexual assault cases...with an average case taking 703 days to reach resolution, although the department is required to complete 80 percent of its investigations within just 180 days." The CBS website carries video coverage from CBS This Morning, which highlighted how 55 universities are currently under federal investigation for campus sexual assaults.

The AP (7/13, Brown, Svrluga) reports that "during the Thursday session devoted to wrongful accusations, about a half-dozen students (including one woman) told their stories, often tearfully, according to Cynthia Garrett, co-president of Families Advocating for Campus Equality, who was in the meeting." Garrett

said, "The secretary was extremely attentive to these students. We had young men breaking down telling their stories." The AP adds that some victims advocates and "lawyers believe that the problem is not with the [federal] guidance" on campus sexual assault investigations, "but with the way some colleges have interpreted it." Additional coverage is provided by a brief [AP](#) (7/13) report.

Meanwhile, the [International Business Times](#) (7/13, Prasad, 518K) highlights "concerns of advocates of survivors of sexual abuse...over reports that DeVos" was to "meet men's rights group and accused rapists as a part of her consultations on campus sexual assault Thursday," including "the National Coalition for Men (NCFM), Stop Abusive and Violent Environments (SAVE), and Families Advocating for Campus Equality (FACE)."

The [Seventy Four](#) (7/13) says that at the sessions, "DeVos and Candice Jackson, acting head of the department's Office for Civil Rights, met individually with 'survivors of sexual violence,' 'students who have been falsely accused and disciplined under Title IX,' and 'representatives of educational institutions and subject matter experts.'" Stop Abusive and Violent Environments (SAVE) Deputy Executive Director Chris Perry "told The 74 he felt optimistic following his session with DeVos. At the meeting, Perry said, was a college student who was accused of verbal sexual harassment and suspended without a hearing three weeks before graduation. Perry said the accusation was fabricated."

The [Huffington Post](#) (7/13, Vagianos, 6.63M) quotes End Rape on Campus Managing Director Jess Davidson as saying "the meeting was intimate. About 20 people were in the room, about half of them advocates and survivors, and the rest DeVos and other department officials." Sexual Assault Survivor Fabiana Diaz "said she felt heard, but sharing her story wasn't easy." Diaz said she told those in the meeting, "Students and survivors have held their schools accountable rather than the Department of Education holding these schools accountable, and that has to change. Personally, I'm exhausted from the emotional labor that I have put into this. I'm sure everyone who was at that table is as well. But the difference is I'm not getting paid for it. And I think that really resonated with DeVos."

DeVos Suggests Revision Of Obama-Era Sexual Assault Policies.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that after the listening sessions on Thursday, "Education Secretary Betsy DeVos signaled...that she intends to take a hard look at whether the Obama administration's campus rape policies deprived accused students of their rights, saying that 'a system without due process ultimately serves no one in the end.'" DeVos' comments "came at a news conference after what she called a 'really emotionally draining day' of meeting with victims, students who had been accused and higher education officials." DeVos said, "It was clear that their stories have not often been told, and that there are lives that have been ruined and lives that are lost in the process," while being "careful to say that she intends to protect victims' rights as well."

Meanwhile, [U.S. News & World Report](#) (7/13, Camera, 1.67M) says DeVos' comments "made it clear...that Obama-era guidance regarding how campuses investigate sexual assault needs updating and clarifying, but she did not tip her hat as to what specific policy changes the administration would make." DeVos told reporters, "There are substantive legal questions to be addressed, including the evidentiary standard, due process and lack of public input." [Diverse Education](#) (7/13, Morris) quotes DeVos as saying, "Today's summit made it clear to me that there's work to be done. This issue is hurting too many students, so we'll get to work to figure out the best way to solve this problem, to stop and reduce sexual harassment and assault while respecting due process and the rule of law." The article provides additional analysis of the existing ED policies governing universities' investigations into claims of sexual assault.

[USA Today](#) (7/14, Toppo, 10.05M) reports that after the listening sessions, "DeVos said the department should more equally weigh the claims of assault victims and the due-process rights of the accused." DeVos said, "All their stories are important. No student should be the victim of sexual assault. No student should feel unsafe. No student should feel like there isn't a way to seek justice, and no student should feel that the scales are tipped against him or her. We need to get this right." DeVos added that "stories of sexual assault she heard Thursday 'reminded me of the disgusting behavior of some in our society. We must expect more of our young men and women.'" DeVos reportedly "acknowledged that colleges can't go back to the days when allegations were 'swept under the rug,'" saying "of those claiming to be wrongly accused of sexual assault, 'It was clear that their stories are not often told.'"

Additional coverage is provided by [Politico Morning Education](#) (7/13, Wermund, 2.89M). [ABC News](#) (7/13)

carries video coverage online of excerpts of DeVos' press conference.

DeVos Urges Congress To Clarify Title IX. The [Weekly Standard](#) (7/13, Lloyd, 360K) quotes DeVos as saying regarding Title IX, "There has been a lack of clarity. This department is not going to make laws. It's high time for Congress to look at a law that was passed in 1972 and address these issues and finally speak to them and clarify them." The article says these comments indicate DeVos "will defer to Congress to interpret and implement Title IX."

Democrats Oppose Revision Of Obama-Era Title IX Policies.

[U.S. News & World Report](#) (7/13, Camera, 1.67M) reports, "More than 100 advocates of survivors of sexual assault rallied at the Department of Education on Thursday morning, urging Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to focus more on survivors' stories and their concerns and spend less time on the rights of those accused." US Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) joined the rally, stating, "I'm very concerned that [DeVos] is going to roll back Title IX protections for students on campus."

Reporting on DeVos' concerns that "too many students have been treated unfairly as colleges have sought to comply with Obama-era policy on handling sexual assault," the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Brown, 12.92M) says that "advocates for survivors of sexual assault have been alarmed by what they view as DeVos's outsized interest in hearing from wrongfully accused students, given that only a small fraction of rape reports are found to be false." Emanating from this "alarm," the Post reports that "dozens of survivors and their allies gathered outside the Education Department Thursday to urge DeVos not to roll back federal protections for victims of sexual violence, and to decry what they view as the Trump administration's lack of commitment to enforcing federal civil rights law."

[CNN](#) (7/13, Tatum, Stafford, 44.83M) highlights "backlash" to the announcement "that students and parents involved in the National Coalition for Men Carolinas would be present" at the DeVos' listening sessions. [USA Today](#) (7/13, 10.05M) carries video coverage online of Democratic House members' opposition to revision of Title IX. [BuzzFeed](#) (7/13, Kingkade, 8.29M) and [Yahoo! News](#) (7/13, Munslow, 9.92M) provide coverage of Democratic Senators' criticism of DeVos' approach to investigating sexual assault on college campuses.

Advocates Oppose Revision Of Obama-Era Title IX Policies. Cornell University assistant professor Peggy Drexler writes in an opinion piece carried by [CNN](#) (7/13, 44.83M) to oppose revision of Obama-era sexual assault policies. Brooklyn College President Michelle J. Anderson writes in the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M) urging preservation of Obama-era Title IX policies. In her "Answer Sheet" column for the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M), Valerie Strauss suggests DeVos should not be giving equal time to those wrongfully accused of sexual assault, citing how "some experts estimate that the percentage among allegations" of sexual assault on campus "that are actually false is no more than 8 percent."

NY Daily News Praises DeVos For Promoting Due Process Rights For Students Accused Of Sexual Assault.

The [New York Daily News](#) (7/13, 3.65M) says that on Thursday, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos "reiterated her agency's commitment to enforce the federal law," editorializing, "Going forward, the Trump administration's guidance must return professional law enforcement to its proper place, including open proceedings where clear and convincing evidence is the standard of proof." The editorial concludes, "Our nation's education leaders not long ago let their understandable sympathies for victims of sexual assault lure them into creating a parallel, Potemkin justice system. Students deserve justice as real as the violations suffered."

Jackson Again Apologizes For Remarks On "Drunk" Rape Allegations.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 6, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Acting Assistant Secretary of Education for Civil Rights Candice Jackson said in an interview with the New York Times that 90 percent of rape allegations "fall into the category of 'we were both drunk,' 'we broke up, and six months later I found myself'...under investigation." Jackson, "who said she herself is a rape survivor, apologized...directly to rape victims" in meetings on Thursday.

On its website, [NBC News](#) (7/13, Silva, 4.92M) quotes Jackson as apologizing on Wednesday, "What I said was flippant, and I am sorry. All sexual harassment and sexual assault must be taken seriously – which

has always been my position and will always be the position of this department." Then, on Thursday, Jackson stated, "As a survivor of rape myself, I would never seek to diminish anyone's experience. My words in The New York Times poorly characterized the conversations I've had with countless groups of advocates." The ED said in a news release on its website, "The Secretary and senior Department officials have been engaged in ongoing discussions with students, parents, schools, advocacy groups and experts to learn about their experiences and hear their views of how the Department can best fulfill its obligations to protect students under Title IX." Jessica Davidson, managing director of the advocacy group End Rape on Campus, "was at the meeting with sexual assault victims" on Thursday, and told NBC News that the session "was very emotional."

The [AP](#) (7/13, Kellman, Feldman) highlights how Jackson's "'flippant' remarks are raising questions about the government's commitment to fighting campus sexual violence, even as she issued her second apology in as many days for" the remark. The AP adds that Education Secretary Betsy "DeVos also met Thursday with people who say they were falsely accused and disciplined and representatives of colleges and universities to talk about the impact of stepped-up efforts by the Obama administration to enforce the law known as Title IX as it relates to sexual assault." DeVos said, "We can't go back to the days when allegations were swept under the rug. And I acknowledge there was a time when women were essentially dismissed. That is not acceptable. It's clear that there are failings in this process. A system without due process protections ultimately serves no one in the end."

[Politico](#) (7/13, Wermund, 2.97M) reports National Women's Law Center President Fatima Goss Graves was present for Jackson's Thursday apology and "wasn't satisfied" with Jackson's explanation of her remarks. Graves said, "There's no way to take it back, unfortunately. It's been put out there."

Additional coverage is provided by the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Mettler, 12.92M) "Morning Mix" briefing, the [Independent \(UK\)](#) (7/13, Wilts, 2.2M), [MLive \(MI\)](#) (7/13, 882K), [Consumerist](#) (7/12, Morran, 32K), [Salon](#) (7/13, Maldonado, 551K), the [Advocate](#) (7/13, Gilchrist, 548K), [Glamour Magazine](#) (7/13, Clark, 10.04M), the [Daily Beast](#) (7/12, 874K),

DeVos Emphasizes Importance Of Proper Policy Regarding Campus Sexual Assault Investigations. In a video on the website of [USA Today](#) (7/13, 10.05M), DeVos responded to questions on Jackson's remarks, saying Jackson "has since then apologized and corrected her statement for that." DeVos added, "We are listening and we know that this policy has not worked in too many ways and in too many places. And we need to get it right. And so we are determined through the course of conversation and the course of discussion with all parties to ensure that whatever is done in the future will address the issues and get them right."

SFChronicle: Despite Apologies, "Damage Is Done" From Jackson's Remarks. The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (7/13, 2.64M) editorializes that in spite of Jackson's apologies, "the damage is done," as "no campus or classroom topic is more volatile or more loaded." The editorial calls campus sexual assault "a real problem, not a case of government overreach or personal crusade," admonishing Jackson's "crass" remarks.

OCR Plans To Set Out New Title IX Enforcement Agenda.

[National Review](#) (7/13, Kaufman, 754K) reports that the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) appears to be altering its course on Title IX investigations and intends to "consciously set out a new enforcement agenda." In a speech given to the National Association of College and University Attorneys, which according to Inside Higher Ed was well received, acting head of the OCR Candace Jackson said the OCR "is now 'committed to discontinuing the legally dubious practice of issuing subregulatory guidance that is then treated through enforcement as binding mandates.'" Jackson also said that the OCR "will investigate on a case-by-case basis, seeking to avoid turning each individual investigation into a lengthy search for 'systemic' problems within an institution" in hopes of speeding up the process and clearing a "huge backlog of cases."

DeVos To Speak At ALEC Annual Meeting Next Week.

Reporting that "Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is scheduled to speak in Denver next week at the annual meeting of the American Legislative Exchange Council" (ALEC), [Chalkbeat](#) (7/13, Gorski) predicts "DeVos will find a friendly audience at ALEC," although "liberal activists and union leaders" likely will "protest DeVos's agenda." Chalkbeat adds, "DeVos shares ALEC's support for charter schools and the use of tax dollars to pay

for private school education through vouchers, tax-credit scholarships and education savings accounts." ALEC's Education and Workforce Development Task Force Director Inez Feltscher Stepman "lauded DeVos's support for school choice and for making clear that decision-making about education should be invested in states."

NCAN Sees Surge In FAFSA Applications, Credits DeVos For Enabling Filings.

Diverse Education (7/12, Abdul-Alim) reported data compiled by the National College Access Network (NCAN) show "the percentage of high school seniors who by June 30 had filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid" (FAFSA) "reached a new high level this year after several years of decline." NCAN Director of Policy and Advocacy Carrie Warick called the increase "exciting," saying, "It's very exciting to see those numbers increase, which means more students – both high school seniors and adults – are considering higher education." Warick said Education Secretary "Betsy DeVos deserves credit for enabling students to use alternative forms of verification during the IRS DRT outage," citing how "in lieu of the IRS DRT, or obtaining an IRS transcript, DeVos allowed colleges and universities to use a signed paper copy of the 2015 IRS tax return as documentation to verify information provided on the FAFSA."

Montana Releases Draft Plan For ESSA Compliance.

The AP (7/13) reports that on Wednesday, Montana state "Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen released her office's draft plan for schools to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act." The plan "calls for a 4 percent increase in math and English proficiency for all students in each of the next several school years, as measured by standardized tests," and "for closing the achievement gap seen among the economically disadvantaged, children with disabilities, English learners and American Indians." The AP adds, "The draft plan is open for public comment through August and must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by Sept. 18."

California Board of Education Defines "Ineffective Teacher" For ESSA, Vaguely.

The Los Angeles Times (7/12, Resmovits, 4.57M) reports that on Wednesday, the California Board of Education, in order to satisfy the Every Student Succeeds Act, officially defined an "ineffective teacher" as one that "is improperly assigned or does not have proper credentials." California's definition is being criticized by some education advocates, like the Education Trust West, which wrote of the definition in a letter, "It refuses to consider teacher effectiveness...as something related to performance and impact on students." Board President Mike Kirst stated, "The lack of detail was deliberate, and part of a long-running effort to not let the federal government direct California's schools."

Indiana Board Of Education Wants To Weigh Student Proficiency Over Growth In New ESSA Draft Plan.

The Indianapolis Star (7/13, Herron, 636K) reports that on Thursday, the Indiana State Board of Education said it wants "student proficiency to be given more weight than student growth" in a reversal of last year's new grading system, which "gave equal weight to student improvement and performance on standardized tests." This announcement comes as part of Indiana's plan to comply with the Every Student Succeeds Act. The board will likely revisit the weighting issue in its August meeting and "Indiana will collect feedback on its draft plan through July 20."

Alexander Says Botel "Hasn't Read" ESSA Carefully.

Alyson Klein writes in the Education Week (7/13, 132K) "Politics K-12" blog that Senate HELP Chairman Lamar Alexander, "one of the main architects" of ESSA, said of Acting Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education Jason Botel, "I think we have a case of an assistant secretary who hasn't read the law carefully." The statement was regarding "a feedback letter Botel sent to Delaware on its ESSA plan, telling the state that it hadn't been 'ambitious' enough in setting long-term goals for student achievement" which Alexander felt violated "the heart of the entire law...that it's the state's decision to set goals, to decide what

'ambitious' means."

NPR's Sanchez: States Are Anything But Optimistic About ESSA. [NPR](#) (7/13, Sanchez, 3.51M) education correspondent Claudio Sanchez features the opinions of education professionals at the annual conference of the Education Commission of the States, saying, "The mood recently at the annual conference of the Education Commission of the States...[was] anything but optimistic about the future, or about" the ESSA. Sanchez also writes that he "heard lots of reasons at the ECS meeting" as to why states aren't happy with ESSA, but most prominently that "states have had little time to prepare" amid a host of other problems and budget crises in their individual states.

Delaware's Special Education Program Earns Department Of Education's Highest Rating.

The [Wilmington \(DE\) News Journal](#) (7/13, Bies, 434K) reports that Delaware has "earned the highest rating possible from the US Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs" this year for its special education program, a marked improvement over the score the program received in 2013 of "needs intervention." In a statement, Delaware Secretary of Education Susan Bunting said, "Although more work remains, this is confirmation that we are continuing to move in the right direction." Bunting's statement coincides with results of the 2016 TELL Delaware Survey released this week which "indicated teachers still feel underprepared when it comes to serving special education students."

House Spending Proposal Cuts \$2.3B Title II Program For Teacher Training.

In its "Teacher Beat" blog, [Education Week](#) (7/13, Loewus, 132K) says "the education spending plan released by the U.S. House of Representatives" on Wednesday "would eliminate a key federal funding stream for teacher professional development and class-size reduction--underscoring that even longstanding programs face an uncertain future in the Trump era." The proposal cuts the \$2.3 billion Title II program, which is "generally spent on things like professional development, hiring more teachers to reduce class sizes, mentoring and induction, and revising certification programs." The blog speculates that cutting the program "could hamper implementation of the new Every Student Succeeds Act, lead to teacher layoffs, and make it tougher for educators to reach special populations of students, or use technology in their classrooms."

EdWeek Analysis: Vouchers Will Not Contribute To Segregation Of Schools.

Arianna Prothero writes in the [Education Week](#) (7/13, 132K) "Charters & Choice" blog on the role of school vouchers in segregation, in response to a new policy brief from the Center for American Progress which argues that "vouchers were once deployed during the Jim Crow era to perpetuate segregated school systems post Brown v. Board of Education." Prothero counters that "wealthy and middle class white families don't have to rely on private schools to isolate themselves." EdChoice CEO Robert Enlow said in a statement, "Assigning students to schools based on where they live...created a system where quality schools are linked to property values. Those families who can afford to move to 'better' districts do, and those who can't remain in low-performing schools or have to find another way out."

Burke: Trump Administration Should Not Encourage School Choice Via Scholarship Tax Credits.

In [National Review](#) (7/13, 754K), Lindsey Burke, director of the Heritage Foundation Center for Education Policy, argues that the Trump Administration should not enact a new federal tax credit to encourage "school choice" via scholarship tax credits (STCs) that would allow the offset of "contributions to nonprofits providing scholarships to private schools." Burke writes that, although STCs have worked for states, which take into account the differing needs of local communities, "the federal tax code is an inappropriate level for establishing STCs" and "would further entangle Washington in local school policy and private education."

Additional Reading

House Lawmakers Advance Funding Bill Without Trump-DeVos Choice

Programs.

[Education Week](#) (7/13, Ujifusa, 132K)

Principals Are Loath To Give Teachers Bad Ratings.

[Education Week](#) (7/13, Loewus, 132K)

Tennessee Comptroller To Investigate Corporal Punishment Of Students With Disabilities.

The [Tennessean](#) (7/13, Balakit, 423K)

Louisiana Officials Optimistic On Federal Approval For Plan To Revamp Public Schools.

The [Baton Rouge \(LA\) Advocate](#) (7/13, Sentell, 95K)

3 Reasons Why Betsy DeVos Doesn't Make The Grade.

[Forbes](#) (7/13, Boswell, 14.59M)

Bureaucracy Is Running Amok.

The [Wheeling \(WV\) Intelligencer](#) (7/13, Editorial Board, 57K)

Early Learning

New Memphis Summer Learning Programs, From STEM To Art, Help Fight "Learning Loss."

[Chalkbeat](#) (7/13, Brighenti) reports that this summer, for the first time, Memphis offered a variety of new education programs in an effort to prevent "summer learning loss", a phenomenon that is "a large contributor to the achievement gap." The programs, ranging "from STEM and robotics to art and test prep," were introduced to provide opportunities for low-income students who "usually don't get the same summer enrichment opportunities as their more affluent peers." Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland "estimated that 10,000 children and teens are being reached this summer."

Six Students From Hunterdon County, New Jersey Compete And Win At FCCLA Leadership Conference in Nashville.

[NJ News](#) (7/13, Roberts, 1.16M) reports that "six students from Hunterdon County Polytech's Teacher Academy and Early Childhood Education Program recently competed at the Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) National Leadership Conference," held earlier this month in Nashville. Each member of the group "earned either a gold or a silver national medal."

Additional Reading

Who Is That Giving Advice To Parents Of Young Children? Why, It's A Lead Singer Of The Flobots.

[Chalkbeat](#) (7/13, Schimke)

Playground Meetings Ease Transition For Lansing Kindergartners.

The [Ithaca \(NY\) Journal](#) (7/13, Montague, 34K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Assessment Scores In Wyoming Show Students Improved In Math And Science, Slightly Declined In Reading.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports that Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students scores that were released on Thursday showed "improvement in math and science, while reading registered a slight decline." The tests are administered in "reading and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and in science for grades 4 and 8,"

Changes To Student Data Caused Confusion Over Standardized Test Results in Texas.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (7/13, Webb, Carpenter, 2.12M) reports that there is confusion in Texas school districts over State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results after the Texas Education Agency "changed which students it includes in its data." The 2017 results "include students who, in years prior, took two alternative assessments: the STAAR-A, offered to students with learning disabilities, and the STAAR-L, given to students learning English." This is because STAAR-A and STAAR-L were not administered this year. The lack of comparable data has made comparisons to previous years difficult and individual school districts "have resorted to creating their own data sets." The [Dallas Morning News](#) (7/13, Ayala, 894K) also covers this story.

Analysis: International Schools Help To Close "Achievement Gap" Between Immigrant Students And Their Peers.

In a 2,700-word analysis, [The Atlantic](#) (7/13, Gross, 19.86M) discusses the efficacy of international school programs like the International Academy at Cardozo Education Campus in Washington that were created to better serve the unique needs of English-language learners (ELLs). Although the programs have provided benefits to ELL student in terms of raised graduation rates and improved performance, closing the "achievement gap" for immigrant children, "some critics liken the separate learning environments to segregation practices of old." Critics of the programs include NAACP President Bob Ross, who "told The Washington Post that the schools were putting the needs of newcomers 'ahead of the needs of those who are already here.'"

No More Preferential Enrollment For Children Of Public Officials In District Of Columbia.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Jamison, 12.92M) reports that District of Columbia Schools Chancellor Antwan Wilson announced in letter on Tuesday that a new policy will be implemented to bar government officials "from receiving special treatment for their children in the District's notoriously competitive school-enrollment process," although it will still allow transfers for "students who require them for special education or because of disabilities, those who are physically endangered at their schools and the children of military families." The policy was created in response to "a D.C. inspector general's report that found that while she was schools chancellor, Kaya Henderson gave preferential treatment to public officials' children by helping enroll them directly in coveted schools."

Perdue Defends Administration's Relaxation Of School Nutrition Standards.

[Politico Morning Agriculture](#) (7/13, Boudreau, 2.89M) reports that on Wednesday, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue "defended the Trump administration's recent controversial move to relax some of the school-nutrition standards championed by former first lady Michelle Obama," speaking to "some 7,000 professionals at the School Nutrition Association's annual conference in Atlanta." The crowd reportedly "cheered, applauded and laughed as Perdue told them that he believed they know much more about their communities and kids than Washington does." Perdue said, "Some have said in the press, as you've read, that we're 'rolling back', [that] these rules 'roll back progress.' I don't agree with that. We're freezing things in place to help us evaluate what the palatability, what the acceptance of these changes have been and to reduce the burdens on schools to get you back to feeding kids and not doing paperwork so much anymore."

On its website, [WTVG-TV](#) Chattanooga, TN (7/13, 39K) quotes Perdue as telling school nutritionists, "If you look at the obesity epidemic out there, it's not happening at schools it's happening at home and on the way to and from school." The [Hays \(KS\) Daily News](#) (7/13, Bluestein, 35K) quotes Perdue as saying, "Hungry children cannot learn. I don't mean to sound so profound for that. That's simple and basic, and it can get lost

in the conversation. Food that's thrown in the trash cannot nourish any child, and frankly that trash can doesn't need any nourishment."

NH Prosecutors Investigate Alleged Sexual Assaults At St. Paul's.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports, "The New Hampshire Attorney General's Office announced Thursday that it is launching a criminal investigation into allegations of sexual assault and misconduct at" St. Paul's School in Concord. This announcement follows the elite prep school's "release of a report in May detailing sexual assaults by teachers on their students, earlier information about student sexual conquest rituals and allegations of a similar ritual reported in June." The [Boston Globe](#) (7/13, McDonald, 1.06M) provides additional coverage.

Georgia Seeks Additional \$48M In Federal Dollars For School Nurses.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (7/13, Tagami, 1.26M) reports, "In a joint effort with the Georgia Department of Education, the [state's] Department of Community Health board voted to approve a nursing services reimbursement program that would draw an estimated \$48.6 million in additional federal dollars" for school nurses, "assuming no major changes to Medicaid." The [AJC](#) notes, "There were 1,629 nurses and 307 unlicensed health care and clinic workers in Georgia schools last spring," pointing out "they are the only medical workers some students see, especially in rural areas where hospitals have closed and doctors are scarce."

Nevada Allocates \$34.2M To Struggling Students In Clark County.

The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (7/13, Delaney, 542K) reports that at the Nevada state Board of Education meeting Thursday, the board announced "an extra \$34.2 million to help poor students in Clark County or those learning English stay on track academically." The article specifies, "The money can be used by schools on programs and services specifically targeting two categories of students determined to be in need of more help to perform on the same level as their peers."

Arizona School District Rolling Out Plan To Help At-Risk Students Through Enrollment.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports that Tucson Unified School District Interim Superintendent Gabriel Trujillo "is rolling out the short-term plan that focuses on returning at-risk students to school and customer service" in order to "reverse its continuous decline in student enrollment."

Colorado Department Of Education Launches New Website To Allow The Public To Track School Spending.

The [Denver Post](#) (7/13, Whaley, 1.01M) reports that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) has launched a new website, Financial Transparency for Colorado Schools, which "allows side-to-side comparisons among schools and school districts." Colorado Education Association President Kerrie Dallman cautions that while the website allows for greater transparency for community members, "it is somewhat limited. It doesn't give you the full picture." CDE officials "say they are aware of concerns about the website and it likely will be revamped this year."

Florida School District Eliminates Homework For Elementary Students.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (7/13, Price, 1.26M) reports Marion County School District Superintendent Heidi Maier announced Wednesday that the Florida school district would be eliminating homework assignments in its elementary schools. The article adds, "Instead of homework, Maier has asked parents to read with their children for 20 minutes every evening." School district official Kevin Christian said the rule is not "100 percent absolute," adding, "We are just talking about the everyday homework assignment that a lot of people feel is just homework for the sake of homework." The [New York Daily News](#) (7/13, Burke, 3.65M) reports similarly.

"Elevate [Math]" Summer Program Aimed At Helping Kids Improve Math

Skills.

The [San Jose \(CA\) Mercury News](#) (7/13, Brassil, 821K) reports that the Silicon Valley Education Foundation is sponsoring "Elevate [Math]," a new summer program which "covers Common Core-aligned topics, like variables, linear equations and graphs as well as beginning algebra and geometry." Elevate [Math] is targeted towards "Bay Area students between 6th and 10th grade who just barely missed meeting the required standards on California's annual standardized exams." The goal of the program is to help improve students math skills and to help them become more engaged in school by providing out of classroom activities like college visits and "corporate guest speakers lead in-class activities, called STEM workshops."

Dev Bootcamp Announces It Will Close Its Doors.

The [Chicago Tribune](#) (7/13, Meyerson, 1.85M) reports that Dev Bootcamp, "one of the earliest companies to launch an intensive coding school program," announced Wednesday in an email to alumni that it will be closing its doors on Dec. 8. Dev Bootcamp President Tarlin Ray stated in the letter, "Despite tremendous efforts from a lot of talented people, we've determined that we simply can't achieve a sustainable business model without compromising our mission of delivering a high-quality coding education that is accessible to a diverse population of students."

Flight Night Drone Institute Teaches Tulsa Educators To Build, Fly Drones.

The [Tulsa \(OK\) World](#) (7/13, Pickard, 344K) reports that Flight Night Drone Institute, "a nonprofit focused on STEM programs and projects," has trained 85 teachers and staff from more than 20 school districts to fly drones. The program was aimed at instructing teachers "to design, develop, program and fly drones so they can train their students to do the same." Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance communications coordinator Sabrina Bevins said, "Learning to build and fly drones helps students develop problem-solving skills needed in the workforce of various industries in Oklahoma."

Preliminary Findings Of New Study Suggests Wearing Lab Coats May Help Inspire Kids To Be Scientists.

[NJ News](#) (7/13, Rojas, 1.16M) reports that education professors Lauren Madden and Marissa Bellino and recent graduate Rachel DiVanno, along with researchers from North Carolina State and East Carolina universities, teamed up to study "how elementary school students view themselves as scientists and engineers when wearing lab coats and whether it influences their learning." The study consisted of 80 students at Bear Tavern Elementary School – "two traditional classes and two classes from the school's STEM Academy" – with one class from each program wearing the lab coat for 10 lessons. Madden stated, "Preliminary findings suggest that those who wore the lab coats had improved self-efficacy, or confidence in their abilities, and could better identify careers in science."

"Peace Teachers" Program Aims To Bring Peace-Building Skills To The Classroom.

In its "Teaching Now" blog, [Education Week](#) (7/13, Mammina, 132K) reports on the "Peace Teachers" program, which "is one of several education initiatives offered by USIP, a nonpartisan institute seeking to prevent and reduce violent conflict around the world." The blog says, "For the second year now, the program has connected a small group of middle and high school teachers with the training, resources, and support necessary to bring concepts of peace and conflict resolution to the classroom." For example, this past year, the program included "a Skype call with a secretary of state, a 5K run for human rights, and an anti-gun-violence march in Chicago."

Michigan Teen Pleads Guilty To Threatening To Shoot Up School.

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (7/13, 882K) reports 18-year-old Nicholas L. Rochow of Bay County, Michigan "pleaded guilty to false report or threat of terrorism" after he was "accused of threatening to open fire on his high school." Rochow told the judge, "I threatened to bring a loaded firearm into Bay City Central High School and hurt innocent people."

Maryland Debuts Electronic School Bus Inspection System.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (7/13, Campbell, 703K) reports that the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration announced Thursday that it "has installed a new electronic system of reporting school bus inspections, replacing its old, paper-based system." MVA Administrator Christine Nizer said in a statement, "School bus inspections are critical to ensuring the safety of our children being transported to and from school. This new system allows us to more efficiently monitor the safety of school buses operated on Maryland roadways."

Additional Reading

An Ingenious Bid To Force Improvements In Mississippi Schools.

The [Economist](#) (7/13, 7.89M)

1967 Newark Riots: What They Can Teach Us About Education.

[Fortune](#) (7/13, Morel, 7.44M)

Georgia School Districts Challenged To Fill All Teaching Posts.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (7/13, Walker, 1.26M)

Host Of New Faces Arrive In Detroit Schools As Vitti Rebuilds.

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (7/14, 1.11M)

Post-Secondary Education

OCR Probes Claims Of Sexual Violence At Two Missouri Colleges.

Relying on information in the [St. Louis \(MO\) Post-Dispatch](#) (7/13, Jost, 857K), the [AP](#) (7/13) reports the ED's Office of Civil Rights opened investigations into three claims of sexual violence at Washington University and Springfield's Baptist Bible College in Missouri. The AP notes that "Missouri University of Science and Technology is the only public university under investigation in the state," with a probe having been opened three years ago.

House To Act On Bipartisan Measure To Expand GI Bill.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Yen) reports House Republicans and Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday "that would provide the biggest expansion of college aid for military veterans in a decade, removing a 15-year time limit to tap into benefits and increasing money for thousands in the National Guard and Reserve." House Veterans' Affairs Chairman Phil Roe said he would schedule a committee vote next week. The bipartisan measure represents "a sweeping effort to fill coverage gaps in the post-9/11 GI Bill amid a rapidly changing job market."

Commentary Considers ED's Revision Of Student Loan Consumer Protection Rules.

Responding to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' plans to revise Obama-era student loan consumer protection rules, the [MetroWest \(MA\) Daily News](#) (7/13, 63K) editorializes that while it is "reasonable for DeVos to review the regulations inherited by her from the previous administration," federal law "ordinarily requires agencies to go through just as open and evidence-based a process to change a rule as to create one." [Forbes](#) (7/13, 14.59M) cartoonist Ed Hall expresses concern that students are "drowning" in debt.

[Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (7/13, 44K) contributor Nell Gluckman provides an analysis of how the "lawsuit filed last week by a group of state attorneys general against the U.S. Department of Education may indicate that states will ramp up their regulation of the for-profit sector" in response to the rule revision. [Bloomberg News](#) (7/13, Dlouhy, Levin, 3.08M) also mentions the lawsuit. Behind a paywall, the [Charlotte \(NC\) Business Journal](#) (7/13, Chemtob, Subscription Publication, 903K) focuses on the rule revision's impact in North Carolina.

More FAFSAs Filed In Ohio And Across the US.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (7/13, Farkas, 898K) reports that according to the National College Access Network, FAFSAs filed by high school seniors through June 30 "increased 9 percent nationally and 6 percent in Ohio." This increase could possibly be attributed to a simpler application and the US Department of Education "allowing students to begin filing the form in October instead of January." This is significant because "a high school student who completes the FAFSA is 63 percent more likely to attend a college."

Columbia University Settles Lawsuit By Accused In "Mattress Girl" Case.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Shapiro, 12.92M) reports that Columbia University settled a 2015 Title IX lawsuit filed by Paul Nungesser, "a former male student whose case attracted national attention after a young woman protested against the administration's handling of her sexual assault allegations by carrying a mattress around campus." The case prompted a nationwide discussion about how accusers and accused are treated in Title IX cases.

Outgoing B-CU President To Retire Early.

[WESH-TV](#) Orlando, FL (7/13, 144K) reports online that Bethune Cookman University "President Edison Jackson announced to the board of trustees he's retiring a year early." Discussing his early retirement, Jackson briefly discussed his decision to invite Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to be the university's May commencement speaker.

Additional Reading

Another Consequence Of Rising College Costs: Declining Homeownership.

[MarketWatch](#) (7/13, Berman, 1.02M)

A GOP Congressman Wants To Make Sure The Fed Isn't Planning A Student Loan Bailout.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Long, 12.92M)

Accreditor Rejects EDMC Deal Due To 'Insufficient Information And Evidence'.

The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (7/13, Moore, 559K)

Here's How Much It Costs To Go To College In The US Compared To Other Countries.

[CNBC](#) (7/13, Hess, 3.58M)

Parent Loans: How To Borrow For Your Child's College Bills.

[Money](#) (7/13, Mulhere, 5.16M)

3 Student Loan Risks Parent Borrowers Should Avoid.

[Nerd Wallet](#) (7/13, Helhoski, 530K)

Other Washington News

Trump Defends Son, Downplays Significance Of Veselnitskaya Meeting.

President Trump's comments during a joint news conference with French President Emmanuel Macron about his son Donald Trump Jr.'s meeting with a Russian lawyer dominate what continues to be heavy media coverage of Russia story. Trump is portrayed almost universally as defending his son and downplaying the significance of the meeting – amid vocal criticism from Democrats and calls for Trump Jr. to testify before Congress. In what is generally cast as an attempt to shift blame away from his White House, Trump also

opened a new front in the story, claiming that the Obama Administration was responsible for letting the Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, into the country.

Cecilia Vega said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/13, story 2, 3:45, Muir, 14.63M) that Trump's visit to France was "overshadowed" by the story, and Lester Holt, in the lead story for [NBC Nightly News](#) (7/13, lead story, 3:00, 16.61M) called Trump's defense of his son "uncharacteristically muted," while Kristen Welker said Trump was "steadfastly defending his son." [Breitbart](#) (7/13, Key, 2.16M) says Trump "defended his son's decision to take a meeting with a Russian attorney," while the [New York Post](#) (7/13, Fredericks, 3.2M) reports that Trump "staunchly defended his eldest son," saying, "I think the press made a very big deal over something that really a lot of people would do." [Politico](#) (7/13, McCaskill, 2.97M) says Trump "downplay[ed] the significance" of the meeting. Mark Phillips said on the [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 2, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) that Trump "was sticking to his story, that it was all part of the nasty game of politics," and "he insisted, the story was being overblown, not because the meeting shouldn't have taken place, but apparently because it produced nothing useful." Phillips added that Trump's answers "won't likely satisfy those who say that Donald Trump Jr. should never have taken that meeting. Instead, they say, he should have reported the approach to the FBI."

On its cover, [TIME](#) (7/13, Von Drehle, 6.82M) features a black and white photo of Trump Jr. and the words "Red Handed" below his face. The cover story, which calls the revelation of Trump Jr.'s "enthusiastic response to 'obviously very high level and sensitive' morsels supposedly collected by the Kremlin" a "bombshell," declares, "So much for White House efforts to deny a Russia problem." [TIME](#) adds that while "treason" is "an extremely hard case to make," a "more plausible charge is obstruction of justice – and here the President himself might be vulnerable."

Trump, the [AP](#) (7/13, Jalonick, Tucker) reports, characterized the meeting "as standard campaign practice and maintain[ed] that 'nothing happened' as a result of the June sit-down." Trump told reporters that "politics is not the nicest business in the world" and that "it's standard for candidates to welcome negative information about an opponent." Trump added that in this case, "nothing happened from the meeting, zero happened from the meeting." The AP highlights that the President's comments "stood in contrast to the position of his nominee for FBI director, Christopher Wray" during his confirmation hearing Wednesday.

[Townhall](#) (7/13, Pavlich, 450K) says Trump "defended" his son, as does the [New York Times](#) (7/13, Haberman, Subscription Publication, 14.49M), which quotes the President as calling Trump Jr. a "wonderful young man," who "took a meeting with a Russian lawyer. Not a government lawyer; a Russian lawyer." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Parker, 12.92M) quotes Trump as saying, "I do think this: I think from a practical standpoint most people would have taken that meeting. ... It's called opposition research or even research into your opponent."

However, [USA Today](#) (7/13, Jackson, Schouten, 10.05M) reports that "campaign and ethics experts have also disputed the Trumps' claims that the meeting constituted normal opposition research," and Vega said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/13, story 2, 3:45, Muir, 14.63M) that while Trump said the lawyer was "not a government lawyer," in "those emails, it was crystal clear. Don Jr. agreed to meet with a quote, 'Russian government attorney,' who he was told had incriminating information on Hillary Clinton."

In a comment that media reports cast as an attempt to shift some responsibility on to the Obama Administration, Trump also claimed Veselnitskaya was allowed into the country "by the Obama Justice Department under extraordinary circumstances on a lobbying campaign with Congress and others to change US adoption policy toward Russia," the [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Boyer, 458K) reports. Trump said, "She was in the halls of Congress, also. ... Somebody said that her visa or her passport to come into the country was approved by Attorney General [Loretta] Lynch. Maybe that's wrong. I just heard that a little while ago. That's why she was here, because of Lynch." John Roberts reported on [Fox News' Special Report](#) (7/13, 1.53M) that Trump "pointed fingers at the press, arguing the incident have been overblown, blaming the Obama Administration for the fact that...Veselnitskaya was in the country at all."

[The Hill](#) (7/13, Fabian, 1.61M) says Trump "appeared to blame the Obama administration" for allowing Veselnitskaya into the country, and calls the comment "an attempt to deflect attention away from his son's decision to take the meeting." Similarly, [Roll Call](#) (7/13, Bennett, 91K) says the comment "appeared an attempt to at the least shift blame for her presence on top Democrats, and at most suggest top Democrats knew about her pending meeting with Trump Jr. and wanted it to occur." Tucker Carlson said on [Fox News](#)

Tucker Carlson Tonight (7/13) that Lynch "personally got involved in helping that lawyer come to the United States. Once here, the lawyer/spy/diabolical hacker of democracy didn't just meet with Donald Trump Jr. She also sat in on a congressional hearing, she lobbied on behalf of her government, she went to events around Washington, including a dinner attended by at least one member of Congress who, for the record, is not named Trump. In other words, the story is considerably more complex than you may have heard."

Rep. Adam Schiff, ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, blasted Trump's comments on CNN's The Lead (7/13, 320K), saying that "for the President today...to defend Donald Jr. by saying, first of all, well this attorney wasn't a government attorney when that's how she was purported to be, and to go on to say, well, lots of people would have taken that meeting, is the equivalent of saying lots of people do unethical things, and so we did too. And we're okay with that. It's not okay. ... Whether it's illegal is another question, but it ought to be appalling to anyone with ethical standards."

Senate Intelligence Committee ranking member Mark Warner said on Fox News' Special Report (7/13, 1.53M) he "can't believe" that Trump would describe Trump Jr.'s actions as standard politics. Warner said, "Here it was in black and white, an email that said 'hey, meet with this Russian lawyer acting as an agent of the Russian government.' This is part of the Russian government's effort to help then-candidate Trump and discredit Clinton.' I don't know anybody, Democrat or Republican, that would take that kind of meeting with not only a foreign government, but a foreign adversary, and frankly a government that we've learned was trying to hack into our whole electoral process." When asked if he's seen other evidence of collusion, Warner said the committee is just now beginning to talk to people affiliated with the Trump campaign so "there is no evidence yet."

Sen. Ben Cardin said on CNN's Situation Room (7/13, 554K) that Trump Jr. owes the American people "an explanation. What he did is extremely troubling" and it is "not standard politics." When asked about Trump saying Lynch let the Russian lawyer into the country, Cardin said, "Getting into the country is certainly not relevant to meeting with a person to get information to use in a campaign from another country. We let foreigners in our country. What is unusual is a campaign accepting information from a foreign agent that could be used against your opponent."

Sen. Amy Klobuchar said on MSNBC's Morning Joe (7/13, 270K), "We heard time and time again how the Hillary campaign wasn't as good as the Trump campaign when it came to this targeting and social media. That may be true but if you start to learn that the reason is that the Trump campaign was colluding with a foreign entity, that's a whole other world. ... I don't know all the facts here, I'm a former prosecutor, I like to wait until I see the facts, but this is a very grave matter."

Rep. Joaquin Castro said on CNN's Situation Room (7/13, 554K), "I completely disagree" with Trump's claim that Trump Jr.'s actions are common in politics. Castro said, "Yes, opposition research is common in politics, but meeting with officials of...an adversary" of the US "is not standard practice at all."

Major Garrett reported on the CBS Evening News (7/13, story 3, 1:10, Mason, 11.17M) that "the Senate Intelligence Committee will request documents from Trump Jr. and Jared Kushner about that meeting, and it wants to interview, as you might expect, anyone in the Trump campaign who had contact with Russians." Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse said on MSNBC's Morning Joe (7/13, 270K) that Trump is "the only President or presidential candidate not to reveal his tax returns. There is credible information to suggest that the tax returns would reveal contacts with Russia. He is exactly the model of the business mark that the Russians target in their election interference strategies which has been written up over and over again, and he won't do it."

Michael Gerson writes in the Washington Post (7/13, 12.92M) that while some have "employed the excuse that members of the Trump team are new to politics," the "their innocence...is proved by their guilt." Gerson argues that this explanation "does not cover egregious acts of wrongdoing. Putting a future president in the debt of a foreign power — and subject, presumably, to blackmail by that power — is the height of sleazy stupidity." Rather than "a mistake born of greenness; it is evidence of a vacant conscience." Charles Krauthammer said on Fox News' Special Report (7/13, 1.53M), "I'm not impressed by the story about the lawyer. I think it's a red herring the size of a whale. She was a pawn. It doesn't change the central fact of the scandal. The scandal is the email received from an intermediary by Donald Trump, Jr. that said a Russian government lawyer...would be coming with dirt on Hillary and that the Kremlin was supporting his campaign and that the...state prosecutor in the Kremlin had a trove of documents. That's the story. I don't think it's

illegal. I don't think anybody's claiming it's illegal," but it "totally undermines a six-month story from the White House, to which I was sympathetic, that there wasn't any collusion."

Senate Majority Whip Cornyn said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (7/13, 831K), "I firmly believe that Putin was trying to interfere with our election. He expected Hillary Clinton to win. It didn't turn out that way. But this is not about personalities, which is what the mainstream media wants to make it. This is Russia against the United States. Always has been, always will be. And that's what we ought to be focusing on and protecting our elections and institutions from." The [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 5, 1:35, Mason, 11.17M) showed part of "a discussion with CBS News contributor Frank Luntz," between six Republican and six Democratic members of Congress about Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Trump: Democrats' Focus On Russia Is "A Big Mistake." According to a pool report released Thursday, in remarks to reporters on Air Force One Wednesday, Trump argued "that Democrats had overplayed their hand on what he called 'the Russia thing,' saying the American people don't believe the accusations against him," [Politico](#) (7/13, Conway, 2.97M) reports. Trump said, "It's a witch hunt and they understand that. ... When they say 'treason' — you know what treason is? That's Julius and Ethel Rosenberg for giving the atomic bomb, OK?" Trump added that Democrats are "making a big mistake" by focusing on the issue. Said Trump, "My people and the people that support me, who are incredible people, those people are angry because they feel it's being unfair and a witch hunt." In a piece for the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, 403K), Michael Barone warns Democrats against "overreach," writing that the "overeagerness to find a smoking gun ignores the fact that the Constitution's standard for impeachment and removal from office is not the criminal code but 'high crimes and misdemeanors' — breaches of the public trust serious enough that two-thirds of senators feel justified in overriding the results of a presidential election."

Trump Says Putin Would Have Preferred Clinton As President. Also Thursday, in a pre-taped interview broadcast on [Christian Broadcasting Network's 700 Club](#) (7/13, 3K), Trump said Russian President Vladimir Putin would have preferred if Hillary Clinton had won the election. Trump argued, "We're the most powerful country in the world, and we're getting more and more powerful because I'm a big military person. As an example, if Hillary had won, our military would be decimated, our energy would be much more expensive. That's what Putin doesn't like about me. ... From day one, I want a strong military; he doesn't want to see that. From day one, I want fracking and everything else to get energy prices low and to create tremendous energy. We're going to be self-supporting. ... He doesn't like that. He would like Hillary, where she wants to have windmills. ... There are many things I do that are the exact opposite of what he would want. When I keep hearing he would rather have Trump, I think, probably not." Trump also said in an interview broadcast on [Christian Broadcasting Network's 700 Club](#) that he and Putin "had a good meeting," adding, "I do believe it is important to have a dialogue. If you don't have a dialogue, it is a lot of problems for our country and for their country." Later in the interview, Trump said Putin "wants what is good for Russia and I want what is good for the United States" and "sometimes you're not going to get along on things, and sometimes you will." Trump added, "I think we got along very well, and that's a good thing, that's not a bad thing."

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Haberman, Landler, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) says Trump told reporters on Air Force One that he confronted Putin twice about allegations that Russia interfered in the 2016 election, "and changed the subject after Mr. Putin flatly denied it because, 'What do you do? End up in a fistfight?'" In his "first extended account of a dramatic closed-door meeting he held with Mr. Putin last week in Hamburg, Germany," Trump said, "I said to him, 'Were you involved in the meddling with the election?' ... He said, 'Absolutely not. I was not involved.' He was very strong on it. I then said to him, in a totally different way, 'Were you involved with the meddling?' He said, 'I was not — absolutely not.'"

[Bloomberg News](#) (7/13, Epstein, Sink, 3.08M) reports that while Trump "repeatedly sidestepp[ed] questions about whether he believed Putin's denials of meddling in the 2016 presidential election," he told reporters on Air Force One that "he's willing to invite Russian President Vladimir Putin to the White House 'at the right time.'" Trump said, "Look, it's very easy for me to say absolutely, I won't" invite Putin to Washington, adding, "That's the easy thing for me to do, but that's the stupid thing to do. Let's be the smart people not the stupid people." Bloomberg also reports that Trump's comments to reports during the flight were given "on condition their conversation wouldn't be published," but those conditions "were reversed hours later by Trump himself." In his [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Zakaria, 12.92M) column, Fareed Zakaria

questions why Trump has "had such a rosy attitude toward Russia" and Putin. Zakaria posits that Trump just "admires Putin as a leader" or "has bought in to the worldview of his senior adviser Stephen K. Bannon, in which Russia is not an ideological foe but a cultural friend, a white Christian country battling swarthy Muslims." Or there could be "some other explanation for this decade-long fawning over Russia and its leader."

Trump Voters Seemingly Unfazed By Russia Story. The [Tennessean](#) (7/13, Boucher, 423K) reports that residents of Wayne County, Tennessee, which "overwhelmingly voted for Trump," are largely unfazed by the Russia story. The story features comments from a number of local residents, including one Trump voter said that while "talk of Russia, special prosecutors and election tampering won't change his mind," he "might support someone else in the next election if Trump can't deliver on health care."

Study Criticizes Media, Contrasts Trump-Russia Coverage With Clinton-Uranium Coverage. The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Harper, 458K) reports that a new study for the "conservative press watchdog" Newsbusters.org says that over the past four nights, "the 'Big Three' networks devoted over 62 minutes of airtime" to the Russia story, but "those same news sources all but ignored 'Hillary Clinton's Russia-Uranium scandal' two years ago." According to analyst Geoffrey Dickens, the networks dedicated "a grand total of three minutes during the entire two-year period" to that story.

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, [Abernathy](#), 12.92M), Gary Abernathy, publisher and editor of the (Hillsboro, Ohio) Times-Gazette, that while journalists react to Trump's claims of "fake news" with "public outrage, their popping veins nearly bursting through their thin skins," the media "has approval numbers lower than the president's," and it is "hard to persuade most Americans to feel our pain." Abernathy adds that "even liberals can't argue with a straight face that he's wrong about mainstream media bias." If the media "can prove Trump wrong through the evidence of their work," he continues, "the president's attacks will lose their steam. That day is not here."

Breitbart: Veselnitskaya Worked For "Many Democrats," May Have Opposed Trump Election. [Breitbart](#) (7/13, Wong, 2.16M) reports that while Democrats have portrayed Veselnitskaya as a Russian government official, "numerous reports and photos show she has a long record of working with US political figures, including many Democrats." Breitbart adds that although "critics have accused her of being a high-level Russian agent trying to help the Trump administration, there is no indication she ever wanted to help the Trump campaign, and there are indications she actually opposed Trump's election."

Ryan: Trump Jr. Should Testify Before Congress. [Reuters](#) (7/13, Rascoe, Zengerle) reports that House Speaker Ryan on Thursday urged Trump Jr. "to testify to a congressional committee about the alleged links between Trump's election team and Russia." According to CNN, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley "planned to send a letter on Thursday to the younger Trump to ask him to appear before his committee in a public session."

As part of a more than 2,000 word profile of Trump Jr. for [Politico Magazine](#) (7/13, 2.89M), author Gwenda Blair writes that it is not clear whether the meeting "will lead to criminal charges or be written off as what White House chief of staff Reince Priebus has called 'a big nothing burger,'" but it "provides an opportunity to see whether Donald Jr...has finally emerged as his own man; or whether, in wanting too much to please his father, he has been an overeager and incautious servant."

Democrats Call For Kushner's Security Clearance To Be Revoked. Peter Alexander said on [NBC Nightly News](#) (7/13, story 2, 1:55, Holt, 16.61M) that Democrats are questioning why Jared Kushner "still has his security clearance," as he is "under scrutiny for sitting in that meeting with the Kremlin connected Russian lawyer, later omitting it on his security form." Alexander added that Trump "is the only person who can revoke Kushner's top security clearance or fire him."

[McClatchy](#) (7/13, Daugherty, 95K) reports that Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz has introduced two amendments to revoke Kushner's security clearance. The first amendment "would prohibit federal funding for presidential security clearances for someone who is under a criminal investigation by a federal law enforcement agency for aiding a foreign government." The second would bar "funding for security credentials for anyone who 'deliberately fails' to disclose a meeting with a foreign national if the disclosure is required as part of the individual's security clearance credentialing process." Both failed on a party-line vote in committee.

Asked on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (7/13, 270K) if Kushner should lose his security clearance, Sen. Chris Murphy said, "I think the bigger question is why Jared Kushner still has a job. There seems to be two

scenarios here. Either Jared Kushner didn't tell his superiors, didn't tell his boss, the President of the United States that he had this meeting," and he was "potentially compromised inside the White House," or "he did tell people that he had this meeting, that he changed his disclosure forms, and the White House, from the President on down to his spokesman, continued to lie about their campaign's contacts with the Russian government. Either scenario is damning for this White House." In his [New York Times](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 14.49M), Nicholas Kristof argues for stripping Kushner of his security clearance, arguing that he "attended a secret meeting whose stated purpose was to advance a Kremlin effort to interfere in the US election, he then failed to report it, and finally he sought a secret channel to communicate with the Kremlin."

[Politico](#) (7/13, Palmeri, 2.97M) reports that Kushner "has been pressing other White House aides to more vigorously defend the meeting," but "has faced resistance from some of Trump's top press aides, according to six sources familiar with the matter." According to those sources, Kushner "wants the White House to more aggressively push out surrogates and talking points to change the narrative around the latest twist in the Russia scandal," but "some of the communications aides, including press secretary Sean Spicer, and other senior staffers have expressed reservations," arguing that it is "best to leave it to outside counsel to handle the furor around Trump Jr."

Eugene Robinson writes in the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M) that while Kushner and his wife, Ivanka Trump, "have tried their best to soar gracefully above the raging dumpster fire" of the Trump Administration, "unhappily for the handsome couple, gravity makes no allowances for charm."

Groups File FEC Complaint Against Trump Jr., Kushner, Manafort. [Reuters](#) (7/13, Rascoe, Zengerle) reports that "watchdog groups" have filed a complaint with the FEC against Trump Jr., the President's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner, and former campaign manager Paul Manafort, "arguing the three violated the law by meeting with the Russian." Meanwhile, the FEC "declined on Thursday to conduct a review of foreign interference in the 2016 election," as the three Republicans on the five-member panel "said they could not support moving forward because not all the facts were available."

Bloomberg Analysis: Investigators Scrutinizing Trump's 2013 Visit To Moscow. A [Bloomberg News](#) (7/13, Silver, Pismennaya, 3.08M) analysis highlights Trump's 2013 visit to Moscow, during which he "hobnobbed with Russian-Azerbaijani pop star Emin Agalarov, the son of the pageant's host," who "last year had his manager, Rob Goldstone, arrange" the meeting between Trump Jr. and Veselnitskaya. Bloomberg says that with "multiple probes scrutiniz[ing] Trump ties to Russia, nearly every moment of that November 2013 weekend in Moscow is fraught with potential significance." It is, Bloomberg adds, "a microcosm of both his business world and the legal storm now engulfing his presidency."

Begala: US Should Consider Bombing Russia Over Election Meddling. [Townhall](#) (7/13, Vespa, 450K) reports that Democratic strategist Paul Begala suggested on CNN Wednesday that the US "bomb Russia in response to their election meddling." Begala argued, "We were and are under attack by a hostile foreign power, and they seem to be abetting that hostile foreign power. We should be debating how many sanctions we should place on Russia or whether we should blow up the KGB, GSU, or GRU [Russia's foreign military intelligence agency]. We should be retaliating massively because, by the way, if I were a Trump supporter I would want to retaliate massively because it has tainted his victory."

Spokesman: Pence Did Not Meet With Officials Linked To Russian Government During Campaign. [Politico](#) (7/13, Nussbaum, 2.97M) reports that "after repeatedly dodging the question" during a Fox News interview, Vice President Pence's spokesman Marc Lotter said the Vice President did not meet with any officials linked to the Russian government during the 2016 campaign. Fox News asked Lotter three times "whether Pence had any such meetings," but he "declined to answer." In a statement Thursday, Lotter said, "The Vice President had no meetings with any individual associated with the Russian government during the campaign or transition."

Sessions Releases Government Form Detailing His Contacts With Foreign Nationals. [Reuters](#) (7/13, Ainsley) reports that Attorney General Sessions on Thursday released a largely redacted "government form dealing with contacts he has had with foreign nationals, including Russian government officials." While the form "indicated Sessions has had no immediate contact with any foreign government or its representatives in the past seven years," he "has said he met with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak in the run-up to the 2016 US presidential election." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Nakashima, 12.92M) reports that while officials say Sessions' omission of the Kislyak meetings "may not be a violation of

security clearance rules as long as the contacts occurred in his capacity as a lawmaker," other experts "say he should have erred on the side of transparency."

Gorka: Administration May Return Diplomatic Compounds To Russia. The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Quinn, 403K) reports that deputy assistant to the President Sebastian Gorka told [CNN](#) Thursday that "the Trump administration is weighing the return of two Russian diplomatic compounds because it wants to give 'collaboration and cooperation a chance.'" Gorka said, "The fact is we may not share the same philosophy, we may not share the same type of statesman view of the world but the fact is there are some issues of common concern." According to Gorka, "the White House may decide to return the compounds if the administration sees 'acts of good faith' from Russia and cited the recent ceasefire in Russia as an example." He said, "If we see good faith, remember more than 400,000 people have been killed in Syria. That is horrific. If we can see acts of good faith come out of the Kremlin with regards to things such as a ceasefire, then perhaps there is a chance for what [Secretary of State] Rex Tillerson wants to see happen, which is an improvement in relations between our two capitals."

Clinton Campaign Spokesman: Democrats "Erred" In Mocking Romney Over Russia. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/13, Rutz, 117K) reports that Hillary Clinton's former campaign spokesman Brian Fallon tweeted Wednesday that "Democrats 'erred' in their mocking of Mitt Romney in 2012 for calling Russia the nation's top geopolitical foe." Along with link "to a clip of Max Boot, who advised Romney on foreign policy in 2012, sparring with Fox News host Tucker Carlson on Wednesday evening," Fallon [tweeted](#), "Bravo @MaxBoot for calling out Putin lovers in Trump's GOP. We Dems erred in '12 by mocking Boot/Romney Russia worry."

WPost Analysis: Trump Won't Follow Advice Of His Lawyers. Under the headline "Trump's Legal Team Faces Tensions – And A Client Who Often Takes His Own Counsel," the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, A1, Rucker, Parker, Barrett, 12.92M) reports, "The challenge for President Trump's attorneys has become, at its core, managing the unmanageable – their client. He won't follow instructions," or "compartmentalize" or "discipline himself. Trump's legal team, led by Marc E. Kasowitz of New York, is laboring to underscore the potential risk to the president if he engages without a lawyer in discussions with other people under scrutiny in widening Russia inquiries, including Jared Kushner." The Post adds that Trump's "and Kushner's attorneys are struggling to enforce traditional legal boundaries to protect their clients, according to half a dozen people with knowledge of the internal dynamics and ongoing interactions. ... Compounding the challenges have been tensions between Trump's and Kushner's legal teams in a frenzied, siege-like environment."

Senate Panel "Very Interested" In Smith's Oppo Research Operation. The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (7/13, Sweet, 862K) reports, "An adjunct faculty member at the Illinois Institute of Technology and a recently deceased Lake Forest business executive who played a key role in disclosing sexual misconduct allegations against President Bill Clinton in the 1990s have surfaced as players in the Trump Russia scandal." The Sun-Times says "that the Senate Intelligence Committee, which is investigating Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential campaign and whether there was collusion with the Trump campaign, is 'very interested' in the opposition research operation put together by Peter W. Smith, the Lake Forest resident who died on May 14, and his business associate, John J. Szobocsan" of IIT. The Sun-Times quotes "a source close to the committee" as saying, "The committee will want to speak with or get documents from everybody associated with the Peter Smith operation."

The [Chicago Tribune](#) (7/13, Skiba, 1.85M) reports that Smith a GOP "donor and operative...who said he had tried to obtain Hillary Clinton's missing emails from Russian hackers," committed suicide "in a Minnesota hotel room days after talking to The Wall Street Journal about his efforts, public records show." The Tribune says that the Journal "reported it had seen emails written by Smith showing his team considered retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn, then a top adviser to Republican Donald Trump's campaign, as an ally."

Kasowitz Says He'll Apologize For Email Threats. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Lafraniere, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that Trump's lawyer Marc Kasowitz said Thursday that he will "apologize for a series of threatening and profane emails he sent to a stranger who had suggested that he resign." According to ProPublica, which published the email exchange, the unidentified stranger "sent Mr. Kasowitz's law firm an email with the subject line 'Resign Now,'" in which he "wrote that while he did not know Mr. Kasowitz, he believed that 'no good can come' from the lawyer's efforts to defend Mr. Trump." In

response, Kasowitz sent "four obscenity-laced emails in 33 minutes," in which he "gave a phone number, demanded that the man call him and told him to 'watch his back.'" Kasowitz wrote, "I already know where you live, I'm on you. ... You will see me. I promise." Kasowitz said in a statement released by his spokesman that "his response to the man was 'inappropriate' and that he wished he could take back his words."

Fusion GPS Founder Won't Testify Before Senate Panel Next Week. [Politico](#)

(7/13, Dawsey, Cheney, 2.97M) reports that Fusion GPS Co-founder Glenn Simpson "will not testify next week before the Senate Judiciary Committee, according to two sources familiar with his plans." Earlier this week, the panel announced a July 19 hearing that listed Simpson as a witness, but "the request for Simpson to appear was voluntary, and it's unclear whether the committee will seek to compel his testimony."

Media Analyses: Trump Takes Warmer Approach To Macron During Paris Trip.

Media coverage of the President's trip to Paris cast his meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron as warmer than their first meeting. Reports – including coverage on all three networks Thursday night – also cast Trump as presenting a much friendlier view of Paris than he has in the past, but his remarks to the French First Lady are drawing negative coverage. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/13, story 2, 3:45, Muir, 14.63M), for example, said Trump's "new-found friendship" with Macron was "on display" Thursday, "but it wasn't always that way. ... Starting with that handshake tug of war during their first meeting. Not to mention, the President's repeated Paris bashing." [NBC Nightly News](#) (7/13, lead story, 3:00, 16.61M) reported that while Trump "has repeatedly disparaged the city of Paris," he took a "very different tone" on Thursday. Trump: "You're going to have a very, very peaceful and beautiful Paris, and I'm coming back."

Sara Murray reported on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (7/13, 554K) reported that while Trump made Paris "his punching bag in the past, particularly on national security issues," on Thursday the President "lavished praise on his French counterpart." The [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 2, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) said "the hope is this visit might cement what seemed to be a fractious relationship between the two presidents."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Johnson, McAuley, 12.92M) reports the two leaders and their wives dined Thursday evening at the Eiffel Tower after "a day filled with frequent backslaps, handshakes, toothy smiles, knee pats, photo ops and a shared determination to find common ground." While their relationship "up til now...has been largely defined by their stark differences...it is becoming clear the two leaders have a lot in common."

The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Brown, 3.2M) notes the two leaders "exchanged a warm handshake" as Macron received the President and First Lady "in a grand arrival ceremony at Les Invalides museum, home to Napoleon's tomb." The Post called it a "very different scene to their famously tense greeting at a NATO summit in May." [Politico Europe](#) (7/13, Herszenhorn, 37K) likewise says Thursday's meeting was visit "full of pomp and circumstance," and the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Ballhaus, Horobin, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports the two leaders praised each other as they touted the growing bond between their two nations. Trump told reporters the two allies are "together, perhaps more so than ever" and called Macron a "great leader" and a "tough president."

Trump, [Reuters](#) (7/13, Lough, Rascoe) reports even "held the door open to a reversal of his decision to pull the United States out of the Paris climate accord," but "did not say what he would need in return to persuade him to do so." Speaking to reporters at a joint news conference with Macron, Trump said, "Something could happen with respect to the Paris accords, let's see what happens. If it happens, that will be wonderful, and if it doesn't, that'll be OK too."

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Bhatti, Onyanga-Omara, Jackson, 10.05M) reports Trump also pledged that the US "would work to protect the environment," dispute leaving the accord. "The United States remains committed to being a leader in environmental protection," he said. For his part, Macron said while the leaders have a "number of disagreements" on the threat of global warming, he respected Trump's decision to pull out of the agreement. The [AP](#) (7/13, Salama) says the two leaders "set aside lingering differences on climate change...asserting that it shouldn't prevent them from working together toward a post-war roadmap for Syria and to enhance Mideast security." While acknowledging their differences, Macron said, "Should that have an impact on the discussions we're having on all other topics? No, absolutely not."

[Breitbart](#) (7/13, Montgomery, 2.16M) reports Macron said the two had a "long discussion" on a range of

different security challenges, and Trump indicated they discussed ways their countries could "strengthen [their] vital security partnerships."

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Taylor, 458K) reports that protesters have planned rallies for Thursday night and Friday, angered by Macron's invitation to Trump. They also plan to "slam Mr. Trump's withdrawal from the Paris climate...as well as the Trump administration's ban on refugees and travel to the US from several Muslim-majority nations." The protests, however, "are not expected to turn violent."

Trump's Comments About French First Lady Prompt Criticism. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Stack, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that shortly after he arrived in France, President Trump "took a moment to tell the country's first lady, Brigitte Macron, what he thought of her physical appearance." The President was overheard telling Mrs. Macron, "You're in such good shape." He then turned to Macron, and said, "She's in such good physical shape. Beautiful." The encounter was "broadcast live on a Facebook video stream on Mr. Macron's official Facebook account," and quickly went viral. [McClatchy](#) (7/13, Hadley, 95K) says Trump's "often controversial relationship with women took another downward turn" after many viewed the comments "as sexist and objectifying." On social media, "many users blasted" Trump's comments, calling them "creepy" and "inappropriate." Others, however, "defended Trump's comments and said they have been blown out of proportion." [Politico Europe](#) (7/13, Murphy, 37K) also reports the exchange.

US Journalists Angered At Trump For Calling On Chinese Reporter. The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Boyer, 458K) reports that American journalists traveling with President Trump in Paris "were in a huff Thursday after he called on a Chinese reporter at a press conference instead of a US journalist." The "perceived slight" came at a joint press conference with French President Emmanuel Macron. The Times notes that it was the "second press kerfuffle of the day in Paris." Earlier, when Trump greeted staff at the US Embassy, "pool reporters were kept out of the event."

White House Releases Remarks After Trump Asks Why Off-The-Record Comments Weren't Published. [USA Today](#) (7/13, Estepa, 10.05M) reports President Trump had an off-the-record conversation on Wednesday with reporters aboard Air Force One. According to pool reports, deputy press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders "declared that it was off the record," but the President later "asked why his comments weren't used." White House official officials later told reporters that "excerpts of the conversation would be released." USA Today notes that "this does appear to be the first time the White House has retroactively made a conversation on the record."

Nice To Mark One-Year Anniversary Of Terror Attack. The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Taylor, 458K) reports that on Friday, Nice will mark the one-year anniversary of an ISIS-inspired attack in which a terrorist drove a large, white truck into a crowd celebrating Bastille Day. The Times says that while Paris "was rocked in November 2015 by a coordinated assault that killed 130 people, authorities say, the Nice massacre was a kind of watershed moment that was followed by a macabre wave of similar low-tech terrorist strikes in several Western European nations."

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Berton, 10.05M) reports that Hanane Charrihi, whose mother was killed in last year's terror attack in Nice, plans to mark the anniversary of her mother's death on Friday by launching "an association aimed at stopping the radicalization of young Muslims through education."

Media Analyses: New Healthcare Bill Already Opposed By Two GOP Senators.

Senate Majority Leader McConnell rolled out a [revised version](#) of the Better Care Reconciliation Act on Thursday, with analysts saying that most of the changes were intended to win over conservatives who opposed the original legislation. But while Sen. Ted Cruz said that he now supports the bill, most coverage says that the bill – and GOP prospects for repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act as a whole – are in danger because Sens. Susan Collins and Rand Paul remain opposed, meaning that no other Republicans can vote "no" without killing the legislation.

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/13, story 3, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M), Mary Bruce reported, "A new healthcare bill, but the same old problem: Can it get the votes to pass? To appease conservatives, the new version would allow insurers to offer cheaper bare-bones plans that don't cover essential health benefits. It could bring down costs for some. ... But critics worry Americans that need the most care, like people with preexisting conditions could end up paying a lot more." Collins: "We're talking about the health infrastructure

in rural America and some of our most vulnerable citizens." Bruce: "To try and sway other moderates, the new version keeps two Obamacare taxes on the wealthy, includes \$70 billion that could be used to help reduce premiums, and adds \$45 billion to fight the opioid epidemic. But right now, two Republicans say they're voting no. Just one more no vote would sink the bill."

Anthony Mason said on the [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 7, 1:45, 11.17M) that the "retooled healthcare plan" is "already in critical condition." CBS' Nancy Cordes: "The response from Republican hold-outs to their party's 'Plan B' was cautious best." Sen. Dean Heller: "We'll read it over the weekend and come up with a decision and see if there is any improvement." Cordes: "The new bill reinstates those taxes to help pay for \$45 billion in new opioid funding. But it does not reverse the first bill's deep cuts to Medicaid, the big sticking point for moderates like Ohio's Rob Portman." Portman: "We're still working on ways to ensure that folks who are currently getting coverage under expanded Medicaid have only shuns." Cordes: "The only Republican who went from 'no' to 'yes' today was Ted Cruz."

Kasie Hunt reported on [NBC Nightly News](#) (7/13, story 3, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M) that McConnell "has to convince every one of the 50 remaining Republicans to vote yes or the bill fails. What's your bet on whether Mitch McConnell can pull this off?" Senate Majority Whip Cornyn: "Well, he's good. He's pulled more than one rabbit out of the hat." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Howell, 458K) reports that Cornyn said on Fox News, "A 'no' vote on this bill is essentially a vote for Obamacare." But the [AP](#) (7/13, Werner, Fram) reports under the headline "New Senate GOP Health Care Bill Teeters On The Brink" that GOP leaders are "increasingly desperate," and [Reuters](#) (7/13, Cornwell) says the new bill is "already in trouble."

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, A1, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) says the changes "may not have been enough to bridge the vast divide that has opened" between GOP conservatives and moderates. While the GOP "said the revised bill would provide roughly \$70 billion in additional funds that states could use to help reduce premiums, hold down out-of-pocket costs and otherwise make health care more affordable," it "would still convert Medicaid from an open-ended entitlement to a system of fixed payments to states." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, A1, Sullivan, Snell, Eilperin, 12.92M) says the draft also "leaves in place proposed deep cuts to Medicaid."

[The Hill](#) (7/13, Sullivan, 1.61M) writes that "overall, McConnell appears to have shifted the revised bill more toward the conservatives than the moderates," while [USA Today](#) (7/13, Kelly, Collins, 10.05M) headlines a report "Republicans Woo Conservatives In Latest Draft." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, A1, Armour, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the most significant changes were those sought by Cruz and Sen. Mike Lee to permit insurers that sell ACA-compliant plans to also offer plans that do not comply. [USA Today](#) (7/13, O'Donnell, 10.05M) reports that the Cruz-Lee measure has been criticized by insurers who say it "would lead to an 'un-level playing field.'" The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Park, Parlapiano, Sanger-Katz, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that the new bill also "lets people use money from health savings accounts to pay premiums," something sought by conservatives.

Still, one key conservative was unmoved. Paul said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (7/13, 831K), "The new plan actually doesn't repeal Obamacare. It keeps about half of the Obamacare taxes, keeps most of the Obamacare regulations, keeps most of the Obamacare subsidies and it creates a giant insurance bailout superfund. And I just can't vote for a bill that creates a \$200 billion dollar fund to bail out insurance companies."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, Mascaro, Levey, 4.57M) writes that "with their bid to roll back the Affordable Care Act only a vote away from collapse, Republican leaders scrambled Thursday to rally GOP senators behind revised healthcare legislation in hopes of passing it next week." But Medicaid "appeared to remain as a major stumbling bloc for at least half a dozen wavering GOP senators." Kayla Tausche said on [CNBC's Closing Bell](#) (7/13, 142K) that "there are about half a dozen undecideds who either they need to read the bill further, they want to talk about exactly changes could be coming, or they need to talk to their constituents about whether this bill makes wholesale changes far enough to actually win their support." [Politico](#) (7/13, Everett, Haberkorn, Karlin-Smith, 2.97M) reports, "Senate Republican leaders are praying that their fragile whip count holds over the weekend."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M) says in an editorial that the new version "is arguably worse than the unpopular bill that preceded it." It "would deeply slash Medicaid" and "would still use the savings to fund an array of tax cuts, including a break for medical-device manufacturers. It would even add a new tax break

expanding tax-advantaged health savings accounts, which would mostly benefit wealthier people who have savings to put into them." The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Board, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) similarly editorializes, "Republican leaders in the Senate have accomplished what seemed impossible a few weeks ago: They have made their proposal to destroy the Affordable Care Act even worse." McConnell "has clearly chosen to make the legislation more appealing to conservatives...rather than find ways to address the concerns of centrists." However, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) says in an editorial that the new version retains a tax on investment income, something supported by moderates, but that they still will not commit to the bill.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 8, 1:50, Mason, 11.17M) ran a feature on how "the proposed cuts in Medicaid" could impact residents of McConnell's home state of Kentucky. [McClatchy](#) (7/13, Pugh, Clark, 95K), the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, King, 403K), and [Roll Call](#) (7/13, Williams, 91K) also have reports on the new legislation.

Alaska Would Get Extra Federal Funding Under Bill. [Bloomberg News](#) (7/13, Edney, Recht, Litvan, 3.08M) reports that another change "would send hundreds of millions of extra federal dollars to Alaska," home to wavering Sen. Lisa Murkowski. The money "comes from the legislation's \$182 billion in funding meant to help stabilize insurance markets and help states provide coverage. Under the formulas, states – in this case just Alaska – with disproportionately higher premiums would get extra funds from that account."

Graham, Cassidy Working On Alternative Bill. [Politico](#) (7/13, Everett, 2.97M) reports that Sen. Lindsey Graham is floating a proposal that he is crafting with Sen. Bill Cassidy that would direct a large share of ACA funding directly to the states. Politico says it "could offer a starting point for Congress if the Senate GOP effort fails next week."

Trump: Healthcare Is "The Only Thing More Difficult" Than Mideast Peace.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Lahut, 2.97M) reports that in comments to reporters aboard Air Force One on Wednesday night, President Trump said, "We have a thing called healthcare. I'm sure you haven't been reading about it too much. I'd say the only thing more difficult than peace between Israel and the Palestinians is healthcare." Regarding Senate Majority Leader McConnell's efforts to secure 50 votes, Trump said, "It's like this narrow road that's about a quarter of an inch wide. You get a couple here and you say, great, and then you find out you just lost four over here."

US Charges Hundreds In Nationwide Healthcare, Opioid Fraud Schemes.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Noble, 458K) reports that more than 400 people, "including doctors, pharmacists and nurses, were charged in connection with a series of health care fraud schemes that bilked the federal government of more than \$1 billion, officials from the Justice Department and Department of Health and Human Services announced Thursday." According to the [Times](#), "describing some of the cases brought, Attorney General Sessions said trusted medical professionals 'have chosen to violate their oaths and put greed ahead of their patients,'" and Health and Human Services Secretary Price "said the health care fraud bust targeted those who 'maliciously contributed' to the nation's opioid epidemic." A total of 412 people, including 56 doctors, "were charged as a result of the nationwide operation. 'Some doctors wrote out more prescriptions for controlled substances than entire hospitals were writing,' said FBI acting Director Andrew McCabe."

Staff Of NIH Clinical Center Still Hurt By Effects Of Red Team Report.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Burton, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports staff morale at the NIH Clinical Center is still suffering from a report by an outside Red Team that concluded that the hospital prioritized research over patient safety. Many of the hospital's staff believe the Red Team report hurt the hospital's reputation and was unfair to them.

CBO Report Sees Trump's Budget Proposal As "Overly Optimistic."

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Rappeport, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that a CBO report released Thursday cast President Trump's inaugural budget "as overly optimistic, expressing doubt about his promises

to balance the federal budget." While Trump's budget "projected that by 2027, the economy would achieve a small budget surplus," the CBO analysis said that "the deficit would remain at \$720 billion, or 2.6 percent of gross domestic product." The Times adds that the CBO "did not agree that its proposals would generate as much economic growth as the White House has suggested." The budget office "said that the average gross domestic product growth over 10 years is currently 1.8, and that under Mr. Trump's plan it would be 1.9 percent — far lower than the 3 percent the administration assumes." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Dinan, 458K) says the report, which said that Trump's "deep spending cuts on everything from health care to education would save an additional \$3.3 trillion over the next 10 years," but "still never reaches balance," undercuts "the White House's claims that the president would solve the sea of red ink within a decade."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Davidson, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the CBO said it did not have sufficient information about Trump's economic policy proposals to determine their impact on the budget. The report said, "The president's proposals would affect the economy in a variety of ways; however, because the details on many of the proposed policies are not available at this time, CBO cannot provide an analysis of all their macroeconomic effects or of the budgetary feedback that would result from those effects."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Paletta, Swanson, Ehrenfreund, 12.92M) says the CBO report "cast[s] doubt on a plan the White House has touted as central to achieving the president's domestic agenda." The Post says the CBO report was "one of several big questions that emerged Thursday about whether Trump would be able to deliver on the central promises of his populist agenda for governing." The "combination of setbacks and delays on key policy initiatives," the Post adds, "highlight how the president is struggling to advance a populist vision of governing in a Republican Party that historically has not been receptive to such an approach." The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/13, Meyer, 117K) offers a more positive assessment of the CBO report, highlighting that the budget office said Trump's budget "would reduce the deficit over the next decade by \$160 billion and increase GDP at the same time."

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Collins, 10.05M) says the CBO report came a day after "the White House released a video accusing the CBO of inaccurately forecasting economic statistics in the health care legislation Republicans are trying to pass."

Federal Budget Ran \$90 Billion Deficit In June.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Davidson, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the federal budget deficit for June was \$90 billion, in contrast with the \$6 billion surplus of June 2016. Since October, when the current fiscal year began, the deficit is up 31 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Trustees See Social Security And Medicare Fund Depletions Nearing.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Zumbrun, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that an annual report from the trustees of the major US entitlements indicates that the trust fund for Social Security's disability program will last until 2028, five years longer than previously projected. If Social Security's retirement and disability funds are combined into one program, their funds will be exhausted in 2034, unchanged from last year. The Medicare trust funds are expected to be depleted by 2029.

Social Security Payments To Increase 2.2 Percent. The [CBS Evening News](#)

(7/13, story 9, 0:15, Mason, 11.17M) reported that the Social Security Administration announced Thursday that "recipients will get a cost of living adjustment next year of 2.2 percent, the biggest increase in six years." The increase is "about \$28 a month," and there "will be no change in Medicare premiums."

Administration's Transportation Cuts Face Congressional Opposition.

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Shepardson) reports that there is "strong resistance in Congress" to White House plans "to cut transportation spending, privatize air traffic control and scrap long-distance train service." During a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing Thursday, Sen. Susan Collins told Transportation Secretary Chao that "she was disappointed in many proposed cuts." Also this week, a House Appropriations Committee panel "rejected a White House plan to end subsidies for Amtrak to operate long-distance train service," as well as "a plan to eliminate \$150 million in annual subsidies for commercial air service to rural airports."

Laffer And Moore: Trump Tax Cuts Would Help Cities And States.

In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) op-ed, economist Arthur Laffer and Stephen Moore of the Heritage Foundation, co-chairmen of the Committee to Unleash Prosperity, argue that federal tax cuts will be beneficial to states and cities because they would leave more money in the hands of local businesses and consumers. Rather than pressing for federal aid, they argue, governors and mayors should be lobbying for the tax cuts proposed by President Trump.

Feinstein Signals Support For "Speedy" Vote On Wray.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Kim, 2.97M) reports Sen. Dianne Feinstein "is willing to help" Senate Republicans seeking a "speedy" vote on Christopher Wray's confirmation as FBI director. Feinstein said she believes Wray should get a committee vote next week, as "it's been the tradition" to forgo the one-week delay for FBI director nominees. She cautioned that the nine Democrats on the Judiciary Committee had yet to discuss whether a delay would be necessary to allow more time for vetting. Meanwhile, Sen. Richard Blumenthal said earlier this week that he would favor a delay. Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley has scheduled the vote for July 20.

Lewandowski: Democrats' Pace On Trump Nominees "A De Facto Government Shutdown."

Corey Lewandowski writes in [The Hill](#) (7/13, 1.61M) that Senate Democrats "are jeopardizing our economic and national security by refusing to allow President Trump to appoint key staffers to critical positions" and "are implementing a de facto government shutdown themselves." He charges Democrats with a "quiet sabotage of the Trump agenda" due to their "slow-walking and blocking qualified nominees to make our federal government fail."

Former Envoys, ADL Director: US Needs Anti-Semitism Envoy.

Ira Forman and Hannah Rosenthal, who each served as the State Department's special envoy to monitor and combat anti-Semitism, and Jonathan Greenblatt, chief executive and national director of the Anti-Defamation League, write in the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M) that under the Trump Administration, the State Department post of special envoy to monitor and combat anti-Semitism has remained vacant, and "judging by recent remarks from Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, the administration is still vacillating on whether it is important enough — or enough of a priority — to continue the office." They argue that the post is still needed, nothing that "threats to Jews have not diminished," and "America's voice in the fight to counter anti-Semitism is desperately needed — now more than ever."

Trump Considering Quotas, Tariffs On Chinese Steel.

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Rascoe) reports President Trump said he is considering quotas and tariffs to deal with the "big problem" of steel dumping from China. "They're dumping steel and destroying our steel industry, they've been doing it for decades, and I'm stopping it. It'll stop," he told reporters on Air Force One en route to France. "There are two ways: quotas and tariffs. Maybe I'll do both," he said. [Politico](#) (7/13, Palmer, 2.97M) reports the President's comments came as the Commerce Department is "preparing to make its recommendation in two separate investigations into whether it is necessary to restrict steel and aluminum imports in order to protect national security."

Trump: Trade Deals With China "A Lot Easier" If They Help With North

Korea. Asked in an interview broadcast on [Christian Broadcasting Network's 700 Club](#) (7/13, 3K) if the US might need to destroy North Korea's intercontinental missiles "on the launch-pad or right after launch," President Trump said, "We wouldn't want to be speaking about anything, but we're looking at lots of different ways and we're working with lots of different countries, including China. I think China would like to see this problem go away, it is a big problem for them." Asked what leverage the US has to influence China, Trump said, "Our leverage with China is that China makes hundreds of billions of dollars a year with us on trade and I want to renegotiate trade deals. I would certainly be a lot easier on a trade deal if they were going to help us with North Korea than if they weren't."

North Korean Trade With China Rises To Highest Level. The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Fifield, 12.92M) reports North Korea's trade deficit with China has risen "to its highest level, as trade between the two countries continues to rise, suggesting there is little distress in the North Korean economy

despite rounds of international sanctions on Pyongyang designed to punish it for its weapons program." The Post says the latest official trade numbers from Beijing "suggest that China, as President Trump tweeted last week, is not using its economic leverage over its defiant neighbor."

Kochs-Backed Group's Ads Urge GOP Lawmakers To Drop Border-Tax Proposal.

[The Hill](#) (7/13, Jagoda, 1.61M) reported that the Koch brothers-backed Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce on Thursday began airing ads "urging members of the House Ways and Means Committee to give up on the Republican border-adjustment tax proposal. Among the lawmakers targeted in the digital ads are Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady (R-Texas) and tax-policy subcommittee Chairman Peter Roskam (R-Ill.), who support the proposal to tax imports and exempt exports." Supporters of the border-adjustment tax (BAT) "argue that it would remove incentives for companies to move jobs overseas and would raise revenue to help pay for tax cuts." Opponents, including "a number of GOP lawmakers, conservative groups and retailers," worry "it would amount to a consumer tax."

Wisconsin "Under Serious Consideration" For Major Foxconn Investment.

The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (7/13, Stein, Marley, 746K) reports Wisconsin is "under serious consideration" as a potential site for a "major investment" by Foxconn, "drawing multiple visits from top executives and boosting private hopes of the state winning a once-in-a-generation opportunity." Bound by a NDA, state officials were reluctant to talk details, but one economic development official said a visit this week was "at least the third trip if not more." Indeed, the Sentinel says "word has seeped out" following "a number of meetings" and potential factory site visits, in addition to a barbecue at Gov. Scott Walker's Lake Mendota mansion Tuesday night. Still, other states are vying for the rumored more than \$10 billion deal that could create thousands of jobs. And despite Wisconsin's advantages – including interstates, proximity to Chicago, and an income tax exemption on manufacturing profits – it "would need huge efforts to supply enough tech-savvy workers."

DHS Introduces Facial Recognition Technology In Airports.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (7/13, story 5, 2:05, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the Department of Homeland Security "is rolling out new bio-metric facial recognition technology to verify the identity of passengers leaving the US, including American citizens." US Customs and Border Protection agents are beginning to use facial recognition software to compare outbound passengers' faces with all photos already on file "in passports, visas or other sources." The new bio-metric technology, which Congress ordered "years ago," is now being tested in airports in Washington, Houston, Atlanta, and Chicago "before rolling out nationally," as Homeland Security seeks to better monitor passengers entering and exiting the country. NBC added that "The ultimate hope is that they can integrate the bio-metric screening process with the airline check-in process, doing away with paper tickets."

House Set To Vote On Controversial Study Of Islam.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Bade, Bresnahan, 2.97M) reports that the House is set to vote today "on a controversial GOP proposal identifying 'Islamic religious doctrines, concepts or schools of thought' that could be used by terrorist groups – something opponents say is unconstitutional and will lead to the targeting of Muslims." The amendment, "drafted by conservative Rep. Trent Franks (R-Ariz.), also calls for the Pentagon to identify Islamic leaders who preach peaceful beliefs versus those who espouse extremist views." According to Politico, "the proposal has drawn heavy criticism from Muslim lawmakers serving in Congress, Muslim interest groups and the American Civil Liberties Union, who say the proposal would unfairly target Muslims."

US Soldier Arrested For Ties To ISIS Entertained Various Conspiracy Theories.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Kelleher, Jones) reports that Army Sergeant Ikaika Kang, a US soldier arrested July 8 after being accused of having ties to ISIS, "believed the moon landing was faked, questioned the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and thought the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were an inside job coordinated by the

US government," according to former Army bunkmate Dustin Lyles. Lyles said he and Kang "debated about conspiracies, including that 9/11 was a false flag attack staged by the US to spark wars in the Middle East." Kang was scheduled to appear in federal court in Honolulu Thursday.

Former Guantanamo Detainee: Terrorism Is Never Justified.

In an op-ed for [USA Today](#) (7/13, 10.05M), Mustafa Alt Idir, a former Guantanamo Bay detainee released in 2008 after being found innocent, argues that no level of "suffering" can justify acts of terrorism. Addressing "any of my Muslim brothers and sisters" and "anyone else, contemplating violence," he writes, "I beg of you, choose peace. Whatever complaints one might have about particular policies and politicians, and I assure you I have several, violence will only make matters worse." Idir argues that "bigots and fear-mongers" are "emboldened" by acts of terrors, and concludes that "Neither Allah nor any god of any religion could ever support such cruelty to our fellow man."

Hawaii Federal Judge Expands List Of Exemptions To Travel Ban.

The [AP](#) (7/14, Kelleher) reports that US District Judge Derrick Watson in Honolulu "expanded the list of family relationships needed by people seeking new visas from six mostly Muslim countries to avoid" President Trump's travel ban, ordering the government "not to enforce the ban on grandparents, grandchildren, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins" of those in the US. Watson said in his ruling, "Common sense, for instance, dictates that close family members be defined to include grandparents." Another [AP](#) (7/14) report says the ruling also said that the "travel ban can't be enforced against refugees who have assurance that an agency will receive the refugee and provide placement services."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Schmidt, 12.92M) reports that the state of Hawaii "had asked Watson to rule on the federal government's interpretation of the Supreme Court's ruling on Trump's executive order, arguing that the list of exemptions to the travel ban was too narrow." [Reuters](#) (7/14, Levine, Rosenberg) says that Watson's ruling "dealt a fresh courtroom defeat" to the President. [Politico](#) (7/14, Hesson, 2.97M) reports that Neal Katyal, "an attorney for the plaintiffs, the state of Hawaii and a local imam, celebrated the momentary legal win, which could be met with appeals by the federal government." Katyal [tweeted](#), "Sweeping victory in #hawaiiivstrump just now."

Trump: "Anywhere From 700 To 900 Miles" Of Border Wall All That Is Needed.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Caldwell) reports that in "informal" remarks to reporters aboard Air Force One, President Trump said that he "doesn't see the need for a proposed border wall to stretch" the full length US-Mexico border. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, Lauter, 4.57M) reports that Trump said, "You don't need 2,000 miles of wall because you have a lot of natural barriers. You have mountains. You have some rivers that are violent and vicious. You have some areas that are so far away that you don't really have people crossing. So you don't need that. You'll need anywhere from 700 to 900 miles." About 600 miles of the border already have walls, fences, and barriers, and "it was not clear from Trump's remarks if the figure he cited referred to new border protections or included those already in existence."

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Dinan, 458K) reports that the President "agreed with border security experts who say the wall needs to allow visibility through to the Mexican side, as a safety precaution." Trump said smugglers "will throw heavy sacks of drugs up over the fence," causing a danger to CBP agents. On the [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 4, 0:45, Mason, 11.17M), Major Garrett briefly recounted the President's words.

[Bloomberg News](#) (7/13, Talev, 3.08M) says that this was "not the first time since he took office that Trump has raised the possibility of a wall that doesn't stretch across the entire border. He said in a Feb. 9 interview with MSNBC that the wall only would 'need 1,000' miles of coverage because of natural barriers."

Trump Hopes For "Comprehensive Immigration Plan." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Dinan, 458K) reports that Trump also "said he wished Congress would pass 'a comprehensive immigration plan,' though he said the country's not ready for that." The Times calls this "a stunning remark from Mr. Trump, who during the campaign had said he wanted to see a crackdown on illegal immigration."

State Department: US Will Require Additional Traveler Vetting Data From All Nations.

Reuters (7/13, Mohammed, Rosenberg) reports that a State Department cable indicates that the US "will require all nations to provide extensive data to help it vet visa applicants and determine whether a traveler poses a terrorist threat," with those failing to comply possibly facing travel sanctions. The cable, obtained by Reuters, said in part, "This is the first time that the US Government is setting standards for the information that is required from all countries specifically in support of immigration and traveler vetting."

Supporters And Opponents Agree That Courts Will Likely Strike Down DACA.

USA Today (7/13, Gomez, 10.05M) reports that both supporters and opponents of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which "has protected 800,000 young undocumented immigrants from deportation," agree that it is "likely to be struck down soon by federal courts." Legal challenges to DACA are based on claims that President Obama "lacked authority to grant 'amnesty' to DREAMers."

NYTimes Analysis: Immigration Tops All Other Priorities At DHS.

The New York Times (7/13, Nixon, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that immigration has become the top priority at DHS, with "other responsibilities, like protecting the nation's critical infrastructure, including computer systems, ensuring airline passenger safety or even protecting the president himself" absent from President Trump's January remarks to the department's employees. An Obama-era DHS official told the Times, "It's all immigration, it's the wall and it's enforcement. Nothing about FEMA or cyber or counterintelligence." However, DHS Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Jonathan Hoffman said other responsibilities are not being neglected. Hoffman said, "No one is going to tell you that immigration and border security aren't priorities; they are the priorities that the President ran on. But the focus on these issues isn't so much that we have neglected any part of the Department of Homeland Security."

CBP Official Says Visa Overstay System Should Come Next Year.

Breitbart (7/13, Clark, 2.16M) reports that CBP deputy executive assistant commissioner John Wagner said at a Senate hearing on Wednesday that DHS "will start deploying a long-delayed computer system in 2018 to detect when foreign visitors and temporary workers fail to depart the United States on time." Wagner said, "I expect by early next year you would start to deploy this at a lot of the major airports." Breitbart runs the story under a photo of the smoking World Trade Center towers, and writes, "Since the 9/11 atrocity in 2001, when several of the 19 attackers overstayed their visas, Congress and agencies have loudly promised to deploy a visa overstay system."

LAPD Chief Tells Senate Democrats That Random Immigration Enforcement Hurts Public Safety.

The Los Angeles Times (7/13, Wire, 4.57M) reports in a brief item that Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck said at the Senate Democrats' weekly luncheon "that increased random enforcement of immigration laws has caused fewer people to call 911, report crimes, and come forward as witnesses." Beck, who was invited to address the Democrats by Sen. Kamala Harris, said "It makes all of us less safe when that social contract we have between each other breaks down, and that's what this does."

Christie Vetoes Bill Aimed At Barring Port Authority From Enforcing Trump Travel Ban.

NJ News (7/13, Johnson, 1.16M) reports that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) on Thursday "vetoed a bill that would prohibit the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey from enforcing President Donald Trump's controversial travel ban." Christie, who denounced the bill "as a 'political stunt,'" had been "expected to reject the Democratic-backed measure (S3006/A4589), which would have blocked employees at the bi-state agency from helping enforce Trump's executive order and prohibit the use of agency resources and facilities to do so." NJ News adds, "Both houses of the New Jersey Legislature...passed the Port Authority measure mostly along party lines earlier this year. Democrats make up the majority of both chambers."

Judge Orders ICE To Provide Information On Detained Iraqis.

The [Detroit News](#) (7/13, Kozlowski, 747K) reports that US District Judge Mark Goldsmith has ordered ICE "to provide the names, locations and other information about detained Iraqi nationals to attorneys working to stop them from getting deported to a land where they might face torture or death." The order "came at a hearing as a temporary stay is set to expire July 24 for 1,400 Iraqi nationals across the country facing deportation." Acting ICE Director Thomas Homan said in a statement, "I am disappointed that the court's decision fails to take into account the robust and already-existing procedural process to address petitioners' claims as well as the clear public safety threat posed by these aliens – the vast majority of whom are convicted criminals."

Christian Refugee Admissions Top Those Of Muslims So Far This Year.

[Breitbart](#) (7/13, Binder, 2.16M) reports under the headline "More Christian Refugees Arriving Under Trump Than Muslims" that since President Trump took office, "nearly 9,600 refugees who are affiliated with the Christian faith have been resettled in the US" – about one-half of the total – compared with 7,250 Muslim refugees, or about 38 percent of all admissions.

Congolese Refugee Family Settles In Arkansas. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Jordan, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) has a profile of a refugee family from the Democratic Republic of Congo that has been settled in Arkansas. The Mwenda family was "one of the last refugee families without close relations in the country to be allowed in before President Trump's moratorium took effect."

Somali-Born Couple Suing US Over Border Incident In 2015.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Hauslohner, 12.92M) reports that Abdisalam Wilwal and Sagal Abdigani, a Somali couple who have resided in the US for 17 years, are suing the federal government for detaining them and their four children for nearly 11 hours at the US border with Canada on their way back home to Minnesota in March 2015. They allege that after they handed over their documents, "border officials emerged from their office, guns drawn and pointed at the family." The ACLU "contends that the ordeal occurred because Wilwal had been placed – unbeknownst to him, and for no apparent reason – on the secretive watch list, a database that includes records on approximately one million people." The family says that CBP officers "kept Wilwal handcuffed and secluded for more than 10 hours, even after he fainted and required medical attention," and "accused Wilwal of being a terrorist, asked him whether he was Muslim, and denied him access to food."

Trump Asks Sessions To Issue Guidance On Religious Protections For Federal Agencies.

[The Hill](#) (7/13, Greenwood, 1.61M) reports President Trump has directed Attorney General Sessions to issue to government agencies new guidance for interpreting federal religious liberty protections. The Attorney General revealed the directive Tuesday in a speech to "the conservative Christian legal group Alliance Defending Freedom."

ABC, NBC Label Christian Group A "Hate Group." [The Federalist](#) (7/13, Hemingway, 109K) reports ABC News' Pete Madden and Erin Galloway "smeared Christians who believe the Bill of Rights secures religious liberty" as a "hate group," in an article this week headlined, "Jeff Sessions Addresses 'Anti-LGBT Hate Group,' But DOJ Won't Release His Remarks." The story read: "Attorney General Jeff Sessions delivered a speech to an alleged hate group at an event closed to reporters on Tuesday night, but the Department of Justice is refusing to reveal what he said." [Townhall](#) (7/13, Barkoukis, 450K) reports that both ABC and NBC News described the Alliance Defending Freedom as a "hate group" in headlines this week after Sessions addressed the group. NBC's headline read: "Attorney General Jeff Sessions Criticized for Speaking to 'Hate Group.'"

House To Act On Bipartisan Measure To Expand GI Bill.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Yen) reports House Republicans and Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday "that would provide the biggest expansion of college aid for military veterans in a decade, removing a 15-year time limit to tap into benefits and increasing money for thousands in the National Guard and Reserve." Rep. Phil Roe, chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, said he would schedule a committee vote next week. The

bipartisan measure represents "a sweeping effort to fill coverage gaps in the post-9/11 GI Bill amid a rapidly changing job market."

Ryan Signals Openness To August Recess Delay.

Roll Call (7/13, Rahman, 91K) reports House Speaker Ryan said Thursday "if the Senate delivers a health care bill before the summer is over, he'd be open to joining Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell in keeping his chamber in during at least part of the August recess." Ryan told reporters that if the Senate produces a health care bill, "we're going to stay and finish health care."

Ryan Reviewing House Dress Code. The CBS Evening News (7/13, story 13, 0:30, Mason, 11.17M) reported briefly that House Speaker Ryan said Thursday "he's looking at modernizing the century's old dress code" in the chamber. Said Ryan, "A dress code in the chamber, in the lobby makes sense, but we also don't need to bar otherwise accepted contemporary business attire. So look for a change on that soon."

Bannon Incorrectly Reported Mortgage Debt On Disclosure Form.

The Washington Examiner (7/13, Phillips, 403K) reports that Steve Bannon "incorrectly reported \$2 million in mortgage debt in his White House financial disclosure form," according to the Center for Public Integrity. Rather than "stating the creditors for the four home loans he reported," Banno "wrote 'HOME LOAN' on each line. ... Disclosure of creditors is essential to ensure government officials are not receiving preferential treatment from banks."

Kobach Discusses "Left-Wing Efforts To Obstruct" Trump Voter Commission.

Under the headline "The Left Is Outraged Bipartisan Group Dares To Investigate Voter Fraud," John Hayward wrote at Breitbart (7/13, Hayward, 2.16M) reported that Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach, vice chairman of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, on Thursday spoke with Breitbart News Daily about "left-wing efforts to obstruct his commission." Kobach pointed to lawsuits filed by the ACLU, the Lawyers Committee on Human Rights, and "a couple of other left-wing" groups, saying, "They are literally seeking to stop the commission. Two of the lawsuits are trying to prevent the first meeting on Wednesday from occurring." Kobach added, "These lawsuits are intended to stop the gathering of data and stop the meeting of the commission. It does make you think that some people out there don't want us to see what amount of voter fraud there is."

Scalise's Condition Upgraded To Fair After Undergoing Surgery To Treat Infection.

Roll Call (7/13, McPherson, 91K) reported that House Majority Whip Steve Scalise's "condition was upgraded to fair after he underwent surgery Thursday to manage a deep tissue infection he developed from his bullet wounds after being shot last month during Republicans' congressional baseball practice." In a statement, MedStar Washington Hospital said that Scalise on Thursday "underwent surgery for the management of deep tissue infection related to his bullet wounds. He is in fair condition, and will require careful monitoring to see if and when further interventions are necessary."

WTimes Analysis: Lawmakers "Quickly" Break Vows To Tone Down

Rhetoric. Under the headline "With Scalise Still On The Mend, Lawmakers Break Promises Of Toning Down Partisan Rhetoric," the Washington Times (7/13, Sherfinski, 458K) reports that in the month since the shooting spree at the congressional GOP baseball practice spurred "promises to turn down the partisan rhetorical thermostat," those pledges "have quickly faded. Instead, those on both sides of the aisle are back at it, insulting each other, questioning their motives and intelligence – and in the case of one Democrat, even suggesting that President Trump could be guilty of treason, a crime punishable by execution."

FEC: Congressional Members Can Use Campaign Funds For Home Security.

The New York Times (7/13, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that leaders in Congress, "shaken by last month's shooting at a Republican congressional baseball practice and a spike in threats to their members, want to be able to use campaign funds to tighten lawmakers' home security." On Thursday,

the Federal Election Commission said "that given the threats, it would approve that use, so long as the improvements were 'nonstructural.'" The FEC "unanimously authorized the use of campaign funds to pay for only the installation or upgrade, and the monitoring costs, of cameras, sensors, distress devices and similar security devices in and around lawmakers' residences. Lawmakers will be required to report those expenses to the" FEC, "but it did not set a cap on how much a lawmaker could spend on the security systems."

24 House Republicans Join Democrats To Kill Ban On DOD-Funded Sex Change Surgeries.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Scarborough, 458K) reports 24 House Republicans "broke with their pro-defense brethren" yesterday when they helped Democrats kill an amendment to the annual National Defense Authorization Act that would have prohibited the military from funding transgender sex reassignment surgeries and hormone therapies. The Times says the move "means the military health care system will be called on to provide such surgeries as routine treatments for the first time, unless the Trump administration changes Obama-era policies that allow transgender troops to remain on duty." Rep. Vicky Hartzler, who brought the amendment, said the amendment "does not prevent anyone from joining the military or receiving standard medical care." Rather, it "makes sure our defense resources are allocated in a way that is smart and good for our national defense."

NYTimes Analysis: Yellen "Carefully Conciliatory" On Regulatory Concerns At Senate Hearing.

Though the stated purpose of Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen's testimony before the Senate Banking Committee yesterday was monetary policy, the [New York Times](#) (7/13, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the session "was devoted mostly to regulatory issues," which is indicative of lawmakers' confidence in the strength of the American economy. In response to Democrats' request that she affirm the importance of regulations imposed on financial institutions since the 2008 crisis, Yellen "made it clear that she was proud of her work" and said that some Trump-era rollbacks might increase the chances of a new crisis. Still, she was "carefully conciliatory," agreeing to a certain extent with Republicans' insistence that some rules might be too strict and expressing a willingness to consider changes. Yellen also reaffirmed her support for deregulating community banks, an issue with bipartisan support, "though," the Times says, "specifics are hard to come by."

US Stocks Rise Slightly, With Financials Leading Ahead Of Profit Reports.

[Reuters](#) (7/13) reports US stock markets had "slight gains" yesterday, with financials rising ahead of profit reports due today from many large American banks. Indeed, the financial index outperformed the other 10 major S&P sectors, finishing up 0.61 percent. The Dow Jones Industrial Average posted another record-high close, increasing 0.1 percent to 21,553.09. The S&P 500 likewise rose, increasing 0.19 percent to 2,447.86, and the Nasdaq Composite added 0.21 percent, reaching 6,274.44. Reuters says the S&P 500 healthcare rose just 0.09 percent, "barely moving" in reaction to Senate-Majority Leader McConnell introducing a revised healthcare bill.

NOAA: Climate-Warming Gases Spiked In 2016 Due To Strong El Niño Weather Pattern.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Friedman, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released the Annual Greenhouse Gas Index this week, reporting that emissions rose more quickly last year than they have in almost two decades – a phenomenon scientists attribute partly to a strong El Niño weather pattern. The index also shows that global greenhouse gas emissions that lead to warming rose 40 percent between 1990 and 2016, "a significant measure of man's influence on the climate," says the Times. In a "notable shift" from Obama-era releases of indices, this year's "does not directly link human activity to emissions." NOAA officials explained that while "the role of greenhouse gases on influencing global temperatures is well understood by scientists," it's "a complicated topic that can be difficult to communicate."

Brown "Scrambling" For Bipartisan Support To Extend California's Cap-

And-Trade Program.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, Dillon, Mason, 4.57M) reports California Gov. Jerry Brown testified before the state Senate Environmental Quality Committee yesterday morning, "warning...of threats to human existence and American democracy" if lawmakers don't pass climate-change legislation scheduled for a vote on Monday. Speaking to the crowd, Brown, 79, said, "You're going to be alive in a horrible situation. This isn't for me, I'm going to be dead. This is for you, and it's real!" Brown framed California as a world leader in the fight against global warming, contrasting the state's position with the federal government's. Yesterday was the first public hearing for the legislation – which needs a two-thirds vote to withstand legal challenges – that proposes extending the state's cap-and-trade program through 2030 and strengthening its air quality rules.

According to the [AP](#) (7/13, Cooper), Brown "is scrambling to line up support for his plan in the face of opposition from conservatives who warn about costs and liberals who say it doesn't do enough to protect the environment and clean dirty air." Though the bill includes a repeal of the fire prevention fee and tax exemptions for power companies, all Assembly Republicans and 11 of 13 Senate Republicans said yesterday that they opposed the measure because it lacks sufficient tax cuts and regulatory relief. Meanwhile, "environmental justice" advocates insist that concessions Brown made to the oil industry will take too much of a toll on the environment.

WSJournal: GOP Support For Brown's Bill Would Ensure Permanent Superminority.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) editorializes that if Republicans go along with Brown's current plan to extend cap and trade, they will relieve pressure from Democrats in low-income districts that face competitive reelection races. These Democrats are reluctant to extend the program after voting earlier this year to raise gas taxes and impose a new vehicle registration fee, policies that already will strain the finances of manufacturers, oil refiners, and food processors – major employers in low-income areas.

Brzezinski, Scarborough Trashing Trump During Public Appearances.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Hesse, 12.92M) reports that MSNBC "Morning Joe" co-hosts Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough, who have been engaged in a public war of words with President Trump, "continued riding their fame wave on Tuesday night by appearing at the National Archives in Washington," followed by a Wednesday appearance at Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics. The Post says the pair, during a Tuesday appearance on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert," were "perfectly content to lob casual insults and anecdotes that made" Trump "look like a boundary-challenged middle school weirdo." The two, adds the Post, "offer a preview of what the lecture circuit will look like in the frenzied months after Trump's administration ends: gaggles of politicians and talking heads who used to be in Trump's circle, now racing for the nearest podium to share just how crazy it all was."

Study: In Final Weeks Of 2016 Race, Trump Held Edge Over Clinton On Twitter.

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Rossman, 10.05M) reports that a University of Edinburgh "study of viral tweets in the run-up to the presidential election showed posts favoring" Donald Trump "nearly doubled that of challenger Hillary Clinton, who was three times as likely to be criticized than praised on Twitter in the campaign's final days." Researchers at the university "analyzed the 50 most viral election tweets for each of the final 68 days of the 2016 presidential campaign – Sept. 1 through Nov. 8" – dividing "the tweets into pro-Clinton and pro-Trump categories and" examining "the use of slogans, mentions of swing states and the credibility of linked news sources. Nearly two-thirds of the 3,450 viral tweets – which were retweeted about 26 million times – either attacked Clinton (39%) or supported Trump (23%). The other third either supported Clinton (14%) or attacked Trump (19%)."

Brooks, Strange Battling Over Loyalty To Trump In Special Election.

In a report on this year's special election for the seat currently held by appointed Sen. Luther Strange (R-AL), [Roll Call](#) (7/13, Pathé, 91K) said that while President Trump "may be embroiled in scandal in" the nation's Capital, "in Alabama – a state he won by nearly 30 points last fall – he remains extremely popular." Consequently, Strange and one of his top GOP primary foes, Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL) – "with their supporters'

help – are trying to outdo each other in expressing loyalty to the president.” Roll Call said that the Senate Leadership Fund, a super PAC aligned with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R), is out with a TV ad accusing Brooks “of siding with Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi against Trump.” Brooks, meanwhile, recently “released a digital ad (which he said will go on TV), expressing his commitment to building Trump’s wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.”

Freedom Caucus Chair Meadows Warns McConnell Over Ad Attacking

Brooks. The Hill (7/13, Wong, 1.61M) reported that House Freedom Caucus Chairman Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC), a “conservative firebrand credited with pressuring then-Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) to resign in 2015,” on Thursday warned Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell “and his establishment allies.” Speaking with reporters, Meadows said, “Anytime leadership goes after Freedom Caucus members, it’s not the prudent thing to do.” Meadows was commenting on the SLF ad attacking Brooks – a member of the Freedom Caucus – “as a ‘career politician’ who has teamed up with liberals Nancy Pelosi and Elizabeth Warren in attacking President Trump.” Meadows “suggested the SLF is attacking Brooks so aggressively in ads and press releases because the congressman is rising in the polls. ‘Of course he’s a viable candidate. I think he wins,’ Meadows predicted.”

Trump Supporter Stewart Vows To Run “Vicious, Ruthless Campaign” Against Kaine.

Reuters (7/13, Simpson) reports that Prince William County Supervisor Corey Stewart (R-VA), a “blunt-speaking supporter of President Donald Trump,” on Thursday announced a 2018 challenge to Sen. Tim Kaine (D), vowing “a ‘vicious, ruthless campaign.’” Speaking with reporters, Stewart – who earlier this year narrowly lost to ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie (R) in Virginia’s GOP gubernatorial primary, said, “I’m going to run the most vicious, ruthless campaign to dethrone Tim Kaine in the United States Senate. It’s time that Republicans take back that seat.” During his bid for governor, Stewart “ran on a campaign that featured Confederate flags at rallies, calls for deportation of illegal immigrants and disdain for the Republican establishment.”

On its website, CNN (7/13, Hauck, Stark, 44.83M) reported that Stewart, who suffered a one-point loss to Gillespie, “cited the closeness of the gubernatorial race as his motivation for pursuing the Senate seat. He said the Republican Party has been fighting a ‘UFC fight’ to improve the economy and added that he wants to ‘get back in the ring.’ ‘There’s an appetite for a Republican fighter. They’re looking for a vicious, ruthless, Republican, conservative fighter,’ Stewart said.”

Under the headline “Stewart Challenges Kaine And GOP With Virginia Senate Run,” Politico (7/13, Robillard, 2.97M) reported that in announcing his challenge to Kaine, Stewart also “cast his campaign as a challenge to the rest of the” GOP, portraying “his combative, Trump-inspired style as the future of the Republican Party. ‘The era of the kinder, gentler Republican is over,’ Stewart said.” He “also reserved plenty of rancor for Kaine, Hillary Clinton’s vice presidential running mate in 2016. ‘As an obedient servant to Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, Tim Kaine is the leading obstructionist against Trump’s America First agenda,’ Stewart said.”

Under the headline “Confederacy-Loving Republican To Challenge Tim Kaine For Virginia Senate Seat,” the Huffington Post (7/13, Marans, 6.63M) described Stewart as “a right-wing rabble-rouser who claims he was ‘Trump before Trump was Trump,’” saying that that his gubernatorial campaign centered around “protect[ing] Virginia’s Confederate monuments and crack[ing] down on illegal immigration.” In a brief analysis for National Journal (7/13, Trygstad, Subscription Publication, 35K), Kyle Trygstad said, “There is no separating Stewart from...Trump, and after nearly six months in the White House that is a dangerous starting point for next year’s midterms in one of the only states where Clinton improved on President Obama’s 2012 margin.” Roll Call (7/13, Pathé, 91K) reported, “Inside Elections with Nathan L. Gonzales rates the race Likely Democratic.”

Stewart’s Run May “Complicate” Gillespie’s 2017 Bid. The Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch (7/13, Wilson, 338K) reports that Stewart’s announcement may “complicate” Gillespie’s 2017 bid to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D). One day before announcing his run, Stewart told the Washington Post that “Gillespie should ‘maybe take some testosterone supplements and just get out there and start beating the hell out of’” out of his rival, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D-VA). John Fredericks, “a radio show host and political analyst,” told the Times-Dispatch, “Stewart’s entrance into the Senate race and his active campaigning puts pressure on Gillespie from a stylistic standpoint. Republicans are going to see Corey

absolutely going ballistic on Tim Kaine and being very forceful, and Ed's style is very different than that."

Stabenow Raises \$2.1M In Second Quarter, Has \$5.8M In Campaign Warchest.

The [Detroit News](#) (7/13, Burke, 747K) reports that Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) on Thursday announced that she raised "\$2.1 million in the second quarter and has \$5.8 million on hand in her bid for re-election next year." Lena Epstein (R), who was co-chair of President Trump's Michigan campaign, "said Thursday she had raised more than \$460,000 in the five weeks since announcing her campaign May 22. She had more than \$455,000 on hand on June 30."

Kid Rock Says His Potential 2018 Bid "Not A Hoax." The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Perez, 3.2M) reports that Kid Rock "says he isn't kidding around when it comes to his" potential 2018 challenge to Stabenow, "amid widespread speculation that his political aspirations were a publicity stunt. Several media outlets have called Rock out for not yet registering to run in Michigan's upcoming Republican primaries, and have pointed out how the website attached to his campaign appeared to be registered by Warner Bros. music label." In a Thursday post on his website, Rock wrote, "Once again the press is wrong. First of all, I've got 15 days from my announcement to file paperwork with the FEC! Second, I'm not signed to Warner Bros!!! - which simple fact-checking would have revealed." Rock added, "Like politicians write books during their campaigns, I'm planning on putting out music during mine and IT ALL STARTS TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT. It's not a hoax, it's a strategy and marketing 101!"

Manchin Raises Over \$1.4M In Q2, Has Nearly \$3.5M Banked For 2018 Race.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports that Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) on Thursday announced that he "raised more than \$1.4 million in the most recent quarter and has nearly \$3.5 million on hand" for his 2018 reelection race. [Politico](#) (7/13, Schor, 2.97M) reported that Manchin's Q2 haul "more than doubles the \$552,000 he took in during the first" quarter. Unemployed miner Bo Copley (R), Rep. Evan Jenkins (R-WV), and state Attorney General Patrick Morrisey (R-WV) are running in the GOP primary. [The Hill](#) (7/13, Savransky, 1.61M) reported that Manchin "is considered one of the more vulnerable Democratic senators as President Trump won his state by a large margin."

Democrat O'Rourke Bests Cruz In Q2 Fundraising, But Trails In Cash On Hand.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports that Rep. Beto O'Rourke (D-TX), who is mounting a 2018 challenge to Sen. Ted Cruz, "outraised" the GOP incumbent during the second quarter of this year. O'Rourke on Thursday announced that he raised "more than \$2 million" in Q2, ending the period with "nearly \$1.9 million" cash on hand. Cruz spokeswoman Catherine Frazier "said Cruz raised \$1.6 million in 2017's second quarter, and had \$5.7 million in cash on-hand."

The [Texas Tribune](#) (7/13, Livingston, 15K) reports that O'Rourke's Q2 take "surpassed the fundraising of some US Senate Democratic incumbents in other states who are the subject of major party pushes to hold their seats in 2018." The [Dallas Morning News](#) (7/13, Kelly, 894K) reports that O'Rourke's "bid is considered a long shot because reliably GOP Texas hasn't had a Democratic senator since 1994, and although he has raised funds quickly since announcing his candidacy, O'Rourke had only \$535,000 in campaign funds at the end of March - then one-tenth of Cruz's war chest."

"ZodiacPAC" Seizes On "Viral Meme" To Target Cruz. Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (7/13, Thomsen, 1.61M) reported that a new PAC targeting Cruz "is taking advantage of the viral meme alleging that the senator is the Zodiac Killer, who has never been identified. The founders of 'ZodiacPAC' say they're creating the group to oppose Cruz and other conservative politicians in Texas who they say don't represent their values." The PAC acknowledges "it doesn't actually believe that Cruz is the Zodiac Killer - who murdered at least five people in Northern California in the late 1960s - but that the meme is an opportunity for them to highlight Cruz's qualities and stances. 'The zodiac meme is like a political cartoon for the digital age,' the PAC's website reads. 'It's outlandish, but it highlights Ted Cruz's fundamental meanness - someone who cares more about his own ambition and fame than the people of Texas.'"

Warren Raises \$3.5M In Q2, Has Over \$11M Cash On Hand.

The [Boston Globe](#) (7/13, McGrane, 1.06M) reports that Sen. Elizabeth Warren "continued on her fund-raising tear for the second quarter, building up her 2018 war chest to more than \$11 million." Warren raised "\$3.5 million in" Q2. The [AP](#) (7/13) reported that Warren's Q2 fundraising haul "was lower than in the" first quarter, when "she reported more than \$5.2 million in donations. Yet with more than \$11 million in her campaign account at the close of the second quarter, Warren is likely to enjoy a formidable cash advantage over Republican challengers." [Politico](#) (7/13, Dezenski, 2.97M) reported, "Of the \$3.45 million Warren raised" In Q1, "98 percent came from donations of \$100 and under – the same small-dollar percentage she saw during her record first quarter fundraising."

GOP State Rep. Diehl To Launch Challenge To Warren On Aug. 1. Meanwhile, the [Boston Herald](#) (7/13, Dowling, 436K) reports that state Rep. Geoff Diehl (R-MA) "is finally ready to announce he's officially running against" Warren. Speaking on Wednesday with the Herald, Diehl, who has been exploring a bid, said that he plans to enter "the race full time" on Aug. 1. Diehl, "co-chairman of Donald Trump's presidential campaign in Massachusetts," will join entrepreneur Shiva Ayyadurai (R) in the GOP primary.

[Roll Call](#) (7/13, Stewart, 91K) reported that Diehl "seems to be replicating some of Trump's campaign slogans, with a section on his website titled, 'Put Massachusetts First.' The description says Diehl will 'travel the Commonwealth to work with you and make Massachusetts great again.'"

AP Exclusive: Democrat Donnelly Criticizes Outsourcing, But Profits From Practice.

In an exclusive, the [AP](#) (7/13, Slodysko) reports that Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-IN), "who railed against Carrier Corp. for moving manufacturing jobs to Mexico" in 2016, "profits from a family business that relies on Mexican labor to produce its products." According to congressional records, says the AP, Donnelly "holds up to \$50,000 in stock with Stewart Superior Corp., an arts and crafts company that has been in his family for generations. Records show the company participates in a Mexican government program that allows companies to avoid some taxes and import duties on goods they manufacture in the country." Donnelly is facing what's expected to be a competitive reelection race next year.

Drawing from the AP dispatch, [The Hill](#) (7/13, Greenwood, 1.61M) reported, "Donnelly's brother runs Stewart Superior, though the" senator "served as a corporate officer and general counsel for the company before being elected to Congress in 2006. Donnelly's financial disclosures show that he still owns as much as \$50,000 in company stock and earned between \$15,001 and \$50,000 in dividends in 2016, according to the AP. That means that the senator has profited from some of the very policies that he has spoken out against."

Aided By Trump, MacArthur Raises \$1.13M In Second Quarter.

The [New York Observer](#) (7/13, Rizzo, 344K) reported that Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-NJ) "raised \$1.13 million in the second quarter for his campaign and PAC, his staff announced Thursday. Much of that came from a fundraiser with President Trump last month that pulled in more than \$800,000." MacArthur "raised \$354,251 for his campaign in the second quarter and had \$377,679 on hand as of June 30. The congressman's PAC, MacArthur Victory, raised \$776,350 in the three-month period and had \$548,806 as of June 30. He also has the ability to self-fund; MacArthur spent around \$5 million of his money on his first campaign."

With Trump In White House, Democratic Candidates Flock To Congressional Races.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Suderman) reports, "Virginia Democrats energized by opposition to President Donald Trump are lining up to run for Congress." State Democratic Party chief Susan Swecker "said there's been little need for actively recruiting candidates, unlike past election cycles. 'We've seen nothing before like what we're seeing now,' Swecker said." The AP says, "In the 2014 mid-term elections, Democrats didn't field challengers in some Republican-leaning districts and there was little competition among Democrats to run in other districts. This year, primaries are likely in several districts and Swecker said every Republican-held district will get a Democratic challenger." As one example, the AP says that "seven Democrats" are vying to take on Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA), whose "swing district favored [Hillary] Clinton by 10 percentage points though

Comstock easily" won reelection last year.

Ryan Has \$11.5M Banked For Reelection Race.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports House Speaker Ryan "finished the first half of 2017 with \$11.15 million on hand," after raising "\$3.4 million during the first six months of the year."

McClatchy: Ryan Challenger Bruce "Progressive Left's Newest Celebrity Candidate." Meanwhile, [McClatchy](#) (7/13, Roarty, 95K) profiles Paul's most prominent 2018 challenger, "former iron worker" Randy Bryce (D), who "spent this winter installing windows hundreds of feet up in the freezing air, helping to finish a Milwaukee skyscraper. Now, he's the progressive left's newest celebrity candidate as he vows to give...Ryan his toughest re-election test in nearly twenty years." Bryce's "unconventional profile – he calls himself 'IronStache' on Twitter – has helped make him a star among liberals, who in turn have contributed to his campaign coffers en masse. He's raised more than a half-million dollars in less than a month, his campaign says, from more than 20,000 donors."

Rauner's 2018 Reelection Race May Be Priciest Statewide Contest In US History.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Korecki, Isenstadt, 2.97M) reported that Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner's (R) 2018 reelection race "is on pace to be the most expensive statewide election in US history, a spending bonanza expected to cost more than a quarter-billion dollars next year." Several local and national "party officials think the contest might run well in excess of \$300 million, blowing away the current record-holder for statewide office – the \$280 million California governor's race between former eBay executive Meg Whitman and Jerry Brown in 2010." Candidates "on both sides have already raised upward of \$90 million." A number of candidates are running, but the contest features "two self-funders": billionaire J.B. Pritzker (D), "among the wealthiest individuals in the world and the...multimillionaire...Rauner."

Sanders Endorses Jealous' Bid To Oust Maryland Gov Hogan.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Wiggins, Hicks, 12.92M) reports that Sen. Bernie Sanders on Thursday endorsed ex-NAACP chief Ben Jealous' (D) 2018 bid to oust Gov. Larry Hogan (D-MD). During a campaign event in Silver Spring, Maryland, Sanders said that with President Trump now commander in chief, "we need more than ever, at the statewide level, a very different kind of leadership," adding, "And what Ben Jealous is about, he has a radical idea that maybe, just maybe, government should represent all of the people and not just the one percent." Jealous is battling several other candidates in the Democratic primary.

[The Hill](#) (7/13, Kamisar, 1.61M) report that Jealous, meanwhile, "cast Hogan as a tool for Trump's agenda. 'We are gathered today on Trump's doorstep to let him know we are going to get rid of his doormat,' he said." The Hill added that Sanders' "decision to back Jealous had been expected – Jealous serves on the board of Our Revolution, the Sanders-backed political group that sponsored the endorsement event."

Two Ex-House Aides Indicted For Sharing Nude Footage Of Congresswoman.

The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Perez, 3.2M) reports, "Two former staff members of Congress were indicted Thursday in connection to a cyberstalking case that involved sharing nude photos and videos of a female lawmaker and her husband on Facebook. Juan R. McCullum, 35, and Dorene Browne-Louis, 45, were busted after pictures were circulated last year of a House...member identified simply as 'Delegate S.P.' according to prosecutors. The pair had been employed by Rep. Stacey Plaskett — a Democrat from the Virgin Islands who claimed to have been hacked last summer. Her office confirmed to US News & World Report on Thursday night that she was, in fact, the aforementioned victim." The Post says, "On Tuesday, McCullum was finally indicted by a grand jury on two counts of cyberstalking," while "Browne-Lewis was slapped with two counts of obstruction of justice."

Federal Appeals Court Overturns Conviction Of Former New York Lawmaker.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Weiser, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that a three-judge panel of the

2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan on Thursday "overturned the 2015 corruption conviction of Sheldon Silver, once the powerful speaker of the New York State Assembly, saying the judge's jury instructions were in error in light of a United States Supreme Court decision that has since narrowed the legal definition of corruption." Silver was convicted "on charges that he had obtained nearly \$4 million in illicit payments in return for taking a series of official actions that benefited others," but in the jury instructions, "the judge's explanation of an official action was too broad, the appeals court found, because it swept in some conduct that the Supreme Court's decision would now exclude." According to the Times, federal prosecutors "quickly vowed to retry the case, noting that the appeals court said that the evidence against Mr. Silver was legally sufficient to support a conviction."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Zapotosky, 12.92M) reports that legal analysts said the appeals court decision "shows how public corruption cases have become much more difficult to substantiate in the wake of a Supreme Court decision narrowing what qualifies as corruption." In its decision, the court "wrote that while prosecutors had presented enough evidence to justify Silver's convictions, jurors had been wrongly instructed on the action Silver would have to take to make his conduct count as criminal public corruption." The judges "cited the Supreme Court's decision in the case of former Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell, who also had his convictions vacated in such a way that lawyers have long warned could have wide implications for others suspected of public corruption."

Video Shows Florida Police Officer Pulling Over State Attorney.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Mele, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports on "the polite but somewhat awkward exchange" that happened during a traffic stop on June 19 between an Orlando, FL police officer and Aramis D. Ayala, "who is the state attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Florida and chief prosecutor in Orlando." According to footage from a body camera worn by the officer, the officer tells Ayala "that her license plate 'didn't come back to anything' after he checked it on a computer." When Ayala asked why her license plate had been checked in the first place, "the officer, said: 'Oh, we run tags all the time. Whether it's a traffic light and that sort of stuff.'" He then added: "Also, the windows are really dark." According to the Times, "at the mention of the dark windows, Ms. Ayala, who is black, smiled slightly." Ayala said in a statement released on Wednesday, "To be clear, I violated no laws."

President Carter Hospitalized For Dehydration.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (7/13, story 10, 0:25, Holt, 16.61M) reported former President Jimmy Carter "suffered a health scare" yesterday "when he collapsed while helping build a Habitat for Humanity home in Canada." According to the [New York Times](#) (7/13, Blinder, Subscription Publication, 14.49M), the Carter Center, his nonprofit, said in a statement that he was hospitalized "as a precaution," with Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford adding later that he "was dehydrated working in the hot sun."

White House Intruder Who Roamed Grounds For 17 Minutes Pleads Guilty.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Hsu, 12.92M) reports Jonathan Tran, who breached the White House grounds and roamed free for almost 17 minutes on March 10, pleaded guilty yesterday to one count of knowingly entering and remaining on restricted grounds. Tran faces sentencing September 25 before US District Judge James Boasberg over an incident "that led to renewed criticism of the US Secret Service and further restrictions on public access to areas around the presidential residence." The plea agreement recommends that Tran be barred from entering the District of Columbia while under any period of probation and that he be required to meet with the Secret Service to determine potential risks. He could face up to six months in prison.

WPost's McGregor Disagrees With Pence Describing Trump As Humble.

In a piece titled "Pence Told High-school Students Good Leaders Are Humble. Then He Praised Trump," Jena McGregor wrote on the website of the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, McGregor, 12.92M), "So much for that speculation about Vice President Mike Pence distancing himself from President Trump amid the uproar over Trump Jr.'s Russia emails." Speaking Wednesday at American University, the Vice President, "who called those news reports 'offensive,' delivered a speech that was dripping with adulation for his boss," holding "up Trump

as an example when he talked about the importance of humility in leaders. 'Our president, he leads by asking questions and he listens,' Pence" said, adding, "And I believe that reflects the kind of humility that will enhance your ability to be a leader." McGregor asserts, "Trump may be many things, but humble is not one of them."

WPost's Long: Trump Economic Team Making Mistake With "Concrete" Growth Promise.

Heather Long writes in the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M) "Wonkblog" that in his Wall Street Journal op-ed announcing President Trump's "MAGAnomics" policy, OMB Director Mulvaney "gave a rehash of what Trump has been saying since he announced his run for president," but in promising three percent annual growth, "the architects of MAGAnomics are making the same error that the masterminds of Obamanomics made: They're promising far more than they are likely to deliver." Long writes, "Trump's team should have learned from Obama: Be careful with concrete economic promises."

AEI Fellow: Trump Should Withdraw US From G-20's Financial Stability Board.

In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 6.99M), American Enterprise Institute Senior Fellow in Financial Policy Studies Peter J. Wallison writes that President Trump's decision last week during the G-20 summit to sign on to a communiqué that praises the G-20 Financial Stability Board's progress in regulating global finance was inconsistent with the President's promises to deregulate the financial system. Wallison argues that the FSB, in conjunction with the regulatory structure established under the Dodd-Frank Act, could usher in more stringent financial regulations in the US. He concludes that the President, if he still desires greater financial deregulation, should withdraw the US from the FSB and should restrict the Financial Stability Oversight Council created by Dodd-Frank to act solely as a consultative entity without regulatory power.

National Review: Oregon's New Abortion Bill "Aggressive" And "Radical."

In an editorial, the [National Review](#) (7/13, 754K) writes that Oregon's House Bill 3391-B – the bill recently passed by the state's legislature that requires insurers to provide abortion coverage – is "especially aggressive," "grisly," and "radical," even compared to other state laws mandating some degree of abortion coverage. The legislation "does not exclude grisly late-term abortions (which take place long after the fetus can survive outside the womb), nor does it prohibit sex-selective abortions." National Review argues that the bill also narrows exemption language and that "In order to qualify for an exemption from the mandate, an employer must be a nonprofit whose purpose is 'the inculcation of religious values,' and it must primarily employ and serve people who share the employer's religious tenets."

NYTimes: Overturning Of Silver's Conviction Does Not Exonerate Him.

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Board, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) says in an editorial that when a federal appeals court overturned the corruption conviction of former New York legislative leader Sheldon Silver, "the judges did not find Mr. Silver to be a blameless man who'd been wronged," but instead acted because of a 2016 US Supreme Court ruling that "narrowed the definition of what types of official misconduct could sustain a corruption prosecution." The judges "flatly rejected" Silver's arguments "that there wasn't sufficient evidence to find him guilty of taking nearly \$4 million in illicit payments."

WPost: DC Metro Shouldn't Sell Naming Rights For Stations.

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 12.92M) writes that the DC Metro Board Finance Committee's recent proposal to seek corporate sponsorship for certain stations as one option to raise revenue for the DC metro system should not be adopted. Although the Post notes that other transit systems have generated "millions of dollars selling the opportunity to name stations," it adds, "It is hard to imagine...how the system would avoid controversy if iconic names such as L'Enfant Plaza or Metro Center were muddled with corporate logos." Instead of selling naming rights, the Post argues, "Congress and the system's regional partners need to establish a dedicated revenue stream for Metro."

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[New Senate Health Bill Aims To Bridge GOP Gaps, But Resistance Remains](#)
[Vanguard CEO McNabb To Step Down](#)
[A Shipping Company's Bizarre Stock Maneuvers Create High Seas Intrigue](#)
[Uber Merges Russian Arm With Yandex, Taxi](#)

New York Times:

[Senate Republicans Unveil New Health Bill, But Divisions Remain](#)
[Revised Senate Health Bill Tries To Win Votes, But Has Fewer Winners](#)
[Trump Defends His Son And Plays Down Differences With French Leader](#)
[Sheldon Silver's 2015 Corruption Conviction Is Overturned](#)
[A Tide Of Opioid-Dependent Newborns Forces Doctors To Rethink Treatment](#)
[Liu Xiaobo, Chinese Dissident Who Won Nobel While Jailed, Dies At 61](#)
[In Brazil, Political Rivals Face A Common Threat: A Rising Judiciary](#)

Washington Post:

[In Pa., 4 Missing Men, A Grisly Discovery And, Now, An Arrest](#)
[Trump Lawyers Finding He Prefers His Own Advice](#)
[An Empty Chair, And A Life Filled With Peaceful Fury](#)
[Trump's Agenda Threatened By Forecast Of Weak Growth](#)
[Doubts Linger In GOP After Release Of New Health Bill](#)

Financial Times:

[London Reforms Open Door For Saudi Aramco Listing](#)
[China's Best-Known Dissident Liu Xiaobo Dies In Custody](#)
[Goldman Sachs Relaxes Dress Code For Tech Staff](#)
[Trump Calls Son's Russian Meeting 'Standard Politics'](#)

Washington Times:

[Senate Immediately Loses 2 Republican Votes On Revised Obamacare Repeal Bill](#)
[Visiting French President, Trump Publicly Downplays Furor At Home Over Russia Connections](#)
[Horror Of Terror Attack Mutes Bastille Day Celebrations In Nice](#)
[With Scalise Still On The Mend, Lawmakers Break Promises Of Toning Down Partisan Rhetoric](#)
[Russians Have Their Say In FCC's Public Comment Process On Net Neutrality](#)
[Turks Grow Increasingly Restive Over Erdogan's Crackdowns In Year After Coup Attempt](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Russia Meddling Investigation-Trump; Healthcare Reform Bill; Greece-Fatal American Beating; Severe Weather; Weather Forecast; Healthcare Fraud Takedown; Mexico-Mystery American Resort Death; Princess Juliana International Airport-Tourist Death; Time Square Mowing-Trial; Tick-Borne Disease Death; ATM Machine-Man Trapped; Wimbledon Finals; Italian Immigrant Inventor.
CBS: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Russia Meddling Investigation; Russia Meddling Investigation-WH; Trump-Border Wall; Russia Meddling Investigation-Congress; Campus Sexual Assault-Federal Rules; Healthcare Reform Bill; Healthcare Reform Bill-Impact; Social Security Adjustment; Chinese Nobel Laureate Political Prisoner Dies; California-Police Car Chase Rule Change; Severe Weather; House-Dress Code Change; CBS Anchor Centennial Celebration.
NBC: Russia Meddling Investigation-Trump; Russia Meddling Investigation-Kushner; Healthcare Reform Bill; Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Airport Security Change; San Francisco Airport-Close Call; Healthcare Fraud Takedown; Chinese Nobel Laureate Political Prisoner Dies; Princess Juliana International Airport-Tourist

Death; Jimmy Carter-Health Condition; Emmy Awards Nominations; ATM Machine-Man Trapped; Surprise Wedding Proposal.

Network TV At A Glance:

Russia Meddling Investigation – 13 minutes, 45 seconds

Healthcare Reform Bill – 8 minutes, 10 seconds

Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered – 5 minutes, 55 seconds

Healthcare Fraud Takedown – 2 minutes, 25 seconds

Weather – 2 minutes, 20 seconds

Chinese Nobel Laureate Political Prisoner Dies – 1 minute, 5 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Healthcare Reform Bill;

CBS: Healthcare Reform Bill; Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Russia Meddling; Severe Weather; Honda Accord Recall; Rapper-Tax Evasion.

FOX: Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Army Man Terrorism Connection Trial; Trump-France Visit.

NPR: Healthcare Reform Bill; Trump-Border Wall; Russia Meddling; Campus Sexual Assault-Federal Rules;

Philadelphia-Missing Men Murdered; Wall Street News.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participate in the French National Day Parade.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Delivers remarks at the National Governors Association Summer Meeting; .participates in a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada.

US Senate: No public schedule announced.

US House: 9:00 AM House Natural Resources subcommittee legislative hearing – Federal Lands Subcommittee legislative hearing on 'H.R. 873, Global War on Terrorism War Memorial Act', 'H.R. 1547, Udall Park Land Exchange Completion Act', 'H.R. 2582, Confirming State Land Grants for Education Act', and 'H.R. 3115, To provide for a land exchange involving Federal land in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture through the Weeks Law, and for other purposes', with testimony from bipartisan Reps. Richard Nolan, Mia Love, Martha McSally, and Mike Gallagher; Department of the Interior Acting Assistant Director for Energy, Minerals, and Realty Management Tim Spisak; Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation Executive Director Andrew Brennan; Tucson, AZ, City Manager Michael Ortega; and Utah School & Institutional Trust Lands Administration Chief Legal Counsel and Associate Director John Andrews Location: Rm 1324, Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://naturalresources.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/NatResources>

9:00 AM House expected to vote on FY'18 NDAA – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda expected to include completion of consideration of 'H.R. 2810 – National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018' * Administration has said it strongly supports a number of provisions within the bill, saying it 'contains many promising reforms', although notes that it 'fails to authorize a new Base Realignment and Closure round' Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

9:15 AM House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on fixed income market structure – Capital Markets, Securities, and Investment Subcommittee hearing on 'A Review of Fixed Income Market Structure', with testimony from Headlands Technologies founder and CEO Matthew Andresen; Nasdaq Global Head of Fixed Income and Commodities John Shay; T. Rowe Price Vice President and Head of Fixed Income Market Structure and Electronic Trading Alex Sedgwick; former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for the Financial Stability Oversight Council Jonah Crane; and Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Executive Vice President Randy Snook Location: Rm 2128, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://financialservices.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/FinancialCmte>

10:00 AM House Foreign Affairs subcommittee hearing on Liu Xiaobo – Africa, Global Health, Global

Human Rights, and International Organizations Subcommittee hearing on 'The Tragic Case of Liu Xiaobo', with testimony from Initiatives for China President Dr Yang Jianli * Nobel Peace Prize-winning Chinese political prisoner Liu died yesterday from multiple organ failure caused by liver cancer, amid an international call for Chinese authorities to release him for treatment abroad Location: Rm 2172, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://www.hcfa.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HFACrepublicans>

10:00 AM Social Security Subcommittee hearing on 'Social Security's Solvency Challenge: Status of the Social Security Trust Funds' Location: Rm 2020, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://waysandmeans.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/WaysandMeansGOP>

Other: Maverick PAC annual conference – Mavericks Conference 2017, hosted by Maverick PAC. Speakers include Republican Reps. Will Hurd, Roger Williams, Carlos Curbelo, Francis Rooney, and Scott Taylor, Susan G. Komen Foundation founder Nancy Brinker, Ohio State Rep. Niraj Antani, Member of the Canadian Parliament Michelle Rempel, Member of the Colombian Congress Frederico Hoyos, U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Karen Harbert, and former Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey Location: Washington, DC www.maverickpac.com <https://twitter.com/mavpac>

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From: MeriTalk
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 5:21 AM
To: Johnson, Wayne (Contractor)
Subject: [Suspect Bulk Mail] Bill Proposes 'Smart' Border Wall | Hacking Concerns Over Drone Data and more ...

To view this email as a web page, [click here](#)

[Forward to a Friend](#)

MERITALK READ ALL ABOUT IT
July 28, 2017

CYBERSECURITY

Drones Collect Data, so 'Can They Be Hacked?'

Federal agencies that amass multitudes of data because of drone use have had to think about how to store and protect that data. Agencies that use drones are caught between following the regulations in place for aircraft and following the regulations for IT systems, since drones contain properties of both categories.

[READ MORE](#)

LEGISLATION

Hurd Proposes 'Smart' Border Wall

Rep. Will Hurd, R-Texas, introduced a bill that offers a plan to build a "smart" wall along the southern border of the United States. U.S. Customs and Border Patrol officials, who testified before the House Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, spoke to the need for detection technologies that can communicate with each other and that include automated reports to the agents and offices that need them.

[READ MORE](#)

NETWORK DEFENSE

Cybersecurity Includes More Than the IT Department

Cybersecurity considerations for both government and industry have to include leadership, supply chains, mobility, and other components in order to be effective, according to experts who spoke at PCM-G's Mission First event.

[READ MORE](#)

LOOK WHO'S MERITALKING

Dell EMC Federal's Cameron Chehreh on the IoT, Cloud, and What's Next

MeriTalk sat down with Cameron Chehreh, Chief Technology Officer at Dell EMC Federal, to discuss the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud, and what's next for Federal agencies.

[READ MORE](#)

WEBINAR

Calling the Plays: Streamlining Government with a Federal Big Data Playbook

Only 50 percent of agency data is currently integrated under a master data management strategy. As agencies face increasing pressure to streamline operations, they'll need to push that number closer to 100 percent. Join Dr. Michael

Valivullah, CTO, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA and Kevin Garrison, Chief of Analytics, DoD, on Aug. 2 as they discuss data management best practices and more.

[RSVP](#)

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The email address for you is wayne.johnson@ed.gov.

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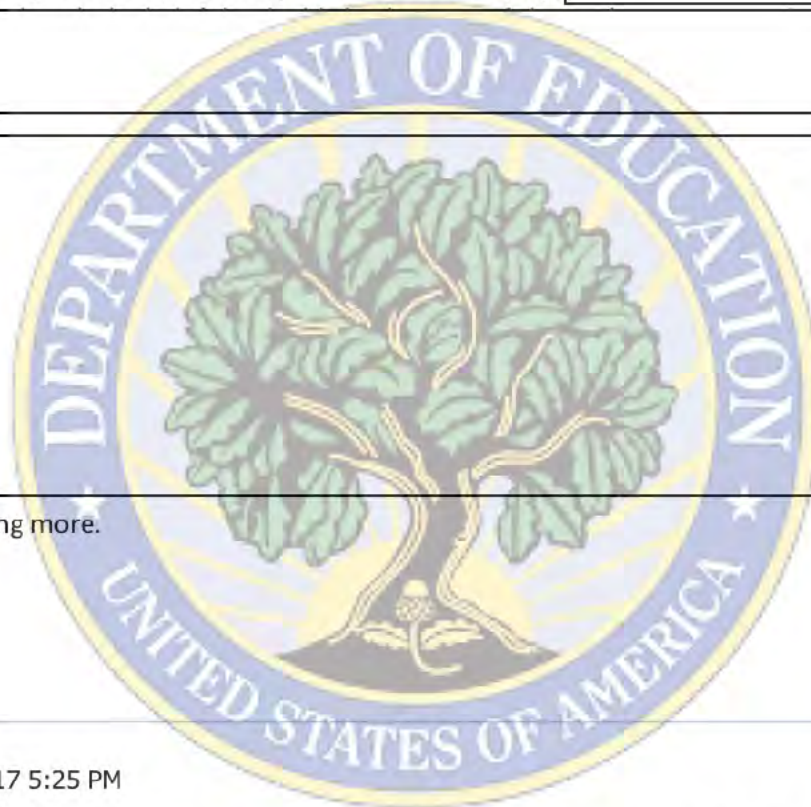


Mangold, Donna

From: Mangold, Donna
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:41 PM
To: Hill, Elizabeth; Jordan, April
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Liz,

As I mentioned when we just spoke, Todd May sent me your draft earlier today.



Happy to help if you need anything more.

Donna

From: Hill, Elizabeth
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:25 PM
To: Jordan, April; Mangold, Donna
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Hi Donna,

April Jordan from FSA asked me to ping you on this statement regarding preacquisition letters. Could you take a look and let me know your thoughts before I send this to press who have been asking questions about it? --Liz

ED000136

From: Jordan, April
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Hill, Elizabeth
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Liz,

OGC will want to sign off on any statement we issue related to these pre-acquisition determinations. Donna Mangold is the lead attorney for both transactions. I strongly recommend that you reach out to her, too.

-asj

From: Hill, Elizabeth
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Jordan, April; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Hi team,

I've gotten a couple more pings from reporters on this. Are we all OK with me sending the statement below?

From: Hill, Elizabeth
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 10:02 AM
To: Jordan, April; Greene, Chris
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; 'nate.bailey@ed.gov'
Subject: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Is this accurate and a fair description of next steps?



Elizabeth (Liz) Hill

Press Secretary

U.S. Department of Education | 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. | Washington, D.C. 20202

202-453-7877 (w)

202-465-0509 (c)



Mangold, Donna

From: Mangold, Donna
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:41 PM
To: Hill, Elizabeth; Jordan, April
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Liz,

As I mentioned when we just spoke, Todd May sent me your draft earlier today. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Happy to help if you need anything more.

Donna

From: Hill, Elizabeth
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:25 PM
To: Jordan, April; Mangold, Donna
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
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Hi Donna,

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[REDACTED]

From: Jordan, April
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Hill, Elizabeth
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Liz,

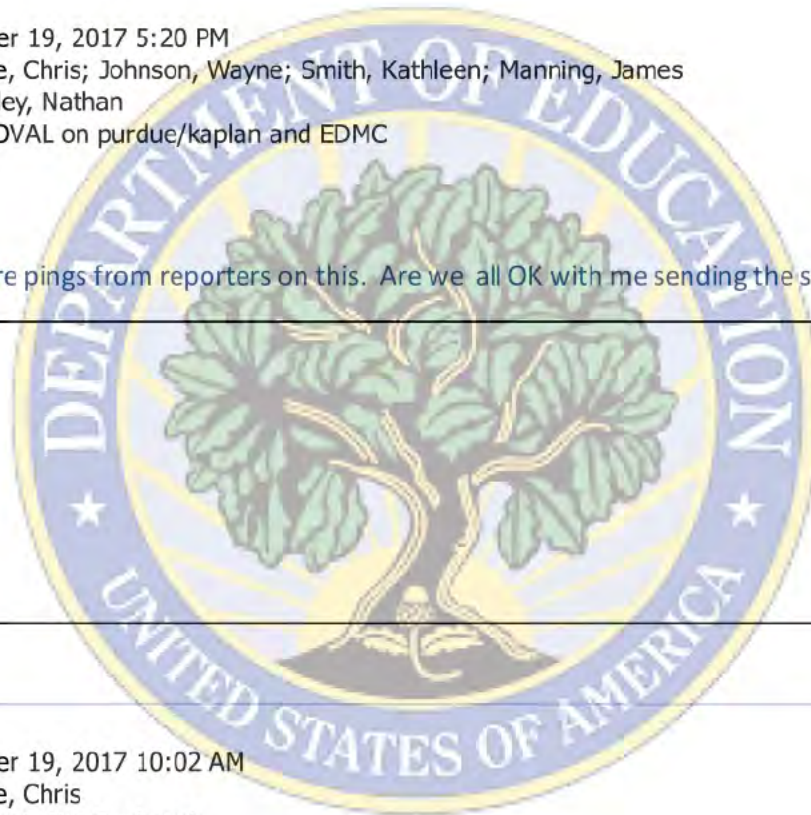
OGC will want to sign off on any statement we issue related to these pre-acquisition determinations. Donna Mangold is the lead attorney for both transactions. I strongly recommend that you reach out to her, too.

-asj

From: Hill, Elizabeth
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Jordan, April; Greene, Chris; Johnson, Wayne; Smith, Kathleen; Manning, James
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; Bailey, Nathan
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Hi team,

I've gotten a couple more pings from reporters on this. Are we all OK with me sending the statement below?



From: Hill, Elizabeth
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 10:02 AM
To: Jordan, April; Greene, Chris
Cc: Smith, Kathleen; 'nate.bailey@ed.gov'
Subject: FOR APPROVAL on purdue/kaplan and EDMC

Is this accurate and a fair description of next steps?



Elizabeth (Liz) Hill

Press Secretary

U.S. Department of Education | 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. | Washington, D.C. 20202

202-453-7877 (w)

202-465-0509 (c)



From: FSA Communications
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 8:03 AM
To: FSA ED Employees; a.lawrence@ed.gov; abigail.hickman@usdedeop.onmicrosoft.com; abigail.love@ed.gov; abraham.marinez@ed.gov; adam.essex@ed.gov; adam.newton@ed.gov; adriene.little@ed.gov; amanda.mielkie@ed.gov; amanda.yates@ed.gov; andrea.todt@ed.gov; andres.carriedo@ed.gov; andrew.bronstein@ed.gov; andrew.jones@ed.gov; andrew.sanzenbacher@ed.gov; andy.newton@ed.gov; angela.edwards@ed.gov; angela.gilmore@ed.gov; angela.roca-baker@ed.gov; angela.woody@ed.gov; angelita.dozier@ed.gov; angie.smith@ed.gov; annmarie.pedersen@ed.gov; annette.abell@ed.gov; anthony.barnes@ed.gov; anthony.booker@ed.gov; anthony.chavez@ed.gov; april.jordan@ed.gov; april.west@ed.gov; ashley.harris@ed.gov; ashley.shuler@ed.gov; balaji.mysore@ed.gov; barbara.j.johnson@ed.gov; bereket.tanju@ed.gov; bessieko.sippleasher@ed.gov; bethanne.roberts@ed.gov; beyondthecall@ed.gov; bhaskaran.jayaraman@ed.gov; bill.herza@ed.gov; bradley.bumgarner@ed.gov; brenda.ware@ed.gov; brenda.wensil@ed.gov; brendon.spann@ed.gov; brent.madoo@ed.gov; bridget.mclennon@ed.gov; bridget.strother@ed.gov; bronsdon.thompson@ed.gov; bruce.claiborne@ed.gov; bruce.honer@ed.gov; bruce.hughes@ed.gov; cameron.washington@ed.gov; camille.stephan@ed.gov; candace.echols@ed.gov; candace.mclaren@ed.gov; cara.smith@ed.gov; carmen.hines@ed.gov; carolyn.bush@ed.gov; carolyn.dickens@ed.gov; cecil.johnson@ed.gov; chaleta.moore@ed.gov; chandel.campbell@ed.gov; charlene.faunteroy@ed.gov; charlene.johnson@ed.gov; charlesbryan.jenkins@ed.gov; charlie.yi@ed.gov; chartise.logan@ed.gov; chelsea.smedley@ed.gov; cheng.tang@ed.gov; cheryl.tisdale@ed.gov; chris.farr@ed.gov; christal.simms@ed.gov; christine.connors@ed.gov; christopher.porter@ed.gov; chuck.parrill@ed.gov; cindy.cameron@ed.gov; clare.barger@ed.gov; clement.davis@ed.gov; clyde.wheeler@ed.gov; colby.jennings@ed.gov; colene.peaks@ed.gov; colette.winston@ed.gov; colin.sellar@ed.gov; colin.wood@ed.gov; colleen.mcginis@ed.gov; colleen.nevin@ed.gov; corrinne.callins@ed.gov; corwin.jennings@ed.gov; countess.cooper@ed.gov; cricket.hosier@ed.gov; crystal.lewis@ed.gov; cynthia.alsop@ed.gov; cynthia.battle@ed.gov; cynthia.hammond@ed.gov; cynthia.mills@ed.gov; dale.king@ed.gov; daniel.pollard@ed.gov; daphne.harvey@ed.gov; daria.adams@ed.gov; darrell.robinson@ed.gov; darrick.hardiman@ed.gov; darrin.lewis@ed.gov; darryl.duncan@ed.gov; darryl.estep@ed.gov; darryl.mcfadden@ed.gov; david.bush@ed.gov; david.fitzpatrick@ed.gov; david.hammond@ed.gov; david.hebrank@ed.gov; david.petersen@ed.gov; david.rhodes@ed.gov; deatrice.luck@ed.gov; debbie.may@ed.gov; debbie.miller@ed.gov; deborah.tucker@ed.gov; debra.bray@ed.gov; debra.byrne@ed.gov; dega.hussen@ed.gov; dejah.joseph@ed.gov; delphine.thomas@ed.gov; denika.pullian@ed.gov; denise.drew@ed.gov; denise.leifeste@ed.gov; denise.roberts@ed.gov; denise.williams@ed.gov; derek.pogue@ed.gov; derwin.sherrod@ed.gov; dev.nayak@ed.gov; devon.engleman@ed.gov; diahann.c.greene@ed.gov; diana.ohara@ed.gov; diane.mclaughlin@ed.gov; donald.watson@ed.gov; donita.harvey@ed.gov; donna.bellflower@ed.gov; donna.oti@ed.gov; douglas.rose@ed.gov; dwayne.j.rumber@ed.gov; dwayne.rumber@ed.gov; dyon.toney@ed.gov; ebonie.janifer@ed.gov; ed.healey@ed.gov; ed.pacchetti@ed.gov; eddie.ortiz@ed.gov; eddie.ward@ed.gov; effie.barnett@ed.gov; elaine.griffin@ed.gov;

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Subject:

The Department of Education News Briefing for September 20, 2017



TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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Secretary and Department News

Education Chief In Betsy DeVos's Home State Clarifies Comments On School Choice.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Strauss, 10.38M) reports Brian Whiston is the superintendent of public instruction in Michigan, "the home state of U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who has played a pivotal role in the growth of the state's controversial charter school sector and been a staunch advocate for choice programs." Based on his experience, the Post says, it is "fair to assume that [Whiston] knew what he was talking about and meant what he said" when he recently went on the public television show "Off the Record" to discuss education. However, Whiston went back and forth on whether he supported school choice in Michigan. He said during the interview that school choice has "probably taken" the state backwards overall, but after the interview, he clarified in a statement that but after the interview clarified that "that was a poor choice of words" on his part and that he does "support school choice for students and parents."

ED Approves Purdue's Plan To Buy Kaplan University.

The [Indianapolis Star](#) (9/19, 479K) reports that Purdue University officials say that ED has approved the school's plan to purchase for-profit chain Kaplan University. However, ED "has outlined certain conditions that need to be met, which Purdue says it will work to address as it prepares to complete the transaction." Now, the Star reports, the biggest remaining stumbling block to the deal is the approval of the accreditor the Higher Learning Commission, which "is expected to make a decision in the coming months." Purdue's plan to purchase Kaplan and "create a new, online university that Purdue is calling 'New University'...rocked the higher education world, where for-profit institutions have fought against reputations as predatory debt-traps and struggled against increased regulation imposed by the Obama administration."

The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (9/19, 43K) reports that ED "'preliminarily concluded' that it had no objections to the deal," but "noted that final approval requires more information from the parties involved, and that

conditions would be imposed.” The [AP](#) (9/19) reports that the deal had already been approved by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education in August. This piece adds that “some Purdue faculty members have criticized the deal, saying they’re worried about the reputation of Kaplan University and parent Kaplan Higher Education,” both of which “face investigations and lawsuits in several states over hiring and recruitment practices.”

[Inside INdiana Business](#) (9/19) and the [St. Joseph \(MO\) News-Press](#) (9/19, 12K) also cover this story.

ED Also Approves Art Institutes Sale. The [Hill](#) (9/19, Savransky, 1.68M) reports that in addition to the Purdue/Kaplan deal, ED approved the nonprofit Dream Center’s purchase of the Art Institutes, currently owned by EDMC. The Hill reports that ED’s approval of the deals “could signal a change in the way these deals are looked at under Education Secretary Betsy DeVos,” noting that the Obama administration “did not allow for the conversion of one for-profit to nonprofit college.”

Senate Holds Confirmation Hearing For Muñiz.

Andrew Ujifusa writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/19, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that the Senate HELP Committee held a confirmation hearing Tuesday for Carlos Muñiz, the nominee to serve as ED General Counsel. Questioned about how much flexibility states should have under ESSA by ranking Democrat Patty Murray, Muñiz “said he would tell states and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to follow the Every Student Succeeds Act.” Muñiz “gave a narrow answer about ESSA oversight,” saying to Murray, “My advice to states would be to follow the law. ... My job would be to advise her as to what the law requires, advise her as to what her discretion might be.” Muñiz “took a similar line with” Chairman Lamar Alexander, “who asked Muñiz if DeVos should follow ESSA’s clear prohibitions on the secretary’s role in issues such as state’s long-term academic goals.”

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that Senate Democrats had planned to “air their grievances” at Muñiz’ hearing over DeVos’ “plans to rewrite Obama-era efforts designed to protect defrauded for-profit college students and campus sexual assault victims.”

HBCU Gathering Occurs Amid Tensions With Administration.

[NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) reports that most years, HBCU leaders “gather in Washington D.C., to lobby Congress and the White House. This year President Trump was not there to greet them, which was just as well because the meeting took place amid simmering frustration with the Trump administration.” HBCU leaders say they have received “little or no support from the administration” and complain of “a lack of understanding of the financial straits some schools are facing.” Other sources of tension between HBCUs and the administration include “President Trump’s response to the violence in Charlottesville” and his “questioning of the constitutionality of federal funding that HBCUs receive for construction projects.”

Johnathan Holifield To Lead White House Initiative On Historically Black Colleges. The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Scott, 10.33M) reports in its “The Fix” blog the White House “has finally hired someone to head the president’s historically black colleges and universities initiative after reports that the administration was having a difficult time finding a person willing to take the job.” However, the new head is attracting attention “because of his lack of experience in the area that he will lead.” The White House announced Monday “that former Cincinnati Bengals player Johnathan Holifield would lead its initiative on historically black colleges and universities, a group of more than 100 higher education institutions founded to serve black Americans when the majority of colleges and universities prevented minorities from enrolling.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Rosenblatt, 4.49M) reports that the “Trump administration has named Johnathan M. Holifield, a former NFL player, author and entrepreneur, to lead” the White House Initiative HBCUs. “Advocates applauded the appointment and said they look forward to working with Holifield,” but others “are still skeptical and called for more substantive changes, particularly a reversal of proposed budget cuts and a greater commitment to Title III of the Higher Education Act, which helps institutions of higher education support low-income students.”

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that according to Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC), “co-chairwoman of the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus,” the administration’s “appointment of a director for a federal initiative aimed at boosting historically black colleges and universities is ‘the first step’ toward repairing the administration’s relationship with HBCUs.”

DeVos Has Templates For Campus Sexual Assault Compromise.

[NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) aired a segment on the debate over how ED’s campus sexual assault guidance might be changed by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who has stressed that schools can find better ways to address the issue, saying

that “new rules must be more fair to the accused students.” The segment explores “compromise proposals” that have been made, saying that such plans could inform DeVos’ ultimate determination.

Democrats Call On DeVos To Maintain Status Quo On Campus Sexual Assault Guidance.

The [Detroit News](#) (9/19, 725K) reports that Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI) “led a group of a dozen Democratic lawmakers in urging Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to keep” ED’s current campus sexual assault guidance. The letter, expressing “deep concern” about DeVos’ plans to change the guidance, calls on her “not to weaken enforcement of Title IX protections for sexual assault victims and stressing the need to ensure the department’s policy protects survivors across the country.”

Groups Call On DeVos To Cancel Student Loan Policy Changes.

[Diverse Education](#) (9/19, Abdul-Alim) reports that a coalition of 39 organizations has written to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos calling on her to forego planned student loan regulatory changes, saying they could “spell disaster for students of color who are too often exploited in consumer lending.” The letter was “signed by a diverse array of organizations including the NAACP, Urban League and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, or HACU.” The groups lament “a series of changes that DeVos has sought or implemented in recent months — including the delay and renegotiating of the gainful employment and borrower defense rules meant to hold for-profit colleges accountable for employment outcomes and to give relief to defrauded student loan borrowers.”

Senate Democrats Call On CFPB To Keep Pressure On Student Loan Industry.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (9/19, Kreighbaum, 70K) reports Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) have written to Consumer Financial Protection Bureau director Richard Cordray calling for the agency “to maintain active oversight of loan servicers and other participants in the student loan industry.” The letter comes “in the wake of a Department of Education decision to terminate two agreements with the agency involving oversight of student loan programs.” The letter calls this move “another example of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos acting in favor of private student loan companies at the expense of borrowers.”

ED’s ESSA Approvals Begin To Paint Picture.

Alyson Klein writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and ED officials “have been approving state plans for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act at a fast and furious pace.” She writes about some “big takeaways” from the plan that have been approved to date. She writes that ED’s “feedback on plans may not be as influential as would be expected,” saying that states got their plans approved even though they made only small revisions based on ED feedback. However, “states worked the hardest to fix their plans in the areas in which the department pushed the most.” Moreover, some plans “may not be as ambitious as some ESSA experts would have hoped.”

Additional Reading

Education Committee Lawmakers Unhappy With ESSA Plan.

The [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#) (9/19, Martinez, 236K)

Indiana Federal Lawmakers Ask DeVos To Delay Grad Rate Change.

[WVIK-FM](#) Rock Island, IL (9/19)

Banks, Indiana Delegation Write To Secretary DeVos Regarding Indiana Graduation Rate.

[WBIW-AM](#) Bedford, IN (9/19)

Minnesota School Accountability System Up For Review To Meet Federal Standards.

The [Worthington \(MN\) Daily Globe](#) (9/19, 27K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Connecticut Districts Brace For Funding Cuts As Budget Bill Fizzles.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) is expected to veto a Republican budget proposal, meaning that "more than 100 school districts must brace for funding cuts come Oct. 1. That's when Connecticut public schools are due for state education dollars, funding they're unlikely to get unless state lawmakers approve a budget by the start of the coming month." Malloy plans to give the neediest districts emergency payments, but this will leave "54 districts with significant funding reductions and 85 districts with no state funding at all."

Failed Charters Increasingly Going Private, Benefiting From Vouchers.

[ProPublica](#) (9/19, 15K) reports that after district officials in Jacksonville, Florida canceled the charter of Orange Park Performing Arts Academy over abysmally poor academic outcomes, the school "surprisingly...didn't shut down — and even found a way to stay on the public dime. It reopened last month as a private school charging \$5,000 a year, below the \$5,886 maximum that low-income students receive to attend the school of their choice under a state voucher program." The piece reports that private schools have often gone charter in the past to "take advantage of public dollars, more schools are now heading in the opposite direction. As voucher programs across the country proliferate, shuttered charter schools...have begun to privatize in order to stay open with state assistance."

Los Angeles BOE President Announces Resignation.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Blume, 4.49M) reports Ref Rodriguez announced Tuesday that he is voluntarily resigning from his post as Los Angeles Unified Public Schools Board of Education president — less than three months into his tenure. Rodriguez "faces three felony charges on allegations of campaign money laundering," and his announcement "marks a stunning turnaround for Rodriguez and supporters of charter schools, who spent record sums in campaigns this year to elect a board majority that is widely viewed as pro-charter." That pro-charter majority will be left largely intact; however, the legal problems surrounding Rodriguez "could detract from what the majority has described as its 'kid-first' agenda."

Missouri Governor's Efforts To Overhaul State BOE Hits Latest In Series Of Roadblocks.

The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (9/19, 831K) reports Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens' efforts to overhaul the State Board of Education "hit another roadblock on Tuesday" when the board withdrew from consideration his pick "to replace current and well-liked Education Commissioner Margie Vandeven." Previously, Heidi Crane, "a last-minute choice to replace Springfield resident Melissa Gelner on the board after Gelner's nomination was withdrawn by Greitens," had declined to accept her appointment. Greitens' third appointee, Delbert Scott, withdrew his candidacy after learning "his job barred him from sitting on the board." Since the governor has only replaced three board members, he "is short of having the votes to bring in his own person to run the agency."

Report: Utah School Nursing Shortage Has Worsened.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports the Utah Department of Health's annual report found that the state had one school nurse per 4,543 students, slightly worse than the year prior. The shortage has left "school nurses with six times the recommended students under their care." School enrollment continues to climb annually, "but school nursing levels have not kept pace amid tight school budgets, leaving multiple schools relying on a single nurse and sometimes putting children at risk, parents and advocates say." Utah state legislatures are considering using Medicaid funds to pay for the school nurses, a move estimated to cost about \$3 million. The National Association of School Nurses has recommended one all-day nurse per school; to meet that goal, Utah "would have to hire more than 950 nurses, at a cost of about \$91 million," which is about 10 times as much as what the state currently spends.

State Of Maryland, Baltimore District Agree To Struggling School Improvement Partnership.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/19, 706K) reports the Maryland State Department of Education and Baltimore City Public Schools chief executive Sonja Santelises signed a memorandum of understanding this month that "outlines the state's plan to help improve schools in the bottom 5 percent in the state." Twenty-four of the 27 priority schools are

in Baltimore. Under the agreement, the state will "send leadership coaches to work one-on-one with principals in targeted schools on strategies for improvement." Assistant principals, teachers, and other school officials "will also participate in programs aimed at stemming high turnover in underperforming schools." The state will conduct monthly checks to monitor progress, and revise improvement plans as needed. Santelises conceded the partnership will not turn around the city's struggling schools overnight, but it will "hold each other mutually accountable."

Houston ISD Elementary Schools Still Closed From Hurricane Take Students On Field Trips.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (9/19, Webb, 1.97M) reports that "students of three Houston ISD elementary schools still closed due to Hurricane Harvey will be able to take free field trips this week." Houston ISD announced that students at the schools "would embark on trips around the museum district. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for free by Houston ISD's Food Services."

AEI Fellow: States, Schools Should Address Growing Pensions And Benefits Problem.

American Enterprise Institute Education Policy Studies Research Fellow Nat Malkus writes in [U.S. News & World Report](#) (9/19, 1.73M) that Illinois last month "passed a new school funding formula that would dramatically alter the state's education finance system, and gave much-needed funding to the nation's third largest school district, Chicago Public Schools," which "will get desperately needed \$450 million windfall." He adds, "One would think such a large infusion of funds would allow the district to invest in schools and classrooms, but the bulk will instead go towards the district's pension problem." Malkus describes growing benefits costs as putting a "squeeze on districts because they take more and more money for relatively unproductive uses." He concludes saying that districts "can take steps to limit the growing burden of benefits, but none of them are easy. One is moving away from pensions toward more sustainable options, such as 401k plans that are both more sustainable and often better for teachers."

Educators Debate Allowing Teachers To Carry Guns In Classrooms.

The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 8, 3:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that teachers across the country are debating whether to allow educators to carry firearms in classrooms to protect their students. Some, such as the 1,000 educators from 12 states that recently participated in a three-day firearms course in Ohio called "Faster Saves Lives," believe training and the ability to carry a gun prepares teachers to protect students against school shooters. Others, such as Sandy Hook Elementary School teacher Abbey Clements, believe additional firearms present more danger to students. The director of the "Faster Saves Lives" course "says all participants must pass the same firearms test required to become a police officer in Ohio where they only need 80 percent accuracy to pass. But teachers in this training are held to 90 percent."

Alabama County Launches Campaign To Stop Bullying In School.

[WSFA-TV](#) Montgomery, AL (9/19, 55K) reports online that Alabama's Montgomery County District Attorney Daryl Bailey announced on Tuesday the launch of a new initiative, dubbed "Bullying Stops with Me," aimed "at combating bullying in schools by having students notify authorities about the problem through texting." Bailey's office has in the last few years intensified efforts "to tackle truancy in schools," and "Bailey says students who end up dropping out of high school are more likely to fall into a life of crime." Montgomery Public Schools will participate in the initiative by placing "posters in schools and get the word out to students" so they are aware "that help is available to those who witness bullying or who are being bullied." Details of students' text messages will be forwarded "to the Helping Montgomery Families Initiatives, who will follow up."

Black Students Discuss Racial Inequality In Alabama Schools.

As part of its ongoing "Tackling the Gap" series on "the large and persistent achievement gap between black and white students when it comes to the percentage scoring proficient on standardized tests," [Alabama Live](#) (9/19, 608K) publishes video interviews with four black students who discussed "the barriers they and other black students faced during their enrollment at different school districts within Jefferson County." Their experiences also provided "some solutions as to how to equalize the educational experience in Alabama." The students discussed "how some teachers evaluated their educational success and character through the lens of racial biases and how the lack of opportunities for advance coursework can feed the achievement gap." One student said her white AP Calculus teacher "treated the black students differently than the white students." Another student's experienced underscored

"how the lack of opportunity to take advance courses or be provided with certain materials, such as AP classes, feeds the achievement gap."

Many Tennessee School Districts Earning Top Growth Score, But Struggling Schools Post Lower-Than-Expected Scores.

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/19, Aldrich) reports data released Tuesday shows that the majority of Tennessee's 147 school districts posted scores "that suggest students are making or exceeding expected progress, with over a third earning the top growth score." However, Tennessee districts with many struggling schools "posted lower-than-expected growth scores on this year's state exams," according to the data. Most students "in three of the state's four largest districts – in Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga – aren't growing academically as they should, and neither are those in most of their "priority schools" in the state's bottom 5 percent." Education Commissioner Candice McQueen sent a "good news, bad news" email to superintendents after the data was released, saying, "These results point to the ability for all students to grow." Of those in the bottom, she "said the state would analyze the latest data to determine 'critical next steps,' especially for priority schools, which also are located in high-poverty communities."

State Superintendent Presents Graph To Board On How Ohio Test Scores Fell With New Tests, Expectations.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (9/19, 927K) reports that Ohio State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria presented a graph to the state school board on Monday that "offers a dramatic look at how changes in state tests the last three years sent once-rising test scores into free fall." DeMaria shared the graph "to provide some context to the low grades on the state's report cards for schools and districts released last week." It shows "the rise and fall of Ohio's average test score each year since 2001, using Performance Index, which combines scores from all grades and tests at a school or district into a single score."

High-Speed Internet Connectivity In Classrooms Skyrockets Through Federal E-Rate Program.

Under former President Obama, the Federal Communications Commission voted in favor of modernizing the E-Rate program and approved a \$1.5 million funding boost to expand high-speed broadband Internet in all classrooms and libraries, reports [U.S. News & World Report](#) (9/19, Camera, 1.73M). After the modernization of the E-Rate program in 2014 and through the efforts of "a broad bipartisan coalition of federal and state lawmakers and policymakers dedicated to the cause," the number of students with access to broadband Internet in the classroom "catapulted" from four million in 2013 to 39.2 million. There are still about 6.5 million students without access to high-speed classroom Internet, but that gap is "expected to be eliminated by 2020 based on current growth models." Meanwhile, "46 state governors have pledged to upgrade their schools' broadband networks and they've allocated nearly \$200 million in state matching funds for construction to help connect the schools that are particularly difficult to reach." [Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) also reports on this story.

Documentary Examines Gap In Student Access To Technology.

The [Lexington \(KY\) Herald-Leader](#) (9/19, 278K) reports on a documentary titled "Without a Net: The Digital Divide in America," slated to air on the National Geographic Channel next Tuesday. The documentary "highlights schools around the country, some like the Eastern Kentucky schools that are aggressively trying to prepare students for a technological world and others in various parts of the United States that have fallen short." The Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative received a \$30 million grant from ED's Race to the Top District Initiative in 2014, as well as \$200,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to upgrade school technology. On Monday, the cooperative's executive director, Jeff Hawkins, said "while schools in the region are connected to high speed fiber, 'not all of our homes in our communities have high speed internet' access. Because not having high speed internet at home can be a problem for students, there are also efforts in Kentucky to improve that situation."

Computer Science Initiative In Arkansas Schools Detailed.

The [Seventy Four](#) (9/18) reported that Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson recently visited a North Little Rock high school classroom to "experience firsthand what students across his state are learning, thanks to an ambitious, first-in-the-nation initiative he is spearheading – in partnership with universities, major corporations, and educators – to teach computer science to every student in Arkansas." The article characterizes Arkansas as "going all in on computer education, spending an initial \$5 million to train teachers and help districts pay for staffing and equipment to bring

computer literacy to all grade levels." In the initiative's first two years, "the number of Arkansas high schoolers taking computer science has exploded, from 1,100 to 5,500 students – nearly 20 percent of the high school senior population."

Kyyba CEO: America Needs To Encourage Young People Into STEM Careers.

Kyyba President and CEO Tel Ganesan writes in the [Detroit News](#) (9/19, 725K) that the economic stability and growth of the nation "is hindered – and is at risk of weakening – due to combined problems in STEM industries," adding, "We must get American young people interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) careers." Some of the problems he lists include "the current lack of quality U.S.-born candidates to fill too many vacant STEM jobs," the "current demise of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals," and "too few H1-B visas permitted annually which allow foreign-born STEM experts into the country for work." He adds, "Our nation's strength relies too heavily on the H1-B visa system. Immigration policies and our educational system should support and be a catalyst for creating disruptive, ground-breaking technologies that improve the world and keep the U.S. on the cutting edge in these fields."

Lafayette Officials Consider Expanding Opportunities For Language Immersion, STEM Education.

The [Lafayette \(LA\) Daily Advertiser](#) (9/19, McElfresh, 80K) reports that Lafayette school officials "are considering ways to expand opportunities for language immersion and STEM education." Lafayette's David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy "has nearly 1,200 students in sixth through 12th grades." Because of the school's popularity, the district "has added 75 slots per year, starting last year," said Superintendent Donald Aguillard. Officials plan to add seats for the next couple of years." School Board President Dawn Morris said on Monday, "It's my belief we need to expand our STEM offerings across the board." Morris "suggested a STEM-focused elementary school, and perhaps another site for a STEM middle school, allowing David Thibodaux to become a complete high school site."

Nonprofit Aims To Get More People Of Color Into Teaching Careers.

[NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) reports new research "shows that the number of K-12 teachers who belong to minority groups has doubled since the 1980s, growing at a faster rate than the profession as a whole. But big gaps persist, with around 80 percent of teachers identifying as white." Meanwhile, "the need for minority teachers is especially glaring since people of color now make up about half of enrollment in public schools." NPR profiles "a new nonprofit that has just launched, called The Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity or BranchED," which is "aiming programming at the 253 educator-preparation programs at federally-designated colleges and universities that serve African-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans." BranchED's mission "is to get more people from these groups to consider teaching as a career."

Teacher Shortage Shrinks In Detroit's Public Schools.

The [Detroit News](#) (9/19, Chambers, 725K) reports the Detroit Public Schools Community District "has hired an additional 56 teachers in the last two weeks, reducing its teacher shortage to 194 vacancies, but its superintendent said he will continue to search for and hire teachers until that number is zero." At the start of school on Sept. 8, the district "had 250 vacancies in its teacher ranks. On Tuesday, Superintendent Nikolai Vitti said the district has 142 vacancies in general education and 52 in special education. Of the 142 vacancies, 54 are at former Education Achievement Authority schools, which were returned to DPSCD's supervision this summer."

Majority Of States First To Adopt Common Core Standards Still Using Them.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports most of the states that first endorsed the Common Core academic standards "are still using them in some form, despite continued debate over whether they are improving student performance in reading and math." Of the states "that opted in after the standards were introduced in 2010 – 45 plus the District of Columbia – only eight have moved to repeal the standards, largely due to political pressure from those who saw Common Core as infringing on local control, according to Abt Associates, a research and consulting firm." The AP says President Trump and Education Secretary DeVos "spoke out against the standards, but the issue has been largely out of their hands" because a 2015 law "prohibits the federal government from promoting any set of standards, including Common Core."

Additional Reading

Former Howard Superintendent Renee Foose Hired By Maryland Education Department.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/19, 706K)

Six Struggling Philly Schools To Be Reshuffled, Possibly With New Teachers.

[WHYY-FM](#) Philadelphia (9/19, 20K)

Appeals Court Reverses Ruling That Had Favored School Board.

The [AP](#) (9/19)

Post-Secondary Education

Poll: Most Voters Support Free College.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that according to a Politico/Morning Consult poll, 63% of respondents expressed some level of support for making four-year college free. The concept is, "unsurprisingly, more popular among those who describe themselves as liberal than conservative — though 40 percent of conservatives said they'd support the proposal — and it enjoyed strong support from younger voters."

American Council On Education Amicus Brief: Travel Ban Harmed American Education's Global Reputation.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that the American Council on Education is planning to file an amicus brief with the US Supreme Court arguing that "the Trump administration's travel ban has harmed America's reputation in a global education market." The brief says, "From the moment it was signed, prospective students expressed serious concerns about attending American colleges and universities. Faculty recruits were similarly deterred from accepting teaching and research positions. And scholars based abroad pulled out of academic conferences in the United States, either because they were directly affected by the EO or because they are concerned about the EO's harmful impact on academic discourse and research worldwide."

South Dakota Students With High Assessment Scores Get Automatic Admission To State Colleges.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports South Dakota education officials have announced that "high school seniors who achieve a level 3 or 4 on their 11th grade Smarter Balanced state assessments in English and math, or who achieve an ACT composite score of 18, will be automatically admitted into the state's public universities and technical institutes."

Three Arrested In Georgia Tech Police Shooting Protest.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Shapiro, Selk, Lowery, Chason, 10.38M) reports on the lingering unrest at Georgia Tech "days after a student was fatally shot by campus police outside a dormitory building." The piece reports that Georgia Tech president G.P. "Bud" Peterson wrote an open letter "that mourned Scout Schultz and blamed 'outside agitators' for hijacking the student's memorial." Law enforcement authorities said Schultz "was suicidal and armed with a knife when police shot them." The piece reports that after a peaceful protest Monday night, "several dozen of the hundreds of mourners headed to the campus police headquarters afterward." Two campus officers were injured and three protesters were arrested. [NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) reports the violence "left officers with minor injuries and one police vehicle damaged by fire." [Reuters](#) (9/19) and the [AP](#) (9/19) also cover this story.

WSJournal: Survey Shows College Students No Little About Free Speech.

In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) writes that a new Brookings Institution survey of more than 1,500 undergraduates found that most did not know hate speech was constitutionally protected, half agreed with shouting down speakers with whom they disagreed, and a fifth believed in the use of violence against speakers. The Journal concludes that many college students are clueless about free speech.

City Colleges Of Chicago Chancellor: Free College Initiative Shows Early Signs

Of Success.

City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Juan Salgado, in a piece for the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Salgado, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), says since Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel introduced two years ago the Star Scholarship program, through which the city offers "free community college to all public high school graduates who earned a B average or higher and demonstrated near college-level proficiency," about 1,000 students have participated annually. The program's early successes "have been incredibly encouraging," with the percentage of two-year graduates on par with the national three-year community college graduation rate, and the retention rate nearly "twice the national average for community college students." Furthermore, of "the more than 200 students who have graduated already, more than two-thirds were the first in their families to go to college, more than 90 percent were members of minority groups and more than 60 percent were female." It is also open "to undocumented immigrants who were brought to the country as children."

Governors Of Western States Discuss Region's Shortage Of Skilled Workers.

Citing the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the [Denver Post](#) (9/19, 817K) reports four out of the five states with the lowest unemployment rates are in the western half of the US, "a region where economic development is increasingly finding itself handcuffed to workforce development." At a Western Governors' Association-hosted workforce development workshop on Monday, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper commented, "Our labor market is way tight," but companies do not want to relocate to the region because of a shortage of skilled laborers. The WGA, which is comprised of 19 western states, is hoping to address that problem by "better aligning the skills workers have with those that employers want." South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard told attendees that one goal of workforce development programs is to raise awareness among high school students about the necessity of pursuing post-graduation training and the dangers of dropping out. Those post-graduation options, he said, include pathways outside of the traditional four-year college degree.

Companies, Colleges Partner To Train Workers For Tech Maintenance Jobs.

[NBC News](#) (9/19, 3.46M) reports that companies and colleges are uniting to train "new collar" students to maintain and program computers. These "new collar" jobs are positions "that require some specialized education (typically in a technical field), but not a four-year college degree." Some companies "have become so desperate for the right worker, they have started or invested in job training programs of their own, partnering with schools to equip students with the exact skills they will need to get a job, and then to do the job right." Delta, for example, "has partnered with 37 aviation maintenance schools across the country to give thousands of students the technical knowledge needed to be an aviation maintenance technician (AMT) — and ideally to get them jobs at Delta down the road."

Other Washington News

Trump Slams "Rocket Man" At UN, Threatens To "Totally Destroy" North Korea.

Media coverage of President Trump's address Tuesday to the UN General Assembly is widespread, with most reports focusing on his comments about North Korea. Outlets overwhelmingly cast the President as toughening his stance on Pyongyang, threatening to "totally destroy" North Korea and repeating his "Rocket Man" nickname for leader Kim Jong-Un.

All three networks covered the President's speech, dedicating seven-and-a-half minutes of total airtime, but none of them led with it. Jonathan Karl said on [ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/19, story 4, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M) that while he "has spoken of fire and fury...today, President Trump went even further, raising the possibility of wiping North Korea off the map." Trump was shown saying: "The United States has great strength and patience, but if it is forced to depend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea." Trump then "directly referred to North Korean dictator...by his new nickname: 'Rocket Man.'" Trump: "Rocket Man is on a suicide mission for himself and for his regime."

On [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/19, story 4, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M), Hallie Jackson said the comment was "met with gasps inside the room." Jim Sciutto said on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/19, 1.33M) that "a senior UN diplomat in the room" said that "when Trump uttered those words...the diplomats in the room were taken aback. It, in his words, 'felt like a wind had swept through the room,' an emotional response from those present unlike anything they

had heard from an American President before." According to [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M), "an official" says the comment was added to the President's speech Tuesday morning.

The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) said that during "his debut," Trump "vowed to work with [world leaders] for peace, but threatened to wipe one nation off the face of the earth." Trump, [Bloomberg News](#) (9/19, Talev, Wadhams, 4.52M) says, "bluntly threatened North Korea with annihilation," and the [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Wilkinson, Bierman, 4.49M) says he "delivered a forceful inaugural speech" that "ranged from warlike to flowery and that challenged some long-cherished tenets of US foreign policy." In particular, he "caused a stir when he mocked...Kim...as 'Rocket Man on a suicide mission' and threatened his 'depraved regime.'" [The Hill](#) (9/19, Fabian, 1.68M) similarly says that the President's comments "caused a stir among the crowd of leaders and diplomats at the UN and represented his starkest ultimatum yet against North Korea," while the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Stokols, Fassihi, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) was more measured, saying that the speech drew a mixed reaction.

[USA Today](#) (9/19, Jackson, 8.62M) writes that "even as he addressed deadly serious issues that could involve American forces, the reality television star-turned-president deployed a colorful array of Trumpian phrases to make his points before the traditionally staid United Nations delegates." With regards to Kim, [Bloomberg News](#) (9/19, Talev, Wadhams, 4.52M) says Trump "at times cast aside conventions of political and diplomatic dialogue in favor of the aggressive dialect of social media," and [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Hadley, 67K) says he "used harsh and mocking language when addressing" the North Korean leader. John Roberts said on [Fox News' Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M) that Trump "left no room for interpretation or ambiguity, demanding Kim Jong-un give up his nuclear program or else."

[Reuters](#) (9/19) says Trump "escalated his standoff with North Korea...threatening to 'totally destroy' the country of 26 million people and mocking its leader." His remarks, Reuters adds, "rattled world leaders." Using what the AP (9/19, Lemire, Superville) calls "dark language reminiscent of his 'American carnage' inaugural address," Trump delivered a "combative debut speech to the UN General Assembly, threatened to 'totally destroy' North Korea." The AP adds that while his "lashing was a vigorous restatement of what's been said by US leaders before," it was "likely to hit home harder for being intensely delivered in diplomatic prime time at the UN General Assembly."

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says the "bellicose speech...drew a series of good-versus-evil lines that forecast confrontations to come," but the President "singled out North Korea for his harshest words, broadening his indictment of the Pyongyang government beyond just its pursuit of nuclear weapons to its treatment of its own people and captured foreigners." And "without mentioning it by name," Trump also "chastised China for continuing to deal with its rogue neighbor," saying, "It is an outrage that some nations would not only trade with such a regime, but would arm, supply and financially support a country that imperils the world with nuclear conflict." The [New York Post](#) (9/19, Moore, 4.31M) reports that while Trump "thanked members of the UN Security Council, which has imposed several rounds of sanctions against North Korea," he also "chided those countries that still do business with Pyongyang."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Nakamura, Gearan, 10.38M) reports that following the speech, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders "sought to temper the idea that Trump's remarks about North Korea were a break from past US policy."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Boyer, 541K) reports Sen. Dianne Feinstein criticized Trump for using his UN address "as a stage to threaten war," while Sen. David Perdue said he is "glad" that Trump and Ambassador Haley are getting more aggressive with the UN. Sen. Ben Cardin said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.22M), "I don't think his remarks were well received by our allies." He added that the "international community should be there to help us" deal with the threat posed by the North, but "the President's comments put a wedge in our international coalition."

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce said on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/19, 1.33M), "These aren't the words I would have used. But what I'll share with you here is that in point of fact our biggest challenge right now is applying full diplomatic and financial pressure on North Korea and getting compliance from these other countries to do it."

Rep. Andre Carson said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M) that Trump was being his "provocative" self in his threats to North Korea. Carson added that "to President Trump's credit...you have to be firm with those who threaten to do us harm," but "having said that, in our firmness we should not ostracize those trying to keep the peace."

The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 7, 2:50, Mason, 11.17M) reported on an interview with former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who said "you can't deal with a rogue state like" North Korea "by yourself. You have

to have great, tight relationships with all, or lots of other countries, particularly the surrounding countries. And, unfortunately, America is going in the other direction."

A [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Blake, 10.38M) analysis says Trump's "oddly chosen colloquialisms masked what was a pretty astounding escalation of his rhetoric when it comes to North Korea. Just to be clear: The president of the United States threatened to wipe a country of 25 million people off the map." James Rubin, however, writes in a [Politico Magazine](#) (9/19, 3.55M) analysis headlined "Trump's UN Speech Was Bad, But Let's Not Lose Our Heads" that despite "the screaming headlines about Trump's threat to destroy North Korea, that comment was merely a somewhat blunter statement of US declaratory policy going back decades."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, Scarry, 465K) reports that Trump "disturbed some in the press" after vowing to "destroy" North Korea. MSNBC host Lawrence O'Donnell [tweeted](#) that Trump "threatened to commit a war crime" by threatening North Korea, while a reporter for the Huffington Post "seemed to suggest Trump's harsh comments may justify the rogue state's actions," saying, "Gee, Kim Jon-un is so irrational for wanting nuclear weapons."

A [USA Today](#) (9/19, 8.62M) editorial calls the President's threat to "destroy" North Korea "deeply unsettling," and argues that though he "rightly called upon all nations to isolate Kim's murderous regime," he "undermined that goal with the kind of man-to-man tabloid bombast...that raises Kim's stature and makes him more, rather than less, likely to cling to the nuclear arsenal that he thinks will guarantee his survival."

David Ignatius writes in his [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) column that the "most surprising thing" about Trump's address "was how conventional it was. He supported human rights and democracy; he opposed rogue regimes; he espoused a global community of strong, sovereign nations. Pretty shocking stuff." But "because he's Trump, the zingers got the headlines: He repeated his childish, snarky (but sort of funny) playground denunciation of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un," as well as his "bombastic threat" to "totally destroy" North Korea. Ignatius writes that what worries him about Trump's speech is "that it was so conventional. If Trump is going to deal successfully with North Korea, he'll truly have to think outside the box."

Poll: 82% Of Republicans Back Military Strike Against North Korea If Diplomacy Fails. The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Harper, 541K) reports that a new Gallup poll shows the "American attitude toward North Korea appears to be evolving – and not necessarily in a docile direction." The poll shows that the number of Americans who would support a US military response is "significantly higher" these days. While the percentage of Democrats who favor military action "has hardly changed since 2003: 37 percent now vs. 41 percent then," the "major shift has been among Republicans, whose support for military action is up 23 percentage points."

Bolton: Tillerson Pursuing "Wrong Policy" On North Korea. The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, Gehrke, 465K) reports former Ambassador John Bolton said Tuesday that Secretary of State Tillerson backs "the wrong policy" on North Korea. Hours after the President's UN address, Bolton "dismissed" Tillerson's assertion that the US has imposed sanctions on North Korea in order to induce a "constructive, productive dialogue" with the regime. Said Bolton, "We've had constructive dialogue with North Korea for 25 years; it doesn't work. That's the wrong policy."

Colin Powell: Ignore North Korea When It Launches Missiles. The [Detroit Free Press](#) (9/19, Jesse, 1.07M) reports that hours after President Trump threatened to "totally destroy" North Korea if it launched nuclear weapons, former Secretary of State Colin Powell "said a different tactic would be better." Speaking at the University of Michigan, Powell said, "Let's not go crazy every time they shoot missiles. Start ignoring them and maybe you can find a different way to solve this. It would probably drive them crazy if we ignored one of their launches and after the media interest went away, it would die down."

Trump At UN: Iran Nuclear Deal An "Embarrassment."

President Trump's criticism of the Iran nuclear deal during Tuesday's address to the UN General Assembly also receives significant media attention, including mentions on all three networks last night. [ABC World News Tonight](#)

 (9/19, story 4, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M) reported Iran's delegation listened as Trump accused the country "of funding terrorism and lashed out at the nuclear agreement negotiated with President Obama and America's European allies." Trump: "The Iran deal was one of the worst and most one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into. Frankly, that deal is an embarrassment to the United States." Trump, who ABC noted didn't say if the US would withdraw from the agreement, "cast this moment as a turning point for the UN." Trump: "It is entirely up to us, whether we lift the world to new heights or let it fall into a valley of disrepair. If the righteous many do not confront the wicked few, then evil will triumph." The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M), however, said Trump "implied he might pull out" of the deal.

[The Hill](#) (9/19, Chalfant, 1.68M) reports Trump insisted that "it is time for the entire world to join us in demanding that Iran end its pursuit of death and destruction."

[Fox News' Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M) reported Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "loved" Trump's comments on Iran. Fox showed Netanyahu saying of Trump's address: "I have listened to countless speeches in this hall. I can say this: none were bolder, none were more courageous and forthright than the one delivered by President Trump today. President Trump rightly called the nuclear deal with Iran, he called it an embarrassment. I couldn't agree more." [Breitbart](#) (9/19, Danan, 2.42M) also reports Netanyahu's reaction.

On [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/19, story 4, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M), Hallie Jackson reported that Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, by contrast, accused Trump "of ignorant hate speech." [Fox News' Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M) reported Zarif [tweeted](#), "Trump's ignorant hate speech belongs in medieval times, not the 21st century. UN -unworthy of a reply."

Iran, [Reuters](#) (9/19) reports, denounced Trump's remarks as "shameless and ignorant" and "said his speech on Tuesday showed his lack of knowledge about Tehran's fight against terrorism." State media quoted Zarif as saying, "Trump's shameless and ignorant remarks, in which he ignored Iran's fight against terrorism, displays his lack of knowledge and unawareness."

[CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M) reported Trump's assertion that the Iran nuclear deal is "one of the worst and one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into" was also "a cause of concern" for French President Emmanuel Macron, who said, "If we simply throw out this agreement, there is nothing to replace it. And if you have nothing, then it's the same situation as North Korea, and I don't want to find myself in a no man's land."

[Politico](#) (9/19, Toosi, 3.6M) reports that "in public, in private, and with few exceptions," world leaders gathered at the UN this week are urging Trump "not to follow through on his threat to derail the Iran nuclear deal. But so far, Trump shows no sign of listening to them." The issue, Politico says, will "take center stage on Wednesday," when Secretary of State Tillerson joins a multinational meeting on the nuclear deal that will also be attended by Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, marking "the first time the two men will meet face-to-face."

[CNN](#) (9/19, Watkins, 33.59M) reports on its website that House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce said Tuesday that the US "should focus on enforcing the nuclear agreement with Iran instead of renegotiating it." Speaking to CNN's Jake Tapper, Royce said, "I think we should enforce the hell out of the agreement and thereby force compliance on the part of Iran."

Rep. Andre Carson said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M) that withdrawing from the deal would be a "tremendous mistake" that "brings us closer to war." Carson commended the Obama Administration for securing the pact, and said he thinks the "deal is working" and "is worth it." Sen. Ben Cardin said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.22M) said "our concern" is that Trump will "rip up" the nuclear agreement despite Iran not being in violation of the deal. He said if Trump did tear up the deal, "we would be the ones walking away," and "our allies would be scratching their heads."

Tillerson: Deal's Sunset Provisions "Not A Sensible Way Forward." [Reuters](#) (9/20, Mohammed, Irish) reports Secretary of State Tillerson said Tuesday that the nuclear agreement's "sunset" clauses, under which some restrictions against Iran's nuclear program are slated to expire in 2025, "simply is not a sensible way forward." Said Tillerson, "It's just simply...kicking the can down the road again for someone in the future to have to deal with."

Rouhani: "No One Will Trust America Again" If It Leaves Nuclear Deal. "Minutes before" Trump "ripped Iran," Lester Holt of [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/19, story 5, 3:00, 16.61M) sat down with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, who warned that if the US pulls out of the nuclear deal, "no one will trust America again. ... Because after such a possible scenario, which country would be willing to sit across the table from the United States of America and talk about international issues?" When asked if he'd ever sit down with President Trump, Rouhani replied, "When the United States government in very transparently speaks of an aim of regime change in Iran, talking in bilateral fashion becomes very meaningless. In the current atmosphere, I do not see the current requirements for such a meeting." Rouhani also dismissed the Trump Administration's attempts to put Iran in the same basket as North Korea, saying, "North Korea has said in very straightforward manner that it seeks nuclear weapons. ... Iran is completely the opposite point."

Families Of Americans Imprisoned In Iran Welcome Trump's Call For Their Release. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/19, Crabtree, 158K) reports that "families and advocates for Americans imprisoned in Iran applauded President Trump for demanding the release of all US prisoners and others unjustly detained in Tehran" during his speech Tuesday. Family members of Siamak and Baquer Namazi, a father and son who

are being held in Iran, “also urged Trump to take urgent action to try to secure their release.”

Former Iranian Political Prisoner Urges Regime To Acknowledge 1988

Executions. Former Iranian political prisoner Shabnam Madadzadeh writes in the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) that in 1988, an estimated 30,000 Iranians – mostly members of the opposition group Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) – were executed. Madadzadeh calls on Iran’s leaders to acknowledge the killings and hold the mullahs responsible for them accountable. The first step, he says, is the establishment of an independent international investigation.

Trump Calls Out Venezuela, Cuba In UN Speech.

The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported in his address to the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, President Trump “called Cuba and Venezuela failed socialist states. He said Venezuela has descended into chaos after illegitimate elections.” Trump: “We are prepared to take further action if the government of Venezuela persists on its path to impose authoritarian rule on the Venezuelan people.” [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that during his address, Trump threatened “further action” against Venezuela and “promised not to lift sanctions against Cuba until the government in Havana makes fundamental reforms.” In a speech that McClatchy says “moved quickly from criticism of America’s adversaries to dire warnings of nuclear war,” Trump “singl[ed] out Venezuela and Cuba for, he said, delivering only ‘anguish and failure’ to its people.” The President also “called on world leaders to do more to help the people of Venezuela and not look the other way as their government destroys democratic institutions.”

[Fox News’ Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M) reported Venezuela had a “sharp reaction” to Trump’s speech, as the regime “didn’t like being called out for imposing a brutal dictatorship.” [Bloomberg News](#) (9/19, Bristow, 4.52M) reports Venezuela said in a statement that it is prepared to defend itself against aggression from US and its allies. Venezuela will “keep defeating in the political and diplomatic spheres” what “it described as an onslaught of nefarious threats against its sovereignty.”

Newsweek: Trump’s Condemnation Of Socialism Met With “Laughter,” “Weak Applause.” In what [Newsweek](#) (9/19, Haltiwanger, 991K) calls “perhaps the most awkward moment of Trump’s speech,” when Trump “criticized socialism during his speech...he seemed to expect roaring approval from the audience. Instead, world leaders responded with laughter and weak applause.” Conservative commentator Bill O’Reilly “perhaps described it best,” saying, “Most fascinating part of Trump [United Nations] speech: After lambasting socialism, he paused, perhaps waiting for applause. None came. Stony silence.”

In UN Speech, Trump Vows To Always Put America First.

Also garnering media attention is the President’s vow to put America first during his UN remarks. The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M), for example, reported that in his first address to the UN General Assembly, President Trump “told the leaders of the world he will always put America first and said they should put their countries first, too.” [CNN’s Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M) said Trump’s “address started much like a campaign speech, minus the applause from his conservative base, as the President talked about making America first.” While Trump “tried to win over a world body he has ridiculed as ineffective,” he also “made it clear he’s ready to go it alone on a variety of fronts.”

[Fox News’ Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M) reported Trump “says it’s not his intent to nation build or impose democracy through military...action, but rather to create global stability by partnering with nations that put the well-being of their citizens first.” Trump was shown saying that as President, “I will always put America first. Just like you, as the leaders of your countries, will always and should always put your countries first.”

The President, says the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), “defended his America First policy and argued that nationalism can be reconciled with common causes,” repeatedly using the word “sovereignty” to “describe his approach in a setting where the term traditionally has been brandished by nations like Russia and China to deflect criticism of their actions.”

On its front page, the [Washington Post](#) (9/19, A1, Jaffe, DeYoung, 10.38M) says Trump “hammered the principle of national sovereignty...but then outlined an agenda that would keep the United States deeply engaged in the world.” In a [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis, Mark Landler similarly writes that Trump “offered a strikingly selective definition of the concept, threatening to act aggressively against nations like North Korea, Iran and Venezuela, whose policies he opposes, yet saying almost nothing about Russia, which seized territory from its neighbor, Ukraine, and meddled in the American presidential election.”

[USA Today](#) (9/19, Korte, 8.62M) says Tuesday's address "was perhaps the most aggressive speech ever delivered by a US president at the UN," but "amid the provocative language, the widely anticipated address also provided a clear articulation of Trump's emerging worldview. He envisions an international order in which each nation pursues its own self interests — and cooperates only when those interests converge."

[Politico](#) (9/19, Toosi, McCaskill, 3.6M) reports Trump "urged nations to band together to fight 'evil' — even as he extolled the virtue of respecting national sovereignty and insisted that America isn't looking to impose its 'way of life' on others." The "at-times contradictory remarks," Politico adds, were "filled with soaring rhetoric that touched on everything from 'God' to 'chaos,' and the dark tones were reminiscent of Trump's inaugural address, in which he promised to bring an end to 'American carnage.'"

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorializes that while Trump is right to challenge the UN and promote "national sovereignty," there is no substitute for US leadership on the global stage. Max Boot writes for [USA Today](#) (9/19, 8.62M) that "the Trump Doctrine is selfishness squared. Just as Trump has never done anything in his life that did not benefit him personally, so he cannot imagine any nation acting for the general good. In his private life, it's me first. In his foreign policy, it's America First."

[Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) columnist Gerald F. Seib writes that Trump offered world leaders a concise summary of his approach to world affairs, declaring: "We are guided by outcomes, not ideology."

[Reuters](#) (9/19, Mason, Holland) writes that "among the many signals" that Trump sent in his speech, "one was especially clear: former chief strategist Steve Bannon's White House departure has not muted the president's 'America First' foreign policy instincts."

Reaction to the President's address in the media and lawmakers was generally split along party lines. Of note, however, the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) — which is typically very critical of the President — writes on its editorial page that the UN "isn't the venue one would expect for threatening war. Yet that's what President Trump did in his first address to the General Assembly." But overall, the Times says Trump's "largely benign comments about the United Nations were encouraging, considering he once condemned it as useless and having no place in his 'America First' vision."

A [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) editorial says that "for those who have been alarmed by President Trump's retreat from traditional American values, there were reassuring moments" Tuesday. Trump, it says, "rightly and scathingly attacked regimes that deprive their own people of liberty, such as those in North Korea and Venezuela." And "less reassuring" were Trump's "schoolboy taunts" of "Rocket Man." And then, "somewhere in between, there was Mr. Trump's repeated emphasis on sovereignty."

[Fox News' Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M) reported that Rep. Mark Takano called Trump's speech "shockingly reckless." Rep. Barbara Lee tweeted, "Dangerous rhetoric & abdication of values" from President Trump. By contrast, Mitt Romney said Trump "gave a strong and needed challenge to UN members to live up to its charter and to confront global challenges." New Gingrich said Trump's speech "is historic and sets a new standard. Sovereignty and national interest are reasserted as principles."

Rep. Andre Carson noted on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M) that Trump in his speech "praised" the State Department. Carson found that "interesting, because his proposal in his budget makes the deepest cuts in State Department history."

Gloria Borger said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/19, 1.28M), "This was a speech that you can say is full of bombast, which it was, but is the first time we heard laid out completely, clearly Donald Trump's vision for the world. He took on North Korea directly. He took on Iran directly. He took on Venezuela. He took on Syria directly And he also, in addition to taking on those bad actors, he made the case that we foot a lot of the bill in the United Nations and that has to change. There are a lot of people in the audience that would be upset about it. People who will not upset about it are Donald Trump's base and lots of Republicans." A [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Kumar, 67K) analysis says Trump "delivered the message of the voters who elected him."

Mara Liasson of NPR said on [Fox News' Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.66M), "This is what the White House wanted. I thought the speech had something for everyone. For people who wanted some tough, nationalist populist rhetoric, it was in there. I thought it was a step back from the UN bashing that Trump had done during the campaign."

Catherine Lucey of the AP said on [Fox News' Special Report](#)  (9/19, 2.24M) that Trump "really put the world on notice today. The President came in with a clear message he wanted to deliver. If you've been watching his speeches throughout the year and the campaign, it really was a continuation of a vision we've seen from him before. This was a dark interpretation of the state of affairs in the world, but it revealed his frustration and the way he

thinks, and it's the way he thinks he needs to deliver the message. This is the kind of rhetoric he's comfortable with. This is the way he wants to communicate. He wanted to make a stand today."

In his opening monologue on [Fox News' Hannity](#) (9/19, 2.85M), Sean Hannity said of Trump's address, "This is what leading on the world stage actually looks like. President Trump refused to appease and capitulate to countries like Iran and the hate America crowd in North Korea, countries that want to see Israel wiped off the map." Hannity added that Trump "is receiving very high praise for his very bold and direct address."

Trump Declares Emergency As Hurricane Maria Heads Toward Puerto Rico.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M) reported that Hurricane Maria is "already deadly and battering the Caribbean." Maria made landfall in Dominica with 160 mph winds. Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit: "I believe we caught a very bad blow. There appears to be a lot of destruction." The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Semple, Ramzy, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Skerrit said Dominica "sustained 'mind boggling' damage." Skerrit wrote on Facebook, "So far we have lost all what money can buy and replace. ... My greatest fear for the morning is that we will wake to news of serious physical injury and possible deaths as a result of likely landslides triggered by persistent rains." The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 3, 2:00, Mason, 11.17M) reported the Caribbean island of Tortola is "bracing for the worst."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, Correll, 465K) reports that President Trump has "issued an emergency declaration for the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, making the territories eligible for federal funding for disaster relief." In a [tweet](#) Tuesday evening, Trump wrote, "Puerto Rico being hit hard by new monster Hurricane. ... Be careful, our hearts are with you - will be there to help!"

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M) said that as Puerto Rico braces for impact, more than three million US citizens are "at risk" there, with some "warned to evacuate or risk death." [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 2, 2:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the San Juan airport is shutting down as Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello "warns of catastrophic impact." Rossello said on [CNN's Anderson Cooper 360](#) (9/19, 1.29M) that "conditions are deteriorating rapidly. We are expecting a very tough hurricane, the worst hurricane in modern history in Puerto Rico. So for the past couple of days, we've been organizing so that we can get people out of harms way."

Rep. Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon said on [CNBC's Closing Bell](#) (9/19, 170K) that Puerto Rico has "never been hit by a hurricane of this category before since 1928. At that time, there were more than 5,000 people who lost their lives in that kind of hurricane. So we're very concerned. The Governor has taken measures. I'll tell you that FEMA and all the Federal agencies in the island are doing a wonderful job moving people and actually we got more than 500 shelters this time and asking people to move and be safe."

Meteorologist Eric Fisher said on the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 4, 0:35, Mason, 11.17M) that Maria "has a very tight core, meaning the winds, the most destructive ones are right around the eye, but that eye bearing down on St. Croix, as well as Puerto Rico, as we head into early on Wednesday morning, just before daylight, crossing the island as a catastrophic hurricane." The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Samenow, 10.38M) says a warning statement from the National Weather Service "carried an apocalyptic tone," warning people to expect "'catastrophic damage' from winds to 160 mph, including 'structural damage to sturdy buildings, some with complete roof and wall failures.'" The statement "also predicts 'devastating to catastrophic flooding' from rainfall amounts of 12 to 18 inches, with isolated totals exceeding 25 inches."

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 3, 1:10, Holt, 16.61M) reported that Puerto Rico could see a storm surge of six to nine feet before Maria continues to Turks and Caicos on Friday. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 3, 0:55, Zee, 14.63M) reported that Maria will keep "well east of Florida and...away from the Carolinas in all of the computer modeling as we go into next week."

NFIP Director Says Irma Claims Could Exceed \$11 Billion From Harvey.

Roy E. Wright, director of the National Flood Insurance Program, said Tuesday that Hurricane Irma "has already generated almost 20,000 federal flood insurance claims totaling billions of dollars in Florida," and the figure "could eventually exceed US flooding coverage for Hurricane Harvey in Texas," [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Weaver, 67K) reports. Wright told the [Miami Herald](#) that total "damage claims from Irma-related flooding will be 'several billion dollars' in Florida" and "could exceed claims in Texas generated by Hurricane Harvey, which total \$11 billion so far, mainly

because of Irma's flooding of expensive waterfront properties in Florida."

Long: FEMA Will Not Rely On Trailers To House Harvey, Irma Victims.

The [AP](#) (9/19, Kunzelman, Biesecker) reports that FEMA "said it's not borrowing from its much-maligned Katrina playbook to rely on government-issued trailers or mobile homes to shelter residents displaced by hurricanes Harvey and Irma." FEMA Administrator Long said at a briefing last week, "We don't have enough FEMA trailers for all the homes that were destroyed. ... If you combine Harvey and Irma, this is an extraordinary event that is going to require innovative solutions when it comes to housing." Long, who is "working with Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to find ways to get people back in their flood-damaged homes more quickly, without using manufactured housing," said, "The way we've done business in the past has not necessarily been successful. It's been a frustrating road."

Red Cross Says Its System Couldn't Handle Demand For Aid After Harvey.

[NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/19, story 6, 2:05, Holt, 16.61M) reported that while Americans donated \$300 million to the Red Cross "to aid victims of Hurricane Harvey," families in Houston "who said they were promised immediate relief are asking where is the money?" NBC (Beck) added that many people were "denied immediate help after Red Cross online systems crashed from heavy volume." The Red Cross said that "their system couldn't handle the demand. They've given out \$45 million so far, and the immediate assistance program will be working by Thursday."

Citing "Bigger, Larger, More Violent" Storms, Lengyel Says Climate Is Changing.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Lamothe, 10.38M) reports that Air Force Gen. Joseph L. Lengyel, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, said Tuesday that "he believes the world's climate is changing, and that this year's deadly and destructive hurricane season underscores the importance of keeping Guardsmen dispersed across the United States so they can respond quickly to natural disasters." Lengyel said, "I do think that the climate is changing, and I do think that it is becoming more severe. ... I do think that storms are becoming bigger, larger, more violent. You know, I never know if this one speck of time is an anomaly or not, but, you know, we've all seen now three Category-5 storms that popped out in a period of a month." Although hurricanes Harvey and Jose actually "topped out as Category-4 storms," Lengyel's comments nonetheless "illustrate...the general's concern now and in the future."

Bacteria In Everglades City Floodwaters "Too Numerous To Count."

The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (9/19, Staats, 142K) reports that the floodwaters in Everglades City, Florida following Hurricane Irma, bacteria were "too numerous to count," according to Collier County Pollution Control director Danette Kinaszczuk. Tests conducted "on three samples of receding floodwaters taken Sunday stopped counting fecal coliform, an indicator of human or animal waste, at 10,000 units per 100 milliliters." The Daily News adds that "health standards for fishable and swimmable waters in Florida are violated if any single sample tests at 800 units."

Scott Administration Blames Nursing Home For Residents' Deaths.

The [Miami Herald](#) (9/19, Miller, Klas, 701K) reports that as a ninth resident from the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills died, Florida Gov. Rick Scott's Administration has released a timeline declaring that nursing home "failed to do their basic duty to protect life." The release of the timeline came four days after the owners of the nursing home released their own timeline "casting blame for the deaths...on Florida health administrators and a local utility." Scott said in a prepared statement, "This facility is failing to take responsibility for the fact that they delayed calling 911 and made the decision to not evacuate their patients to one of the largest hospitals in Florida, which is directly across the street."

White House Joins Graham-Cassidy Push, But Bill's Prospects Remain Uncertain.

On Tuesday, the White House threw itself into the effort to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, but reports portray the bill's prospects as uncertain despite the optimism of Sen. Lindsay Graham - with the vote of Graham's close friend Sen. John McCain again possibly proving decisive.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/19, story 6, 2:00, Muir, 14.63M) reported on the "last-ditch effort" in the Senate "to kill Obamacare, but time is running out. They have to get it done by next week." ABC's Mary Bruce:

"Tonight, the mad dash to deliver. Mr. Vice President, are you finally going to get health reform done?" Vice President Pence: "We're making progress." Bruce: "Just six working days left for Republicans to overhaul Obamacare with a simple majority vote. The White House tonight is fully on board; the President's working the phones." Pence: "All-in." Bruce: "The new GOP plan ends Obamacare subsidies and the Medicaid expansion. Instead, states will get some money to use as they see fit." Graham: "Here's the choice for America: socialism or federalism when it comes to your healthcare."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Mascaro, 4.49M) reports that the President "is making a big push to revive the Republican healthcare overhaul days before a Senate deadline." Pence, who was in New York with the President for the General Assembly meeting, "returned to the Capitol to tell Republican senators: 'Now is the time. We have 12 days.'" [Breitbart](#) (9/19, Moons, 2.42M) reports, "Pence said that President Trump is 'a great believer in federalism.'" The Vice President indicated that this fact moved the Trump Administration to spend the past six weeks 'in discussions about the way forward, about [Graham's and Sen. Bill Cassidy's] development of the bill' and have 'provided administration resources to support their analysis.'"

[The Hill](#) (9/19, Carney, 1.68M) reports that Graham told reporters on Tuesday, "I really believe we're going to get 50 Republican votes. I've never felt better about where we're at." Guy Benson of [Townhall](#) (9/19, 523K) writes that Graham told reporters that House Speaker Ryan "pledged to him that if the Senate passes the legislation, the House will follow suit – but that the House will not take up a bill that merely props up Obamacare with more bailout-style money, which is the 'compromise' sought by Democrats." [Townhall](#) (9/19, O'Brien, 523K) additionally reports that Graham has been working with Stephen Bannon, who he dubbed "Darth Vader," as well as "figures like Alan Greenspan [and] Jeb Bush," to help win support. [Reuters](#) (9/19, Cornwell) reports that Senate Majority Leader McConnell said on the floor that "lawmakers should act because 'our opportunity to do so may well pass us by if we don't act soon.'"

The deciding vote could be McCain's, and the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that the bill is testing the very close bond between McCain and his close friend Graham – "who is so closely identified with Mr. McCain that when he arrived in the Senate after serving in the House, he was called 'McCain's mini-me.'" The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Howell, 541K) reports that McCain "refused to tip his hand Tuesday." He told reporters, "I have nothing to say. I have nothing to say."

Margot Sanger-Katz writes in the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) "The Upshot" that "the bill faces substantial challenges." Sen. Rand Paul "is a hard no, which makes the math difficult," the bill contains "a huge redistribution of money between states in the bill's formula" that would negatively impact "states with must-get senators," and "the timing is tight, and the bill still has a long way to go." However, ACA repeal "is a core promise for Republicans," and the GOP is motivated to get it done.

Sen. Ben Cardin said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.22M), "We've been working the last two weeks, Democrats and Republicans, in order to improve the Affordable Care Act. That's what the American people want us to do. ... But what the Cassidy bill would do is significantly reduce coverage in this country. Tens of millions of people lose coverage. And more tragically, the progress we've made against abuse of practices with insurance companies...is at great risk with the Cassidy bill. It's moving again in the wrong direction."

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) calls the bill "about as execrable as the others that GOP lawmakers previously failed to approve," and the process "as sloppy and partisan as the one to which" McCain and other senators "objected earlier in the summer. The outcome would be no less destructive."

Timothy Jost of Washington and Lee University Law School writes in the [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) that Graham-Cassidy would "hand the states block grants and abandon to them millions of Americans whom the ACA now helps. ... It would effectively strangle the efforts of states – predominantly Democratic – that have been most successful in extending coverage under the ACA's Medicaid expansion, tax credits and cost-sharing reductions. Conversely, it would lavish funding on states – predominantly Republican – that have resisted the coverage expansion opportunities the ACA offered."

CNN Analysis: With "Private Outreach," Trump Trying To Smooth Relations With Senate Republicans. On its website, [CNN](#) (9/19, Raju, 33.59M) reported that earlier this summer, Trump "had a contentious phone call with" Sen. Lisa Murkowski "and also berated her on Twitter, accusing her of letting the country down for voting against GOP plans to gut Obamacare. But behind the scenes, Trump has since tried to make nice, inviting her to a private lunch earlier this month – something that seems to have defused tensions, at least for now.." CNN added, "The private outreach is part of a more concerted White House effort to repair relations Trump damaged with his own party over a tumultuous August, following the failure of the GOP effort to repeal Obamacare and a slew of White House controversies." The effort "comes at a critical time: The White House is desperately trying to revive its health care push before a September 30 deadline – and needs senators like

Murkowski to salvage the President's agenda."

Bipartisan Group Of Governors Opposes Graham-Cassidy. The [New York Times](#) (9/19, A1, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that a bipartisan group of governors "including five Republicans and a pivotal Alaskan independent urged the Senate on Tuesday to reject a last-ditch push to dismantle the Affordable Care Act." Govs. Charles Baker of Massachusetts, Steve Bullock of Montana, John Bel Edwards of Louisiana, John Hickenlooper of Colorado, John Kasich of Ohio, Terry McAuliffe of Virginia, Brian Sandoval of Nevada, Phil Scott of Vermont, Bill Walker of Alaska, and Tom Wolf of Pennsylvania signed a [letter](#) opposing Graham-Cassidy, while Govs. Larry Hogan of Maryland and Chris Sununu of New Hampshire "expressed similar concerns in separate statements."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, A1, Sullivan, Snell, Eilperin, 10.38M) says that Walker "holds sway" over Sen. Lisa Murkowski, "a potentially decisive vote," while Sandoval "is now at odds" with Sen. Dean Heller, "who is a co-sponsor of the bill." The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, King, 465K) reports that "a group of 15 Republican governors" announced their support for the bill in a Tuesday letter.

Americans For Limited Government Backs Bill. [Breitbart](#) (9/19, Moran, 2.42M) reports that Americans for Limited Government President Rick Manning endorsed the bill on Tuesday, saying, "We are encouraged that the Senate is close to passage on the Cassidy-Graham bill, which is the last best chance for Republicans to keep their basic promise to repeal and replace Obamacare."

Kimmel: Cassidy "Just Lied Right To My Face." On [ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live](#) (9/19, 3.85M), host Jimmy Kimmel criticized Cassidy for saying on his show earlier this year that he would enact "the Jimmy Kimmel test" to protect families from losing health coverage. Kimmel said, "He got a lot of credit and attention for coming off like a rare, reasonable voice in the Republican Party when it came to healthcare. ... [Cassidy] just lied right to my face." Kimmel's segment on the bill ran seven minutes.

Sessions Warns "Sanctuary Cities" After Passage Of California Bill.

[Reuters](#) (9/19, Gorman) reports Attorney General Sessions on Tuesday intensified "the Trump administration's critique of so-called sanctuary cities." His comments came just "days after repudiation of his stance against the sanctuary movement in separate actions by a federal judge in Chicago and the California legislature." A federal judge in Chicago "on Friday barred the Justice Department from withholding public safety grants to" so-called sanctuary cities, while state lawmakers voted Saturday to make California a sanctuary state by "approving a bill barring local governments from forcing undocumented immigrants to spend extra time in jail just to allow immigration agents to take them into their custody." Sessions, who urged California Gov. Jerry Brown not to sign the bill, said, "Such policies undermine the moral authority of law and undermine the safety of the jurisdictions that adopt them. That makes a sanctuary city a trafficker, smuggler or gang member's best friend."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Tanfani, 4.49M) reports protesters in Portland reportedly "gathered outside the venue where Sessions spoke" to protest the "his enforcement positions and opposition to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program." According to the Times, the sanctuary cities issue "has become a primary battleground for the broader immigration debate, playing out in courtrooms, city halls and statehouses." Sessions reportedly "attacked" the California bill on Tuesday, calling it an "unconscionable" threat to public safety. However, the Times says "Brown fired back, strongly defending the measure as a 'well-balanced bill' and a reaction to 'this kind of xenophobia we see coming out of Washington.'" Brown said on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/19, 1.33M), "There is no word sanctuary. This is a bill to have the immigration service do their own work and not attempt to conscript state officials into being part of the immigration service." Asked if he believes complying with federal immigration law is optional, Brown said, "No. And we comply with immigration laws. We are not soldiers of Donald Trump or the Federal immigration service. We have our own laws. To arrest criminals. To give them jury trial. And then to provide appropriate punishment. That's our job. Now, the immigration people can come into our jails, they can interview people, they can pick up people that they think are appropriate. But don't tell California to do your work."

According to the [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Noble, 541K), Brown is expected to sign the California Values Act into law, prohibiting "local police and sheriffs from asking a person about his or her immigration status or from participating in immigration enforcement efforts." The law will allow "local law enforcement agencies, including those that oversee jails...to share information with federal immigration agents and transfer people into their custody if they have previously been convicted of one of some 800 crimes, mostly felonies and misdemeanors that can be charged as felonies," while preventing cooperation "if the person has only minor offense convictions on his or her record." Commenting Tuesday on the decision out of Chicago, Sessions lamented, "We cannot continue giving such federal grants to cities that actively undermine the safety of federal law officers and actively frustrate efforts to reduce crime in their own cities. Our duty [is] to protect public safety and protect taxpayer dollars and I plan to fulfill that duty."

Three Democratic Congressmen Arrested In Protest At Trump Tower.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports three Democratic members of Congress – Raul Grijalva, Luis Gutierrez and Adriano Espaillat – were arrested Tuesday afternoon while protesting outside Trump Tower in New York City. The trio were reportedly “among a small group of demonstrators who sat down in the street on Fifth Avenue Tuesday afternoon and refused to move.” Also handcuffed and led away was New York City Council speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. According to the AP, the protesters demanded that “Congress pass legislation protecting thousands of young immigrants from deportation,” and organizers knew “prior to the event that the lawmakers planned to get arrested.”

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, O’Keefe, 10.38M), which characterizes Gutierrez as “among the most emotional advocates for comprehensive immigration reform” and “a strident critic of Trump’s decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program,” reports that Espaillat was formerly an undocumented immigrant and that he and “Grijalva, who represents parts of southern Arizona, are also strong critics of Trump’s decision.” President Trump was in New York on Tuesday to address the UN General Assembly and meet with other world leaders. The Post adds that “progressive, immigrants’ rights group” Make The Road New York organized the protest, which followed “a day after dozens of protesters loudly shouted down House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi...during a San Francisco event designed to call for the immediate passage of the Dream Act, a bill created to permanently grant protections to dreamers.”

According to [Politico](#) (9/19, Nelson, 3.6M), Gutierrez said, in a statement provided by his spokesman after the arrest, “We’re taking the necessary steps to make it clear to President Trump, the Republicans and the Democrats that we will continue this peaceful fight for DREAMers and immigrants as long as it takes to enact legislation and put DREAMers in a safe place. A few Congressmen and elected-officials gathering in front of Trump Tower doesn’t mean much if it is not backed up by the grassroots and allies and today we are standing with diverse allies to make sure Congress and the President do more than just talk about solutions, they actually follow through with action.” The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Dinan, 541K) offers similar coverage, mentioning also that the arrest is Gutierrez’s his second “in little more than a month.” The Chicago lawmaker was arrested in August “for protesting outside the White House. He paid a \$50 fine and was released.” A House ethics committee investigation last week determined Gutierrez “did nothing to deserve a punishment from the chamber” for his previous arrest.

AP Analysis: Supreme Court Could Avoid Issuing Verdict On Trump Travel Ban.

An [AP](#) (9/19, Sherman) analysis suggests the timetable for President Trump’s travel ban offers the Supreme Court an opportunity to “avoid second-guessing the president on a matter of national security or endorsing an especially controversial part of Trump’s agenda,” which “may be what a majority of the court is hoping for.” The travel ban expires on September 24 and the “refugee ban lapses a month later,” which could prompt the court to rule “that a new lawsuit is necessary” or remand the issue to lower courts. Though the court has already “stepped in three times to evaluate what parts of the policy can take effect,” the AP says several justices may have incentives to avoid judgment in the case, in part due to “a widely held view that the case is difficult to predict. Presidents have substantial power over immigration and courts typically are reluctant to undercut executive authority, especially when presidents say national security is at stake.”

Administration Rejects Study Showing Net Economic Benefit From Refugees.

The [New York Times](#) (9/18, Davis, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says a draft report completed in late July by the Department of Health and Human Services, but never released, showed the “net fiscal impact of refugees was positive over the 10-year period, at \$63 billion.” The report apparently contradicts the rationale of Trump Administration officials to reduce the number of refugees allowed into the US. John Graham, HHS Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, referred to a three page “report the agency ultimately submitted, dated Sept. 5,” which shows the per capita cost of a refugee is \$3,300, compared to \$2,500 for the US population. Raj Shah, a White House spokesman, said, “The actual report pursuant to the presidential memorandum shows that refugees with few skills coming from war-torn countries take more government benefits from the Department of Health and Human Services than the average population, and are not a net benefit to the US economy.”

Manafort Was Under FISA Warrant Wiretap During 2016 Campaign.

 [Fox News Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported that former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was “under federal wiretap from sometime in 2016 into early this year – a period when, CNN states, Manafort was known to talk to President Trump.” The Justice Department is not commenting, but Manafort’s spokesman noted it is a felony to reveal the existence of a FISA warrant. The  [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 6, 2:25, Mason,

11.17M) reported that a former US official says the surveillance on Manafort "picked up conversations between Manafort and Russian individuals about the campaign. The intercepts potentially include conversations between Manafort and Mr. Trump." [CBS News](#) (9/19, Pegues, 4.42M) reports on its website "that the surveillance on Manafort occurred during the 2016 presidential campaign."

[USA Today](#) (9/19, Heath, 8.62M) reports that Manafort "demanded on Tuesday that the government open an investigation into news reports that he had been wiretapped by the FBI." Manafort spokesman Jason Maloni "said if that report is true, the Justice Department's Inspector General should open an investigation into the leak of a FISA warrant, which is a felony." [Politico](#) (9/19, McCaskill, 3.6M) reports that Maloni said, "Mr. Manafort requests that the Department of Justice release any intercepts involving him and any non-Americans so interested parties can come to the same conclusion as the DOJ – there is nothing there." The [Daily Caller](#) (9/19, 521K) also reports on Maloni's statement.

 [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) said it has learned that Manafort "has been threatened with indictment." ABC adds that "sources" say the July raid on Manafort's home "was a sign" that special counsel Robert Mueller's investigators "fear Manafort could destroy evidence, and was an effort to pressure him to divulge details in the Russia probe. They are looking into his business dealings overseas, especially Ukraine."

[CNN](#) (9/19, Perez, Prokupecz, 33.59M) reports on its website that Mueller's team "is reaching back more than a decade" in the Manafort investigation. The FBI's warrant for the July search of Manafort's home "said the investigation centered on possible crimes committed as far back as January 2006, according to a source briefed on the investigation."

Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN) said on  [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) that if the FBI obtains a FISA warrant, it means they've "establish[ed] probable cause." He added that the FISA warrant is different from a standard warrant in that it "deals with Americans who may be acting as agents for foreign governments," so "the question becomes: was Mr. Manafort acting as an agent of a foreign country?"

House Intelligence Committee member Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT) said on [CNN's Anderson Cooper 360](#)  (9/19, 1.29M), "We don't talk to Bob Mueller all that much, but what I can tell you is just the sheer volume of activity...out there suggest there's a huge amount of work being done on Paul Manafort. From my standpoint, that is interesting because Manafort is one of the two to three nexuses, maybe three or four nexuses, between people who were very close to the Trump campaign and Russia."

In a [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) op-ed, Randall Eliason of George Washington University Law School calls the wiretap "a big deal primarily because of what it takes to obtain such a wiretap order." A FISA warrant "means investigators have demonstrated probable cause to an independent judicial authority. Obtaining a warrant actually says much more about the strength of the underlying allegations than issuing a grand jury subpoena. ... News of the FISA surveillance is the latest evidence that Mueller's investigation is serious, aggressive and will be with us for some time."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says in an editorial that a Manafort wiretap would show that there was indeed federal wiretapping of Trump Tower, where Manafort has owned a condo since 2006, during the campaign.

Senate Panel Cancels Private Interview With Cohen After He Releases

Statement.  [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) reported that the Senate Intelligence Committee canceled Tuesday's private interview with Michael Cohen, President Trump's "long-time personal lawyer," after he released a statement denying any collusion with Russia and defending President Trump.

 [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) reported that Cohen, a "heavily anticipated" witness in the Russia investigations "because of his close relationship with President Trump and the recently revealed issue of him pushing for a Trump Tour Moscow project during the campaign season," was set to meet with committee staff on Tuesday.

 [Fox News Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported that the committee said Cohen will instead appear in a public hearing on October 25, but  [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) said there is "no word back if he will come forward in that public testimony."

The [AP](#) (9/19, Tucker, Jalonick) reports that the scheduled meeting "was abruptly canceled on Tuesday amid a dispute over a public statement [that Cohen] issued before the meeting." Committee leaders "said they called off the closed-door staff meeting" after Cohen "sent a public statement to the media just as the interview was about to start." Chairman Richard Burr and ranking member Sen. Mark Warner "issued a terse statement saying the panel had asked Cohen to 'refrain from public comment' and that they would request he return – this time for a public hearing."

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Fandos, Apuzzo, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Cohen "was prepared to tell the committee's investigators that the president's critics were using rumors and innuendo about Russian interference in the election in an attempt to undercut Mr. Trump's presidency." The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Helderman, Demirjian, 10.38M) similarly reports that Cohen "had planned to use the session to vigorously deny playing any role in Russia's efforts during the presidential election campaign." Cohen's lawyer Steve Ryan "told reporters that Cohen stood by written testimony that had been obtained by The Washington Post and had submitted it to the committee for its review."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Scarborough, 541K) reports that in the statement, Cohen "lashed out at a Trump-Russia dossier that has fed conspiracy theories by Democrats and influenced the FBI, saying the document is 'riddled with total falsehoods.'" Cohen "also said he was as close to President Trump as any one during the campaign and never witnessed any collusion with Russia." [Reuters](#) (9/19), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Ballhaus, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), and [Politico](#) (9/19, Wright, 3.6M) also report on the cancellation.

Trump Using RNC, 2020 Campaign Funds To Pay Lawyers. [Reuters](#) (9/19, Freifeld, Gibson) reports that President Trump is using money donated to the Republican National Committee and his re-election campaign to pay for his attorneys in the Russia probe, "according to two people familiar with the matter." The Federal Election Commission "allows the use of private campaign funds to pay legal bills arising from being a candidate or elected official." Trump attorney John Dowd "declined to say how the president's legal bills were being paid, adding: 'That's none of your business.'" The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Gold, 10.38M) reports that the RNC directed "more than \$230,000 to [the President's] attorneys in August alone, party officials confirmed Tuesday."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) editorializes, "As the investigation apparently gathers steam, so does a debate over an Office of Government Ethics rule prohibiting anonymous donations to legal defense funds of government employees. While no such defense fund has yet been set up" for Trump's aides, "its creation would help staffers shoulder the costs of the high-quality legal representation needed to weather questioning. ... And the recent confusion over OGE rules shows that it's time for the office to make clear its position on requiring donor disclosures."

Stone Says His Legal Fees Could Top \$500,000. The [Daily Caller](#) (9/19, 521K) reports, "Trump confidant" Roger Stone said Tuesday "that a lawsuit and congressional inquiries will likely cost him at least \$500,000 in legal fees." Stone has set up a legal defense fund.

Mueller's Office Interviewed Rosenstein About Comey Firing. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Viswanatha, Wilber, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Mueller's office has interviewed Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein about Trump's firing of FBI Director James Comey, according to sources familiar with the investigation. The interview took place in June or July.

Senate Judiciary Committee To Consider Bills To Protect Mueller. [USA Today](#) (9/19, Kelly, 8.62M) reports that the Senate Judiciary Committee will consider two bills to protect Mueller from being fired. Chairman Charles Grassley has scheduled a hearing for next Tuesday "to discuss 'special counsels and the separation of powers.'"

Burr Expects Facebook To Testify Publicly. [Politico](#) (9/19, Schor, 3.6M) reports that Burr says that he "expects Facebook officials to appear at a public hearing examining its role in Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election." Burr "told reporters that he anticipates Facebook representatives testifying sometime this fall."

Huntsman: "No Question" That Russia Interfered In Election. The [AP](#) (9/19, Lardner) reports that Jon Huntsman, President Trump's nominee to be ambassador to Russia, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Tuesday "that Moscow's meddling in the 2016 presidential election led directly to the lack of trust between the two former Cold War foes." Huntsman said, "There is no question that the Russian government interfered in the US election last year and Moscow continues to meddle in the democratic processes of our friends and allies. Right now we're at a low point. It reminds me of 1986." [Reuters](#) (9/19, Zengerle) also reports on Huntsman's remarks.

NYTimes' Vogel Discusses "Accidental Scoop" About Cobb. Kenneth Vogel of the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes about his "accidental scoop" when he overheard President Trump's attorney Ty Cobb discussing the Russia probe at a Washington restaurant last week. Vogel writes, "I have always thought of overhearing conversations as an underappreciated journalistic tool...but I've never overheard a conversation quite like" that one.

Pruitt Questions Whether Climate Change Is An "Existential Threat."

EPA Administrator Pruitt said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/19, 1.24M), "With this climate change, we know certain things. We know the climate is always changing. We know that humans contribute to it in some way. To what

degree to measure that with precision is very difficult. But what we don't know is we are in a situation where it's an existential threat. Is it unsustainable with respect to what we see presently. Let's have a debate about that, bring scientists in, red team scientists, blue team scientists and have a discussion about the importance of this issue so the American people deserve that type of objective, transparent discussion."

Brown: Trump's Claims About Paris Agreement Are "Fake." California Gov. Jerry Brown

was asked on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/19, 1.33M) about President Trump's claim that China got a better deal than the US in the Paris agreement. Brown said, "China is doing more than the US right now. They are closing down coal plants. They are massively investing in solar and wind. They are mastering battery technology, which will help America. So this point that America got a bad deal is fake. It's more fake than any fake news assertion by President Trump."

Politico Analysis: Price's Travel By Private Jet Breaks With His Obama-Era Predecessors.

[Politico](#) (9/19, Diamond, Pradhan, 3.6M) reported, "In a sharp departure from his predecessors," HHS Secretary Price "last week took private jets on five separate flights for official business, at a cost of tens of thousands of dollars more than commercial travel." Price's "travel by corporate-style jet comes at a time when other members of the Trump administration are under fire for travel expenditures, and breaks with the practices of Obama-era Secretaries Sylvia Matthews Burwell and Kathleen Sebelius, who flew commercially while in the continental" US. Politico added, "HHS spokespeople declined to confirm details of the flights, or respond to questions about who paid for them, with a spokesperson only saying that Price sometimes charters planes when commercial flights aren't feasible."

In Tweet, Trump Mocks Low Emmy Ratings.

The [New York Post](#) (9/19, Li, 4.31M) reports, "A sarcastic President Trump gloated Tuesday about low viewership of the Emmy Awards – implying that non-stop bashing of his White House led to dismal numbers." Trump is quoted as [tweeting](#), "I was saddened to see how bad the ratings were on the Emmys last night – the worst ever. Smartest people of them all are the 'DEPLORABLES.'" The Post adds, "Sunday night's show on CBS drew 11.4 million viewers – a tiny bump up from the all-time low Emmy viewership, set in 2016, with 11.3 million viewers. With Stephen Colbert as host, the three-hour-long extravaganza barely spared a moment from ripping Trump's presidency."

Fed Set To Reduce \$4.2 Trillion Balance Sheet.

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the Federal Reserve is expected to announce Wednesday that it will begin gradually reducing its \$4.2 trillion balance sheet of mortgage-backed securities and US Treasury debt, "a move that would amount to a vote of confidence that the economy's slow-but-steady growth is likely to continue." The Fed has not indicated how large it intends the portfolio to be, and there is a "good chance" the reduction will not be completed under current leadership, as Fed Chairwoman Janet Yellen's term expires in February and President Trump has not announced whether he intends to nominate her for a second term.

Economists Say Labor Shortage Gives Workers An Edge. The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Porter, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the labor shortage in parts of the US economy may provide workers with an advantage as labor demand increases along with wages, according to some economists. But although economists think the labor shortage could spell a "brighter future for the working class," they also "worry that the new age of tight labor markets and rising wages" could constrain economic growth. Employers increasingly "must contend with the unflinching force of demography: a work force that is growing at its slowest pace in over a half-century," as baby boomers retire. To offset the wave of retirement, policymakers are examining how to pull more able-bodied people into the work force.

Bloomberg Flummoxed By Rising Stock Market.

On the [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/19, story 7, 2:50, Mason, 11.17M), Anthony Mason reported on a Tuesday interview he conducted with Michael Bloomberg, in which he asked the former New York City mayor, "One of the first things the President said in his speech today, which he often said, is the stock market is at a record high. ... What is that a reflection of?" Bloomberg replied, "I have absolutely no idea. I cannot for the life of me understand why the market keeps going up. Our economy has some real challenges. The infrastructure is falling apart, we're destroying jobs with technology, we are keeping the best and the brightest from around the world coming to America to create new jobs and create new businesses. All of those things would give you pause to worry about the future."

Bloomberg Fills Void In Wake Of End Of Clinton Global Initiative. The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Goldmacher, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "For more than a decade, the Clinton Global Initiative was the star-studded marquee attraction during the annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly." However, "after Bill and Hillary Clinton announced the end of their signature conference during last year's presidential" race, Bloomberg "has stepped unto the breach." Today, Bloomberg "will host a reorganized and rebranded Bloomberg Global Business Forum at the Plaza Hotel, drawing a high-powered crowd and speakers from Tim Cook, the chief executive of Apple, to President Emmanuel Macron of France. In a symbolic passing of the guard, Mr. Clinton will be the first speaker on the day's agenda."

Three Constitutional Scholars Back Zervos Suit Against Trump.

The [New York Post](#) (9/19, Marsh, 4.31M) reports that three constitutional law scholars have submitted an amicus brief backing Summer Zervos' libel suit against President Trump, "after he called her a liar for claiming he groped her at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2007." The three experts – Stephen B. Burbank of the University of Pennsylvania, Richard D. Parker at Harvard University, and Lucas A. Powe Jr. at the University of Texas – argue that "no one in our nation is above the law, not even the president," and that there is "no basis for concluding that subjecting President Trump to claims in state court will unduly distract him from the execution of his presidential duties."

Navy Pledges To Address Problems Stretching Sailors' Limits.

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Cooper, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Admiral John Richardson and other top Navy leaders acknowledged on Tuesday that the US fleet of warships and the sailors that operate them "are deeply stretched because of a combination of 100-hour workweeks, budget constraints, extended deployments and delays in training and maintenance." Addressing the Senate Armed Services Committee, Richardson, Navy Secretary Richard Spencer, and GAO Director John H. Pendleton said they were not ready to say definitively that those factors contributed to recent naval accidents, but Richardson pledged that "we will fix this."

One Poll Shows Northam Leading Gillespie By A Single Point, Another By 10.

The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (9/19, 394K) reports that a Mason-Dixon poll of 625 likely Virginia voters, taken Sept. 10-15, shows Virginia Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D) leading ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie 44%-43% in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D); Libertarian candidate Cliff Hyra drew 2%, while 12% were undecided. Meanwhile, a Quinnipiac University survey of 850 likely Virginia voters, taken Sept. 14-18, shows Northam leading Gillespie 51%-41%, with Hyra at 3% and 5% undecided. Both polls were released on Tuesday. The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports, "Both results come a day after Suffolk University released a poll that found the race in dead heat and the University of Mary Washington released its poll that gave Northam a slight edge but still within the margin of error."

Gillespie, Northam Face Off In "Genteel" Debate. The [AP](#) (9/19, Suderman) reports that Gillespie and Northam, during a debate, "argued in mostly cordial tones Tuesday over taxes, President Donald Trump and what Virginia should do with its numerous monuments to the Confederacy." The AP says, "The debate lacked the kind of sharp-elbowed jabs and name-calling often seen in last year's presidential debates." The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports, "In their first televised debate, the two contenders debated issues in an aggressive but genteel manner, and refrained from the personal attacks that have recently begun to flavor their campaign commercials and social media posts."

The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (9/19, Moomaw, 394K) reports that Northam cast his opponent "as a follower of...Trump," while Gillespie "sought to separate himself from Washington with a wall of state policy proposals." In response to a question about "what he'd say to Northern Virginia Republicans disillusioned by Trump's win," Gillespie "said voters should look at the plans he's put forward, specifically the proposed tax cut at the center of his economic message, and dinged Northam for failing to put up a tax plan of his own." Northam "said he's bothered by many of the things Trump has done so far: including the ban on travelers from some majority-Muslim countries, pulling out of the Paris climate change accord and talk of deporting the so-called Dreamers protected under the DACA program."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, McLaughlin, 541K) reports that the candidates "split over what to do with Confederate monuments on display in Virginia." Gillespie "said he would stop state-controlled statues from being removed and would encourage cities and counties to follow suit." Northam said, "If these statues give individuals, white supremacists like that, an excuse to do what they did [in Charlottesville], then we need to have a discussion about the statues. Personally, I would think the statues would be better placed in museums with certainly historical

context, but I am leaving it up to the localities.” [Politico](#) (9/19, Robillard, 3.6M) reported that the candidates’ “gentlemanly exchange contained few personal attacks and plenty of policy contrast on economic development, health care and immigration.”

Charlottesville Council Votes To Observe Indigenous Peoples Day On What’s Traditionally Columbus Day. The [Charlottesville \(VA\) Daily Progress](#) (9/19, 83K) reports that the Charlottesville City Council on Monday “voted to commemorate the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day. The date traditionally has been celebrated as Columbus Day, though the city does not currently observe the holiday.” The Daily Progress adds that “the resolution says the city ‘shall continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of the Charlottesville American Indian and Indigenous community.’”

Potential 2020 Hopefuls Sanders, Warren Diverge In Efforts “To Expand Their Constituencies.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Sens. Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren “work to expand their constituencies ahead of possible” 2020 presidential bids, “they are making very different wagers about the electorate.” Warren “has taken steps that reflect a traditional and practical course,” such as joining “the Senate Armed Services Committee to attain national security credentials” and courting religious African Americans by “invoking Scripture.” Sanders, meanwhile, “appears to believe that no such nods toward pragmatism or convention are necessary in today’s Democratic Party,” thinking “people will respond to his well-honed pleas to confront the billionaire class, provide health care for all and offer tuition-free access to college.” The Times says Sanders “has shown no willingness to veer from his social justice catechism to tell voters the personal details of his life’s journey, banking that an electorate that could elect Donald J. Trump to the White House no longer needs such political rituals.”

Menendez Judge Sides With Prosecutors In One Ruling On Evidence, With Defense In Another.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports that US District Judge William Walls, who is overseeing the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor, eye doctor Salomon Melgen, “refused a request from defense lawyers on Tuesday to show jurors parts of a TV interview and press release that references discredited rumors about the Democrat consorting with underage prostitutes in the Dominican Republic.” While the “rumors aren’t a part of the 2015 indictment of” the two defendants, Menendez lawyer Abbe Lowell “said they provide context for what Menendez was facing when he did the CNN interview in early 2013, when rumors first surfaced about the two men.” Prosecutors argued “that the interview, as well as other evidence, shows” Menendez “trying to conceal the number of flights he took on a plane owned by Melgen.” Of Lowell’s request, Walls “said there was ‘no way in God’s green earth’ he would allow the evidence in.”

[Politico](#) (9/19, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that Menendez on Tuesday “won a legal skirmish with prosecutors,” as Walls “said he would allow Menendez’s legal team to tell jurors about official actions the senator took to help people other than his co-defendant.” Menendez’s lawyers “plan to introduce evidence showing he has helped many constituents with visa and other issues during his 11 years in the Senate – the same types of acts he’s alleged to have done for Melgen and his girlfriends from other countries, in exchange for Melgen providing lavish vacations, private jet flights and hundreds of thousands of dollars in” donations. Prosecutors “had sought to bar the defense from introducing that evidence.”

Prosecutors: Menendez’s Girlfriend Traveled Free Of Charge On Melgen’s Private Jet. Meanwhile, the [New York Post](#) (9/19, Whitehouse, 4.31M) reports that prosecutors on Tuesday asserted that Menendez “didn’t just accept flights on” Melgen’s “private jet for himself – he also arranged for a gal pal to fly for free.” The Post adds, “In May 2010, Menendez asked...Melgen to fly his girlfriend – financial advisor-turned-political candidate Gwendolyn Beck – to the Dominican Republic on the doctor’s dime, prosecutors said.” Menendez, “who was already on the Caribbean island at the time, made the request to” Melgen “by email, FBI agent Alan Mohl testified in Newark federal court.” Asked by a prosecutor if Menendez paid for Beck’s flight, Mohl replied, “No.” The Post adds that Beck “also flew on Melgen’s private jet with Menendez for an all-expense-paid weekend at the luxurious Tortuga Bay resort in Sept. 2010, records showed.”

CNN: “At Least Four Jurors Appeared To Doze Off” During Testimony. On its website, [CNN](#) (9/19, Jarrett, Jorgensen, 33.59M) reported, “At least four jurors appeared to doze off as prosecutors guided...Mohl through dozens of records showing Menendez’s travel to the Dominican Republic allegedly arranged by...Melgen. In the midst of a particularly drowsy stretch of testimony...Lowell interjected: ‘If it would help save time – we’d stipulate that all of these flights occurred.’ Prosecutors, however, were unrelenting, and DOJ attorney Monique

Abrishami said that the jury deserves to 'see the evidence.'"

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "For a hotly anticipated case that was preceded by salacious tabloid coverage, the corruption trial has instead been a methodical parsing of receipts, credit card reports, flight manifests, travel vouchers, hotel and resort brochures and numerous other seemingly mundane details. Indeed, for most of the third week of testimony, the trial has become a travel seminar, taking a slight detour into a protracted presentation of the extravagant lifestyle that prosecutors say Mr. Menendez enjoyed courtesy of Dr. Melgen."

Newly Formed Support PAC Aims To Boost Ogles' Bid For Corker's Seat.

The [AP](#) (9/19, Schelzig) reports that "conservative Tennessee auto dealer" Lee Beaman on Tuesday announced that he has formed a super PAC aimed at boosting Andy Ogles (R) in his 2018 run for the seat of Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN), who has yet to say whether he'll seek reelection next year. The AP says, "Two people familiar with a White House discussion between the senator and President Trump last week told" the AP "that Trump urged Corker to run during the meeting." Ogles, who announced his bid last week, "is the former state director of Americans for Prosperity, the political arm of conservative billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch's network." Beaman "said he plans to raise \$4 million to support Ogles," adding "in a release that the goal is 'to provide President Trump with an ally in the US Senate that he will be able to depend upon.'" The [Tennessean](#) (9/19, Ebert, 499K) also reports on the story.

AP Analysis: RGA's Online Publication "Looks Like A Media Outlet."

The [AP](#) (9/19, Barrow) reports that the Republican Governors Association is "getting into the 'news' business," launching "an online publication that looks like a media outlet and is branded as such on social media. The Free Telegraph blares headlines about the virtues of GOP governors, while framing Democrats negatively," and "asks readers to sign up for breaking news alerts. It launched in the summer bearing no acknowledgment that it was a product of an official [GOP] committee. ... Only after [the AP] inquired about the site last week was a disclosure added to The Free Telegraph's pages identifying the publication's partisan source." The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Chokshi, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that GOP operative Rick Tyler told the AP "that the site amounted to 'propaganda.'" However, RGA spokesman Jon Thompson "dismissed that accusation, and argued that the website's links to the group were obvious. It's an outlet to share the positive results Republican governors are getting in the states," he said by email."

Obama To Host Event For New Jersey Gubernatorial Hopeful Murphy This Fall.

The [Hill](#) (9/19, Parnes, 1.68M) reported that ex-President Obama "will host an event this fall for" ex-Goldman Sachs executive Phil Murphy (D), who is battling Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno (R-NJ) in the 2017 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Chris Christie (R-NJ). Murphy "served as US ambassador to Germany from 2009 to 2013 under Obama." Polls have shown Murphy with "a massive lead" in the race.

RGA Ad Hits Murphy On Taxes. Meanwhile, [NJ News](#) (9/19, Salant, 1.21M) reports that the Republican Governors Association on Tuesday launched a TV ad targeting Murphy on taxes. In the spot, a narrator says, "Phil Murphy believes taxes in Jersey aren't high enough. So, Murphy plans to raise them \$1.3 billion more." The narrator concludes, "Phil Murphy: He's really loaded, really liberal, and really doesn't get New Jersey." NJ News adds that Murphy "has detailed plans to raise taxes by \$1.3 billion to pay for his initiatives, including hiking taxes on wealthy residents and taxing legalized marijuana. But he says the tax hikes would spare the middle class, and he also plans to close corporate loopholes and grow the economy to help cover the costs."

Michelle Obama's Former Policy Director Enters Maryland Democratic Primary.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Hicks, 10.38M) reports that Krishanti Vignarajah (D), "a former policy director for then-first lady Michelle Obama," on Tuesday kicked off her 2018 campaign to oust Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R), saying that "as governor she would push for mandatory paid family leave for new mothers and fathers and for universal prekindergarten and make education her 'top priority.'" Vignarajah joins a crowded Democratic primary that includes Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III (D), ex-NAACP chief Ben Jealous (D), and Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz (D), among others.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/19, Cox, 706K) reports, "As the only woman in the crowded Democratic" primary, "Vignarajah put her gender at the center of her candidacy. 'They say no man can beat Governor Hogan,' she said. 'Well, I'm no man.' She pointed out that Maryland currently has no women elected to any of its 14 federal and statewide offices" and "has never elected a woman for governor." Said Vignarajah, "Let me be clear: part of why I am

running is because we need more women in public office.”

Report: Liberal Groups Received \$765M “From Union Members’ Paychecks” From 2012-2016.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/19, McMorris, 158K) said that a report from “labor watchdog group Center for Union Facts” shows that progressive “groups and election campaigns cashed in on about \$765 million from union members’ paychecks” from 2012-2016. The Free Beacon added, “Unions nationwide shipped more than \$100 million each year to liberal advocacy groups and political groups backing Democratic candidates” during the period, according to the report. A number “of these groups are overtly political with more than \$300 million spent supporting campaigns and ballot initiatives. The AFL-CIO-backed Working America was the largest beneficiary of union resources, collecting more than \$50 million from national, state, and local unions. ”

Democrats Launch Initiative Aimed At Boosting Ranks Of Female State Attorneys General.

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Democrats have a paucity “of female officeholders in state capitals. Only two governors and five state attorneys general are Democratic women, an acute problem for a party that counts women as a pillar of its base and trumpets the value of diverse representation. Moving to address the disparity, the Democratic Attorneys General Association” met “last week to announce a commitment to ensuring that in five years, at least half of the party’s attorneys general will be women. The group is creating a committee of current and former attorneys general and other partners to recruit, train and raise money for female candidates as part of what they are calling the 1881 Initiative, named for the first year that a woman sought, unsuccessfully, the office of state attorney general.”

In Book, Ex-Secret Service Agent Says Agency Lowered Standards In Quest For Diversity.

The [Daily Caller](#) (9/19, Hunter, 521K) reports, “As the US Secret Service sought greater diversity in its ranks, the agency lowered its standards, former agent Dan Bongino says in a new book on the inner workings of the government agency. ... The lowering of standards has been ongoing since at least ‘the early 2000s,’ according to the book, and continue to this day. ‘Sadly, and for many years, the Secret Service has been sacrificing mission-readiness at the altar of political correctness,’ Bongino writes in ‘Protecting The President: An Inside Account of the Troubled Secret Service in an Era of Evolving Threats,’ out Tuesday.”

WSJournal A1: Antifa Is Dividing The Left.

On its front page, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, A1, Lovett, Levitz, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) analyzes how antifa activists have created divisions among liberals over whether to denounce the group and its occasionally violent tactics. Some, such as House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, have spoken out against antifa violence, but others are uncomfortable with denouncing the loose affiliation of far-left groups and individuals – especially after the violence in Charlottesville sparked by far-right protests.

Largest Confederate Monument In Middle Of Georgia’s Politics.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Hendrix, 10.38M) reports on the ongoing debate over whether to remove the Confederate Memorial Carving in Georgia’s Stone Mountain Park – a carving that is reportedly the largest flat relief sculpture in the world and increasingly a fixture of Georgia politics. Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacy Abrams is calling for the carving’s removal, calling it “a blight on our state,” but others, including Republican gubernatorial candidate Casey Cagle, argue the state should work to add to its history, rather than remove monuments.

NYTimes A1: Murder Of Civil Rights Pioneer Again Under Investigation 52 Years Later.

In a front-page article, the [New York Times](#) (9/19, A1, Gabriel, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports on efforts by activists, police, and the Justice Department to re-examine the unsolved murder of Alberta Jones, a “civil rights pioneer” who was “brutally” murdered in 1965. Bellarmine University professor Lee Remington – who examined 1,600 pages of police files and “laid out what she believed were overlooked clues to the murder in a long letter last year to the Louisville police,” who agreed to reopen the case – says attempting to solve Jones’ murder is a “quest for justice.”

O'Reilly Says His Firing Was A "Political And Financial Hit Job."

[Reuters](#) (9/19) reports Bill O'Reilly said Tuesday on [NBC's Today Show](#)  that he was fired from Fox News as a result of a "political and financial hit job" and that he "never mistreated anyone...in 42 years" of reporting. During the interview – his first on television since leaving Fox in April – he said his conscience was "clear" and that he was organizing a legal team "to get the truth to the American people."

Hewitt: Overall, Trump Has Had "A Pretty Good Eight Months."

In his [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) column, Hugh Hewitt argues that overall, President Trump has had "a pretty good eight months" since entering the White House. Hewitt, among other things, praises Trump for "his 'American carnage' inaugural address, his speech to the assembled leaders of Sunni countries wherein he demanded that they demand of their religious authorities the preaching of a message that the terrorists would find their souls eternally damned, and his 'West is best' speech in Poland"; his appointing of Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch; his assembling of a national security "team of exceptional competence"; and his "regulatory rollbacks."

WPost's Sullivan Sides With ESPN's Hill In Controversy Over Trump "A White Supremacist" Tweet.

In her [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) column, Margaret Sullivan sides with ESPN's Jemele Hill, who in a recent tweet "described President Trump as a white supremacist," a move that drew a rebuke from ESPN and criticism from the Trump Administration. Sullivan says that "Hill doesn't cover the White House, nor does she work for a newspaper or political-news outlet. She also has a measure of truth on her side. Trump was elected in part because of his appeal to racism – yes, and sexism – in America." Sullivan adds, "At a time in America when authoritarian tendencies are rising, shutting down voices such as Jemele Hill's is worse than inappropriate. It's dangerous."

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[Trump Issues Dire Warning To North Korea In Address To UN](#)
[Heavy Debt Crushed Owners Of Toys 'R' Us](#)
[CEO Catches Stranger After Hours, Prompting Espionage Charges](#)
[How Antifa Violence Has Split The Left](#)

New York Times:

[With Combative Style And Epithets, Trump Takes America First To The UN](#)
[Trump Offers A Selective View Of Sovereignty In UN Speech](#)
[Powerful Earthquake Strikes Mexico, Killing Over 100](#)
[Senate Republicans Embrace Plan For \\$1.5 Trillion Tax Cut](#)
[Republican Leaders Defy Bipartisan Opposition To Health Law Repeal](#)
[Aung San Suu Kyi, A Much-Changed Icon, Evades Rohingya Accusations](#)
[A 'Quest For Justice' For A Murdered Civil Rights Pioneer, 52 Years Later](#)

Washington Post:

[GOP Health Bill Hits Hurdle In Resistance From Governors](#)
[Trump Makes Defiant UN Debut](#)
[Robust Emphasis On Sovereignty Echoes President's Domestic Agenda](#)
[Puerto Rico Prepares For Direct Hit By Maria](#)
[Ugly Past, Unattractive Present For Biggest Confederate Monument](#)
[Scores Dead After Powerful Quake Jolts Mexico](#)

Financial Times:

[Trump Threatens To 'Totally Destroy' North Korea](#)
[Theresa May Prepares €20bn EU Budget Offer](#)

[Russian-Built Nuclear Plant Revives Chernobyl Fears](#)
[Aung San Suu Kyi Defends Handling Of Rohingya Crisis](#)

Washington Times:

[Trump Defines 'America First' To Wary World Leaders At U.N., Warns North Korea And Iran](#)
[Senate Republicans Close To Pushing Through Obamacare Repeal](#)
[National Mall Faces Space Crunch For Global War On Terror Memorial](#)
[In U.N. Address, Trump Replaces Obama's Soft Talk With Big Stick](#)
[At Least 149 Dead In Mexico After Magnitude 7.1 Earthquake](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Wheaton College-Football Team Hazing; Florida-Hospital Outrage; Russia Military Training Accident; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Disabled Pilot.

CBS: Mexico City Earthquake; Mexico City Earthquake-Expert Comment; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Michael Bloomberg Interview; Guns In Classrooms; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Mexico City Earthquake-Situation Update.

NBC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Iranian President Interview; Red Cross Controversy; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Florida Sinkhole; Dodge Trucks Recall; Wrong Baby Registry; Children Night Lights.

Network TV At A Glance:

Mexico City Earthquake – 10 minutes, 15 seconds
Hurricanes – 9 minutes, 30 seconds
Trump-UN Address – 7 minutes, 30 seconds
Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort – 4 minutes, 35 seconds
Toys R Us-Bankruptcy – 2 minutes, 20 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Congress-Healthcare Reform.

CBS: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Sanctuary Cities; Wall Street News.

FOX: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Trump-UN Address.

NPR: Hurricanes; Mexico City Earthquake; Trump-UN Address; Congress-Healthcare Reform.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participates in an expanded meeting with the King of Jordan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of the Palestinian Authority; attends a working lunch with African leaders; participates in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Egypt.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Delivers remarks at a UN Security Council high-level debate on reform of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations; joins the President for an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; joins the President for an expanded meeting with the President of Egypt.

US Senate: 9:00 AM Senate Aging Committee hearing on disaster preparedness and response – Hearing on 'Disaster Preparedness and Response: The Special Needs of Older Americans', with testimony from former New Orleans Health Commissioner Karen DeSalvo; University of South Florida School of Aging Studies Professor / Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging Director Dr Kathryn Hyer; Portlight Inclusive Disaster Strategies CEO/President Paul Timmons Jr; and Wilkes-Barre, PA, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator Jay Delaney Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 562, Washington, DC <http://aging.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Judiciary Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Allison Eid to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit; Annemarie Carney Axon to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama; Michael Lawrence Brown and William Ray II to be U.S. District Judges for the Northern District of Georgia; and Thomas Alvin Farr to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina Location: Dirksen Senate

Office Building, Rm 226, Washington, DC <http://judiciary.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Environment and Public Works Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Michael Dourson, Matthew Leopold, David Ross, and William Wehrum to be Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrators; and Jeffery Baran to be a Nuclear Regulatory Commission member Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 406, Washington, DC <http://epw.senate.gov/public/>

10:30 AM Republican Sen. James Lankford meets with Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney Location: Washington, DC <http://www.lankford.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenatorLankford>

1:00 PM Dem Sen. Jack Reed and military consumer advocates hold briefing on the CFPB arbitration rule – Democratic Sen. Jack Reed and military consumer advocates hold briefing on 'how the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's arbitration rule directly benefits the military community and helps protect service members from financial frauds and abuses', and 'how the CFPB rule directly impacts Equifax and Wells Fargo customers'. Other participants include Commissioned Officers Association Deputy Executive Director John McElligot, Public Justice Executive Director Paul Bland, and Wells Fargo fake account victim Tracey Kilgore Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 538, Washington, DC <http://reed.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenJackReed>

2:30 PM Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee hearing on end of the year spending – Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management Subcommittee hearing on 'Prudent Planning or Wasteful Binge? Another Look at End of the Year Spending', with testimony from Section 809 Panel Commissioner Dr Allan Burman; Mercatus Center at George Mason University Senior Research Fellow Dr Jason Fichtner; and Government Accountability Office Director of Strategic Issues Heather Krause Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 342, Washington, DC <http://hsgac.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenateHSGAC>

US House: 9:00 AM Dem Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee co-hosts event on ending all discrimination against all women and girls – 'Target One: Ending All Forms of Discrimination Against All Women and Girls Everywhere' – the inaugural event of a new breakfast series hosted by Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) exploring each element of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #5, 'Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls'. Participants include University of Delaware Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies Dr Kara Ellerby, Smash Strategies partner Susan Markham, and IFES Director of Monitoring and Evaluation and Public Opinion Research Rakesh Sharma Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2045, Washington, DC www.ifes.org [#SDG5](https://twitter.com/IFES1987)

10:30 AM Pelosi, others ahead of HBCU Roundtable – House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Congressman Bobby Scott, and Members of the Congressional Black Caucus will deliver brief remarks ahead of a roundtable with Historically Black Colleges And Universities (HBCU) Presidents and Chancellors to discuss legislative priorities. Remarks will be delivered at the top of the meeting. Location: Gabe Zimmerman Room, HVC-215 Capitol Visitor Center The Capitol. <http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

12:00 PM Pelosi Weekly briefing – Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi will hold her weekly press conference. Location: HVC Studio A (Enter through HVC-117), Capitol Visitor Center. <http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

On recess until 25 September.

Other: 7:30 AM Air, Space & Cyber Conference continues with Defense Secretary Mattis keynote – Air Force Association Annual Air, Space & Cyber Conference and Technology Exposition continues, with final day keynote from U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis Location: Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, 201 Waterfront St, National Harbor, MD National Harbor www.afa.org [#ASC17](https://twitter.com/AirForceAssoc)

8:00 AM U.S. Black Chambers Policy Breakfast – U.S. Black Chambers Policy Breakfast, with panel discussions on 'Doing Business with Corporate America', and 'Public Sector Contracting: Diverse Supply Chains on a Local Level'. Speakers include Democratic Rep. Cedric Richmond Location: NCTA – The Internet & Television Association, 25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC www.usblackchambers.org <https://twitter.com/usblackchambers>

9:00 AM Department of Labor releases updated child labor report and apps – Department of Labor simultaneously releases an update to its annual child labor report, representing 'the most comprehensive research product to date on the state of child labor in over 130 countries worldwide'; a new app entitled 'Comply Chain', designed to help businesses root out child labor, forced labor, and modern slavery from global supply chains; and an updated version of the smartphone app 'Sweat & Toil', which contains information on goods produced by child labor or forced labor, and the latest findings on govts' efforts to address child labor (9:00 AM EDT) * Deputy Under Secretary of Labor for International Labor Affairs Martha Newton participates in briefing on the releases at the Washington Foreign Press Center, National Press Building, 529 14th St NW, Washington, DC (11:00 AM EDT) Location: TBD <http://www.dol.gov> <https://twitter.com/USDOL>

11:30 AM HUD Secretary Carson pen-and-pad on hurricane recovery efforts – Secretary of Housing and Urban

Development Ben Carson discusses HUD's role in the long-term recovery efforts for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Topics will include CDBG-DR funding, the timeline for recovery, and what people in the affected region can expect from HUD, via pen-and-pad with select reporters. Other participants include Associate General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Janet Golrick, General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research Todd Richardson, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs Stan Gimont Location: Robert C. Weaver Federal Building, 451 7th St, Washington, DC <http://www.hud.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HUDNews>

2:00 PM Brookings Institution discussion on Saudi Arabia and 'Vision 2030' – 'Saudi Arabia looks forward: Vision 2030 and Mohammed bin Salman' Brookings Institution Intelligence project discussion, with Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs Senior Fellow Karen Elliott House discussing the findings from her new paper 'Saudi Arabia in Transition', which analyzes the progress the Saudis have made and the challenges they face in implementing Vision 2030 – a plan to modernize its economy and society while allowing it to maintain its hold on power – amidst the recent changes in leadership Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.brookings.edu> <https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst>

8:00 PM Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Celebration of Leadership in the Fine Arts – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Celebration of Leadership in the Fine Arts, honoring Spike Lee, Yolanda Adams and Simone Paulwell * Organized in cooperation with the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Visual and Performance Arts Scholarship program Location: Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St NW, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org <https://twitter.com/CBCFInc>

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference, themed 'And Still I Rise'. Includes National Action Network panel discussion with NAN Founder and President Rev. Al Sharpton and Democratic Sen. Cory Booker on diversity in asset management (12:30 PM EDT) Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org/alc <https://twitter.com/CBCFInc> #CBCFALC17

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- [WSJournal A1: Antifa Is Dividing The Left.](#)
- [Largest Confederate Monument In Middle Of Georgia's Politics.](#)
- [NYTimes A1: Murder Of Civil Rights Pioneer Again Under Investigation 52 Years Later.](#)

- [O'Reilly Says His Firing Was A "Political And Financial Hit Job."](#)
- [Hewitt: Overall, Trump Has Had "A Pretty Good Eight Months."](#)
- [WPost's Sullivan Sides With ESPN's Hill In Controversy Over Trump "A White Supremacist" Tweet.](#)

The Big Picture

- [Headlines From Today's Front Pages.](#)

Washington's Schedule

- [Today's Events In Washington.](#)

Secretary and Department News

Education Chief In Betsy DeVos's Home State Clarifies Comments On School Choice.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Strauss, 10.38M) reports Brian Whiston is the superintendent of public instruction in Michigan, "the home state of U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who has played a pivotal role in the growth of the state's controversial charter school sector and been a staunch advocate for choice programs." Based on his experience, the Post says, it is "fair to assume that [Whiston] knew what he was talking about and meant what he said" when he recently went on the public television show "Off the Record" to discuss education. However, Whiston went back and forth on whether he supported school choice in Michigan. He said during the interview that school choice has "probably taken" the state backwards overall, but after the interview, he clarified in a statement that but after the interview clarified that "that was a poor choice of words" on his part and that he does "support school choice for students and parents."

ED Approves Purdue's Plan To Buy Kaplan University.

The [Indianapolis Star](#) (9/19, 479K) reports that Purdue University officials say that ED has approved the school's plan to purchase for-profit chain Kaplan University. However, ED "has outlined certain conditions that need to be met, which Purdue says it will work to address as it prepares to complete the transaction." Now, the Star reports, the biggest remaining stumbling block to the deal is the approval of the accreditor the Higher Learning Commission, which "is expected to make a decision in the coming months." Purdue's plan to purchase Kaplan and "create a new, online university that Purdue is calling 'New University'...rocked the higher education world, where for-profit institutions have fought against reputations as predatory debt-traps and struggled against increased regulation imposed by the Obama administration."

The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (9/19, 43K) reports that ED “‘preliminarily concluded’ that it had no objections to the deal,” but “noted that final approval requires more information from the parties involved, and that conditions would be imposed.” The [AP](#) (9/19) reports that the deal had already been approved by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education in August. This piece adds that “some Purdue faculty members have criticized the deal, saying they’re worried about the reputation of Kaplan University and parent Kaplan Higher Education,” both of which “face investigations and lawsuits in several states over hiring and recruitment practices.”

[Inside INdiana Business](#) (9/19) and the [St. Joseph \(MO\) News-Press](#) (9/19, 12K) also cover this story.

ED Also Approves Art Institutes Sale. [The Hill](#) (9/19, Savransky, 1.68M) reports that in addition to the Purdue/Kaplan deal, ED approved the nonprofit Dream Center’s purchase of the Art Institutes, currently owned by EDMC. The Hill reports that ED’s approval of the deals “could signal a change in the way these deals are looked at under Education Secretary Betsy DeVos,” noting that the Obama administration “did not allow for the conversion of one for-profit to nonprofit college.”

Senate Holds Confirmation Hearing For Muñiz.

Andrew Ujifusa writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/19, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that the Senate HELP Committee held a confirmation hearing Tuesday for Carlos Muñiz, the nominee to serve as ED General Counsel. Questioned about how much flexibility states should have under ESSA by ranking Democrat Patty Murray, Muñiz “said he would tell states and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to follow the Every Student Succeeds Act.” Muñiz “gave a narrow answer about ESSA oversight,” saying to Murray, “My advice to states would be to follow the law. ... My job would be to advise her as to what the law requires, advise her as to what her discretion might be.” Muñiz “took a similar line with” Chairman Lamar Alexander, “who asked Muñiz if DeVos should follow ESSA’s clear prohibitions on the secretary’s role in issues such as state’s long-term academic goals.”

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that Senate Democrats had planned to “air their grievances” at Muñiz’ hearing over DeVos’ “plans to rewrite Obama-era efforts designed to protect defrauded for-profit college students and campus sexual assault victims.”

HBCU Gathering Occurs Amid Tensions With Administration.

[NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) reports that most years, HBCU leaders “gather in Washington D.C., to lobby Congress and the White House. This year President Trump was not there to greet them, which was just as well because the meeting took place amid simmering frustration with the Trump administration.” HBCU leaders say they have received “little or no support from the administration” and complain of “a lack of understanding of the financial straits some schools are facing.” Other sources of tension between HBCUs and the administration include “President Trump’s response to the violence in Charlottesville” and his “questioning of the constitutionality of federal funding that HBCUs receive for construction projects.”

Johnathan Holifield To Lead White House Initiative On Historically Black Colleges. The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Scott, 10.38M) reports in its “The Fix” blog the White House “has finally hired

someone to head the president's historically black colleges and universities initiative after reports that the administration was having a difficult time finding a person willing to take the job." However, the new head is attracting attention "because of his lack of experience in the area that he will lead." The White House announced Monday "that former Cincinnati Bengals player Johnathan Holifield would lead its initiative on historically black colleges and universities, a group of more than 100 higher education institutions founded to serve black Americans when the majority of colleges and universities prevented minorities from enrolling."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Rosenblatt, 4.49M) reports that the "Trump administration has named Johnathan M. Holifield, a former NFL player, author and entrepreneur, to lead" the White House Initiative HBCUs. "Advocates applauded the appointment and said they look forward to working with Holifield," but others "are still skeptical and called for more substantive changes, particularly a reversal of proposed budget cuts and a greater commitment to Title III of the Higher Education Act, which helps institutions of higher education support low-income students."

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that according to Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC), "co-chairwoman of the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus," the administration's "appointment of a director for a federal initiative aimed at boosting historically black colleges and universities is 'the first step' toward repairing the administration's relationship with HBCUs."

DeVos Has Templates For Campus Sexual Assault Compromise.

[NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) aired a segment on the debate over how ED's campus sexual assault guidance might be changed by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who has stressed that schools can find better ways to address the issue, saying that "new rules must be more fair to the accused students." The segment explores "compromise proposals" that have been made, saying that such plans could inform DeVos' ultimate determination.

Democrats Call On DeVos To Maintain Status Quo On Campus Sexual Assault Guidance.

The [Detroit News](#) (9/19, 725K) reports that Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI) "led a group of a dozen Democratic lawmakers in urging Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to keep" ED's current campus sexual assault guidance. The letter, expressing "deep concern" about DeVos' plans to change the guidance, calls on her "not to weaken enforcement of Title IX protections for sexual assault victims and stressing the need to ensure the department's policy protects survivors across the country."

Groups Call On DeVos To Cancel Student Loan Policy Changes.

[Diverse Education](#) (9/19, Abdul-Alim) reports that a coalition of 39 organizations has written to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos calling on her to forego planned student loan regulatory changes, saying they could "spell disaster for students of color who are too often exploited in consumer lending." The letter was "signed by a diverse array of organizations including the NAACP, Urban

League and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, or HACU.” The groups lament “a series of changes that DeVos has sought or implemented in recent months — including the delay and renegotiating of the gainful employment and borrower defense rules meant to hold for-profit colleges accountable for employment outcomes and to give relief to defrauded student loan borrowers.”

Senate Democrats Call On CFPB To Keep Pressure On Student Loan Industry.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (9/19, Kreighbaum, 70K) reports Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) have written to Consumer Financial Protection Bureau director Richard Cordray calling for the agency “to maintain active oversight of loan servicers and other participants in the student loan industry.” The letter comes “in the wake of a Department of Education decision to terminate two agreements with the agency involving oversight of student loan programs.” The letter calls this move “another example of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos acting in favor of private student loan companies at the expense of borrowers.”

ED’s ESSA Approvals Begin To Paint Picture.

Alyson Klein writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and ED officials “have been approving state plans for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act at a fast and furious pace.” She writes about some “big takeaways” from the plan that have been approved to date. She writes that ED’s “feedback on plans may not be as influential as would be expected,” saying that states got their plans approved even though they made only small revisions based on ED feedback. However, “states worked the hardest to fix their plans in the areas in which the department pushed the most.” Moreover, some plans “may not be as ambitious as some ESSA experts would have hoped.”

Additional Reading

Education Committee Lawmakers Unhappy With ESSA Plan.

The [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#) (9/19, Martines, 236K)

Indiana Federal Lawmakers Ask DeVos To Delay Grad Rate Change.

[WVIK-FM](#) Rock Island, IL (9/19)

Banks, Indiana Delegation Write To Secretary DeVos Regarding Indiana Graduation Rate.

[WBIW-AM](#) Bedford, IN (9/19)

Minnesota School Accountability System Up For Review To Meet Federal Standards.

The [Worthington \(MN\) Daily Globe](#) (9/19, 27K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Connecticut Districts Brace For Funding Cuts As Budget Bill Fizzles.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) is expected to veto a Republican budget proposal, meaning that “more than 100 school districts must brace for funding cuts come Oct. 1. That’s when Connecticut public schools are due for state education dollars, funding they’re unlikely to get unless state lawmakers approve a budget by the start of the coming month.” Malloy plans to give the neediest districts emergency payments, but this will leave “54 districts with significant funding reductions and 85 districts with no state funding at all.”

Failed Charters Increasingly Going Private, Benefiting From Vouchers.

[ProPublica](#) (9/19, 15K) reports that after district officials in Jacksonville, Florida canceled the charter of Orange Park Performing Arts Academy over abysmally poor academic outcomes, the school “surprisingly...didn’t shut down — and even found a way to stay on the public dime. It reopened last month as a private school charging \$5,000 a year, below the \$5,886 maximum that low-income students receive to attend the school of their choice under a state voucher program.” The piece reports that private schools have often gone charter in the past to “take advantage of public dollars, more schools are now heading in the opposite direction. As voucher programs across the country proliferate, shuttered charter schools...have begun to privatize in order to stay open with state assistance.”

Los Angeles BOE President Announces Resignation.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Blume, 4.49M) reports Ref Rodriguez announced Tuesday that he is voluntarily resigning from his post as Los Angeles Unified Public Schools Board of Education president — less than three months into his tenure. Rodriguez “faces three felony charges on allegations of campaign money laundering,” and his announcement “marks a stunning turnaround for

Rodriguez and supporters of charter schools, who spent record sums in campaigns this year to elect a board majority that is widely viewed as pro-charter." That pro-charter majority will be left largely intact; however, the legal problems surrounding Rodriguez "could detract from what the majority has described as its 'kid-first' agenda."

Missouri Governor's Efforts To Overhaul State BOE Hits Latest In Series Of Roadblocks.

The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (9/19, 831K) reports Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens' efforts to overhaul the State Board of Education "hit another roadblock on Tuesday" when the board withdrew from consideration his pick "to replace current and well-liked Education Commissioner Margie Vandeven." Previously, Heidi Crane, "a last-minute choice to replace Springfield resident Melissa Gelner on the board after Gelner's nomination was withdrawn by Greitens," had declined to accept her appointment. Greitens' third appointee, Delbert Scott, withdrew his candidacy after learning "his job barred him from sitting on the board." Since the governor has only replaced three board members, he "is short of having the votes to bring in his own person to run the agency."

Report: Utah School Nursing Shortage Has Worsened.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports the Utah Department of Health's annual report found that the state had one school nurse per 4,543 students, slightly worse than the year prior. The shortage has left "school nurses with six times the recommended students under their care." School enrollment continues to climb annually, "but school nursing levels have not kept pace amid tight school budgets, leaving multiple schools relying on a single nurse and sometimes putting children at risk, parents and advocates say." Utah state legislatures are considering using Medicaid funds to pay for the school nurses, a move estimated to cost about \$3 million. The National Association of School Nurses has recommended one all-day nurse per school; to meet that goal, Utah "would have to hire more than 950 nurses, at a cost of about \$91 million," which is about 10 times as much as what the state currently spends.

State Of Maryland, Baltimore District Agree To Struggling School Improvement Partnership.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/19, 706K) reports the Maryland State Department of Education and Baltimore City Public Schools chief executive Sonja Santelises signed a memorandum of understanding this month that "outlines the state's plan to help improve schools in the bottom 5 percent in the state." Twenty-four of the 27 priority schools are in Baltimore. Under the agreement, the state will "send leadership coaches to work one-on-one with principals in targeted schools on strategies for improvement." Assistant principals, teachers, and other school officials "will also participate in programs aimed at stemming high turnover in underperforming schools." The state will conduct monthly checks to monitor progress, and revise improvement plans as needed. Santelises conceded the partnership will not turn around the city's struggling schools overnight, but it will "hold each other mutually accountable."

Houston ISD Elementary Schools Still Closed From Hurricane Take Students On Field Trips.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (9/19, Webb, 1.97M) reports that “students of three Houston ISD elementary schools still closed due to Hurricane Harvey will be able to take free field trips this week.” Houston ISD announced that students at the schools “would embark on trips around the museum district. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for free by Houston ISD’s Food Services.”

AEI Fellow: States, Schools Should Address Growing Pensions And Benefits Problem.

American Enterprise Institute Education Policy Studies Research Fellow Nat Malkus writes in [U.S. News & World Report](#) (9/19, 1.73M) that Illinois last month “passed a new school funding formula that would dramatically alter the state’s education finance system, and gave much-needed funding to the nation’s third largest school district, Chicago Public Schools,” which “will get desperately needed \$450 million windfall.” He adds, “One would think such a large infusion of funds would allow the district to invest in schools and classrooms, but the bulk will instead go towards the district’s pension problem.” Malkus describes growing benefits costs as putting a “squeeze on districts because they take more and more money for relatively unproductive uses.” He concludes saying that districts “can take steps to limit the growing burden of benefits, but none of them are easy. One is moving away from pensions toward more sustainable options, such as 401k plans that are both more sustainable and often better for teachers.”

Educators Debate Allowing Teachers To Carry Guns In Classrooms.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 8, 3:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that teachers across the country are debating whether to allow educators to carry firearms in classrooms to protect their students. Some, such as the 1,000 educators from 12 states that recently participated in a three-day firearms course in Ohio called “Faster Saves Lives,” believe training and the ability to carry a gun prepares teachers to protect students against school shooters. Others, such as Sandy Hook Elementary School teacher Abbey Clements, believe additional firearms present more danger to students. The director of the “Faster Saves Lives” course “says all participants must pass the same firearms test required to become a police officer in Ohio where they only need 80 percent accuracy to pass. But teachers in this training are held to 90 percent.”

Alabama County Launches Campaign To Stop Bullying In School.

[WSFA-TV](#) Montgomery, AL (9/19, 55K) reports online that Alabama’s Montgomery County District Attorney Daryl Bailey announced on Tuesday the launch of a new initiative, dubbed “Bullying Stops with Me,” aimed “at combating bullying in schools by having students notify authorities about the

problem through texting.” Bailey’s office has in the last few years intensified efforts “to tackle truancy in schools,” and “Bailey says students who end up dropping out of high school are more likely to fall into a life of crime.” Montgomery Public Schools will participate in the initiative by placing “posters in schools and get the word out to students” so they are aware “that help is available to those who witness bullying or who are being bullied.” Details of students’ text messages will be forwarded “to the Helping Montgomery Families Initiatives, who will follow up.”

Black Students Discuss Racial Inequality In Alabama Schools.

As part of its ongoing “Tackling the Gap” series on “the large and persistent achievement gap between black and white students when it comes to the percentage scoring proficient on standardized tests,” [Alabama Live](#) (9/19, 608K) publishes video interviews with four black students who discussed “the barriers they and other black students faced during their enrollment at different school districts within Jefferson County.” Their experiences also provided “some solutions as to how to equalize the educational experience in Alabama.” The students discussed “how some teachers evaluated their educational success and character through the lens of racial biases and how the lack of opportunities for advance coursework can feed the achievement gap.” One student said her white AP Calculus teacher “treated the black students differently than the white students.” Another student’s experience underscored “how the lack of opportunity to take advance courses or be provided with certain materials, such as AP classes, feeds the achievement gap.”

Many Tennessee School Districts Earning Top Growth Score, But Struggling Schools Post Lower-Than-Expected Scores.

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/19, Aldrich) reports data released Tuesday shows that the majority of Tennessee’s 147 school districts posted scores “that suggest students are making or exceeding expected progress, with over a third earning the top growth score.” However, Tennessee districts with many struggling schools “posted lower-than-expected growth scores on this year’s state exams,” according to the data. Most students “in three of the state’s four largest districts – in Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga – aren’t growing academically as they should, and neither are those in most of their “priority schools” in the state’s bottom 5 percent.” Education Commissioner Candice McQueen to sent a “good news, bad news” email to superintendents after the data was released, saying, “These results point to the ability for all students to grow.” Of those in the bottom, she “said the state would analyze the latest data to determine ‘critical next steps,’ especially for priority schools, which also are located in high-poverty communities.”

State Superintendent Presents Graph To Board On How Ohio Test Scores Fell With New Tests, Expectations.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (9/19, 927K) reports that Ohio State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria presented a graph to the state school board on Monday that “offers a dramatic look at how changes in state tests the last three years sent once-rising test scores into free fall.” DeMaria shared the graph “to provide some context to the low grades on the state’s report cards for schools and districts

released last week.” It shows “the rise and fall of Ohio’s average test score each year since 2001, using Performance Index, which combines scores from all grades and tests at a school or district into a single score.”

High-Speed Internet Connectivity In Classrooms Skyrockets Through Federal E-Rate Program.

Under former President Obama, the Federal Communications Commission voted in favor of modernizing the E-Rate program and approved a \$1.5 billion funding boost to expand high-speed broadband Internet in all classrooms and libraries, reports [U.S. News & World Report](#) (9/19, Camera, 1.73M). After the modernization of the E-Rate program in 2014 and through the efforts of “a broad bipartisan coalition of federal and state lawmakers and policymakers dedicated to the cause,” the number of students with access to broadband Internet in the classroom “catapulted” from four million in 2013 to 39.2 million. There are still about 6.5 million students without access to high-speed classroom Internet, but that gap is “expected to be eliminated by 2020 based on current growth models.” Meanwhile, “46 state governors have pledged to upgrade their schools’ broadband networks and they’ve allocated nearly \$200 million in state matching funds for construction to help connect the schools that are particularly difficult to reach.” [Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) also reports on this story.

Documentary Examines Gap In Student Access To Technology.

The [Lexington \(KY\) Herald-Leader](#) (9/19, 278K) reports on a documentary titled “Without a Net: The Digital Divide in America,” slated to air on the National Geographic Channel next Tuesday. The documentary “highlights schools around the country, some like the Eastern Kentucky schools that are aggressively trying to prepare students for a technological world and others in various parts of the United States that have fallen short.” The Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative received a \$30 million grant from ED’s Race to the Top District Initiative in 2014, as well as \$200,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to upgrade school technology. On Monday, the cooperative’s executive director, Jeff Hawkins, said “while schools in the region are connected to high speed fiber, ‘not all of our homes in our communities have high speed internet’ access. Because not having high speed internet at home can be a problem for students, there are also efforts in Kentucky to improve that situation.”

Computer Science Initiative In Arkansas Schools Detailed.

The [Seventy Four](#) (9/18) reported that Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson recently visited a North Little Rock high school classroom to “experience firsthand what students across his state are learning, thanks to an ambitious, first-in-the-nation initiative he is spearheading – in partnership with universities, major corporations, and educators – to teach computer science to every student in Arkansas.” The article characterizes Arkansas as “going all in on computer education, spending an initial \$5 million to train teachers and help districts pay for staffing and equipment to bring computer literacy to all grade levels.” In the initiative’s first two years, “the number of Arkansas high schoolers

taking computer science has exploded, from 1,100 to 5,500 students – nearly 20 percent of the high school senior population.”

Kyyba CEO: America Needs To Encourage Young People Into STEM Careers.

Kyyba President and CEO Tel Ganesan writes in the [Detroit News](#) (9/19, 725K) that the economic stability and growth of the nation “is hindered – and is at risk of weakening – due to combined problems in STEM industries,” adding, “We must get American young people interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) careers.” Some of the problems he lists include “the current lack of quality U.S.-born candidates to fill too many vacant STEM jobs,” the “current demise of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” and “too few H1-B visas permitted annually which allow foreign- born STEM experts into the country for work.” He adds, “Our nation’s strength relies too heavily on the H1-B visa system. Immigration policies and our educational system should support and be a catalyst for creating disruptive, ground-breaking technologies that improve the world and keep the U.S. on the cutting edge in these fields.”

Lafayette Officials Consider Expanding Opportunities For Language Immersion, STEM Education.

The [Lafayette \(LA\) Daily Advertiser](#) (9/19, McElfresh, 80K) reports that Lafayette school officials “are considering ways to expand opportunities for language immersion and STEM education.” Lafayette’s David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy “has nearly 1,200 students in sixth through 12th grades.” Because of the school’s popularity, the district “has added 75 slots per year, starting last year, said Superintendent Donald Aguillard. Officials plan to add seats for the next couple of years.” School Board President Dawn Morris said on Monday, “It’s my belief we need to expand our STEM offerings across the board.” Morris “suggested a STEM-focused elementary school, and perhaps another site for a STEM middle school, allowing David Thibodaux to become a complete high school site.”

Nonprofit Aims To Get More People Of Color Into Teaching Careers.

[NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) reports new research “shows that the number of K-12 teachers who belong to minority groups has doubled since the 1980s, growing at a faster rate than the profession as a whole. But big gaps persist, with around 80 percent of teachers identifying as white.” Meanwhile, “the need for minority teachers is especially glaring since people of color now make up about half of enrollment in public schools.” NPR profiles “a new nonprofit that has just launched, called The Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity or BranchED,” which is “aiming programming at the 253 educator-preparation programs at federally-designated colleges and universities that serve African-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans.” BranchED’s mission “is to get more people from these groups to consider teaching as a career.”

Teacher Shortage Shrinks In Detroit’s Public Schools.

The [Detroit News](#) (9/19, Chambers, 725K) reports the Detroit Public Schools Community District “has hired an additional 56 teachers in the last two weeks, reducing its teacher shortage to 194 vacancies, but its superintendent said he will continue to search for and hire teachers until that number is zero.” At the start of school on Sept. 8, the district “had 250 vacancies in its teacher ranks. On Tuesday, Superintendent Nikolai Vitti said the district has 142 vacancies in general education and 52 in special education. Of the 142 vacancies, 54 are at former Education Achievement Authority schools, which were returned to DPSCD’s supervision this summer.”

Majority Of States First To Adopt Common Core Standards Still Using Them.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports most of the states that first endorsed the Common Core academic standards “are still using them in some form, despite continued debate over whether they are improving student performance in reading and math.” Of the states “that opted in after the standards were introduced in 2010 – 45 plus the District of Columbia – only eight have moved to repeal the standards, largely due to political pressure from those who saw Common Core as infringing on local control, according to Abt Associates, a research and consulting firm.” The AP says President Trump and Education Secretary DeVos “spoke out against the standards, but the issue has been largely out of their hands” because a 2015 law “prohibits the federal government from promoting any set of standards, including Common Core.”

Additional Reading

Former Howard Superintendent Renee Foose Hired By Maryland Education Department.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/19, 706K)

Six Struggling Philly Schools To Be Reshuffled, Possibly With New Teachers.

[WHYY-FM](#) Philadelphia (9/19, 20K)

Appeals Court Reverses Ruling That Had Favored School Board.

The [AP](#) (9/19)

Post-Secondary Education

Poll: Most Voters Support Free College.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that according to a Politico/Morning Consult poll, 63% of respondents expressed some level of support for making four-year college free. The concept is, “unsurprisingly, more popular among those who describe themselves as liberal than conservative — though 40 percent of conservatives said they’d support the proposal — and it enjoyed strong support from younger voters.”

American Council On Education Amicus Brief: Travel Ban Harmed American Education’s Global Reputation.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports that the American Council on Education is planning to file an amicus brief with the US Supreme Court arguing that “the Trump administration’s travel ban has harmed America’s reputation in a global education market.” The brief says, “From the moment it was signed, prospective students expressed serious concerns about attending American colleges and universities. Faculty recruits were similarly deterred from accepting teaching and research positions. And scholars based abroad pulled out of academic conferences in the United States, either because they were directly affected by the EO or because they are concerned about the EO’s harmful impact on academic discourse and research worldwide.”

South Dakota Students With High Assessment Scores Get Automatic Admission To State Colleges.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/19, 3.55M) reports South Dakota education officials have announced that “high school seniors who achieve a level 3 or 4 on their 11th grade Smarter Balanced state assessments in English and math, or who achieve an ACT composite score of 18, will be automatically admitted into the state’s public universities and technical institutes.”

Three Arrested In Georgia Tech Police Shooting Protest.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Shapiro, Selk, Lowery, Chason, 10.38M) reports on the lingering unrest at Georgia Tech “days after a student was fatally shot by campus police outside a dormitory building.” The piece reports that Georgia Tech president G.P. “Bud” Peterson wrote an open letter “that mourned Scout Schultz and blamed ‘outside agitators’ for hijacking the student’s memorial.” Law enforcement authorities said Schultz “was suicidal and armed with a knife when police shot them.” The piece reports that after a peaceful protest Monday night, “several dozen of the hundreds of mourners headed to the campus police headquarters afterward.” Two campus officers were injured and three protesters were arrested. [NPR](#) (9/19, 2.4M) reports the violence “left officers with minor

injuries and one police vehicle damaged by fire.” [Reuters](#) (9/19) and the [AP](#) (9/19) also cover this story.

WSJournal: Survey Shows College Students No Little About Free Speech.

In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) writes that a new Brookings Institution survey of more than 1,500 undergraduates found that most did not know hate speech was constitutionally protected, half agreed with shouting down speakers with whom they disagreed, and a fifth believed in the use of violence against speakers. The Journal concludes that many college students are clueless about free speech.

City Colleges Of Chicago Chancellor: Free College Initiative Shows Early Signs Of Success.

City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Juan Salgado, in a piece for the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Salgado, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), says since Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel introduced two years ago the Star Scholarship program, through which the city offers “free community college to all public high school graduates who earned a B average or higher and demonstrated near college-level proficiency,” about 1,000 students have participated annually. The program’s early successes “have been incredibly encouraging,” with the percentage of two-year graduates on par with the national three-year community college graduation rate, and the retention rate nearly “twice the national average for community college students.” Furthermore, of “the more than 200 students who have graduated already, more than two-thirds were the first in their families to go to college, more than 90 percent were members of minority groups and more than 60 percent were female.” It is also open “to undocumented immigrants who were brought to the country as children.”

Governors Of Western States Discuss Region’s Shortage Of Skilled Workers.

Citing the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the [Denver Post](#) (9/19, 817K) reports four out of the five states with the lowest unemployment rates are in the western half of the US, “a region where economic development is increasingly finding itself handcuffed to workforce development.” At a Western Governors’ Association-hosted workforce development workshop on Monday, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper commented, “Our labor market is way tight,” but companies do not want to relocate to the region because of a shortage of skilled laborers. The WGA, which is comprised of 19 western states, is hoping to address that problem by “better aligning the skills workers have with those that employers want.” South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard told attendees that one goal of workforce development programs is to raise awareness among high school students about the necessity of pursuing post-graduation training and the dangers of dropping out. Those post-graduation options, he said, include pathways outside of the traditional four-year college degree.

Companies, Colleges Partner To Train Workers For Tech Maintenance Jobs.

[NBC News](#) (9/19, 3.46M) reports that companies and colleges are uniting to train “new collar” students to maintain and program computers. These “new collar” jobs are positions “that require some specialized education (typically in a technical field), but not a four-year college degree.” Some companies “have become so desperate for the right worker, they have started or invested in job training programs of their own, partnering with schools to equip students with the exact skills they will need to get a job, and then to do the job right.” Delta, for example, “has partnered with 37 aviation maintenance schools across the country to give thousands of students the technical knowledge needed to be an aviation maintenance technician (AMT) — and ideally to get them jobs at Delta down the road.”

Other Washington News

Trump Slams “Rocket Man” At UN, Threatens To “Totally Destroy” North Korea.

Media coverage of President Trump’s address Tuesday to the UN General Assembly is widespread, with most reports focusing on his comments about North Korea. Outlets overwhelmingly cast the President as toughening his stance on Pyongyang, threatening to “totally destroy” North Korea and repeating his “Rocket Man” nickname for leader Kim Jong-Un.

All three networks covered the President’s speech, dedicating seven-and-a-half minutes of total airtime, but none of them led with it. Jonathan Karl said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 4, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M) that while he “has spoken of fire and fury...today, President Trump went even further, raising the possibility of wiping North Korea off the map.” Trump was shown saying: “The United States has great strength and patience, but if it is forced to depend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea.” Trump then “directly referred to North Korean dictator...by his new nickname: ‘Rocket Man.’” Trump: “Rocket Man is on a suicide mission for himself and for his regime.”

On [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 4, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M), Hallie Jackson said the comment was “met with gasps inside the room.” Jim Sciutto said on [CNN’s The Lead](#) (9/19, 1.33M) that “a senior UN diplomat in the room” said that “when Trump uttered those words...the diplomats in the room were taken aback. It, in his words, ‘felt like a wind had swept through the room,’ an emotional response from those present unlike anything they had heard from an American President before.” According to [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M), “an official” says the comment was added to the President’s speech Tuesday morning.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) said that during “his debut,” Trump “vowed to work with [world leaders] for peace, but threatened to wipe one nation off the face of the earth.” Trump, [Bloomberg News](#) (9/19, Talev, Wadhams, 4.52M) says, “bluntly threatened North Korea with annihilation,” and the [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Wilkinson, Bierman, 4.49M) says he “delivered a forceful inaugural speech” that “ranged from warlike to flowery and that challenged some long-cherished tenets of US foreign policy.” In particular, he “caused a stir when he mocked...Kim...as ‘Rocket Man on a suicide mission’ and threatened his ‘depraved regime.’” [The Hill](#) (9/19, Fabian, 1.68M) similarly says that the President’s comments “caused a stir among the crowd of leaders and diplomats at the UN and represented his starkest ultimatum yet against North Korea,” while the [Wall](#)

[Street Journal](#) (9/19, Stokols, Fassihi, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) was more measured, saying that the speech drew a mixed reaction.

[USA Today](#) (9/19, Jackson, 8.62M) writes that “even as he addressed deadly serious issues that could involve American forces, the reality television star-turned-president deployed a colorful array of Trumpian phrases to make his points before the traditionally staid United Nations delegates.” With regards to Kim, [Bloomberg News](#) (9/19, Talev, Wadhams, 4.52M) says Trump “at times cast aside conventions of political and diplomatic dialogue in favor of the aggressive dialect of social media,” and [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Hadley, 67K) says he “used harsh and mocking language when addressing” the North Korean leader. John Roberts said on [Fox News' Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) that Trump “left no room for interpretation or ambiguity, demanding Kim Jong-un give up his nuclear program or else.”

[Reuters](#) (9/19) says Trump “escalated his standoff with North Korea...threatening to ‘totally destroy’ the country of 26 million people and mocking its leader.” His remarks, Reuters adds, “rattled world leaders.” Using what the [AP](#) (9/19, Lemire, Superville) calls “dark language reminiscent of his ‘American carnage’ inaugural address,” Trump delivered a “combative debut speech to the UN General Assembly, threatened to ‘totally destroy’ North Korea.” The AP adds that while his “lashing was a vigorous restatement of what’s been said by US leaders before,” it was “likely to hit home harder for being intensely delivered in diplomatic prime time at the UN General Assembly.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says the “bellicose speech...drew a series of good-versus-evil lines that forecast confrontations to come,” but the President “singled out North Korea for his harshest words, broadening his indictment of the Pyongyang government beyond just its pursuit of nuclear weapons to its treatment of its own people and captured foreigners.” And “without mentioning it by name,” Trump also “chastised China for continuing to deal with its rogue neighbor,” saying, “It is an outrage that some nations would not only trade with such a regime, but would arm, supply and financially support a country that imperils the world with nuclear conflict.” The [New York Post](#) (9/19, Moore, 4.31M) reports that while Trump “thanked members of the UN Security Council, which has imposed several rounds of sanctions against North Korea,” he also “chided those countries that still do business with Pyongyang.”

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Nakamura, Gearan, 10.38M) reports that following the speech, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders “sought to temper the idea that Trump’s remarks about North Korea were a break from past US policy.”

The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Boyer, 541K) reports Sen. Dianne Feinstein criticized Trump for using his UN address “as a stage to threaten war,” while Sen. David Perdue said he is “glad” that Trump and Ambassador Haley are getting more aggressive with the UN. Sen. Ben Cardin said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.22M), “I don’t think his remarks were well received by our allies.” He added that the “international community should be there to help us” deal with the threat posed by the North, but “the President’s comments put a wedge in our international coalition.”

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce said on [CNN's The Lead](#) (9/19, 1.33M), “These aren’t the words I would have used. But what I’ll share with you here is that in point of fact our biggest challenge right now is applying full diplomatic and financial pressure on North Korea and getting compliance from these other countries to do it.”

Rep. Andre Carson said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) that Trump was being his “provocative” self in his threats to North Korea. Carson added that “to President Trump’s credit...you have to be firm with those who threaten to do us harm,” but “having said that, in our firmness we should not ostracize those trying to keep the peace.”

The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 7, 2:50, Mason, 11.17M) reported on an interview with former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who said “you can’t deal with a rogue state like” North Korea “by yourself. You have to have great, tight relationships with all, or lots of other countries, particularly the surrounding countries. And, unfortunately, America is going in the other direction.”

A [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Blake, 10.38M) analysis says Trump’s “oddly chosen colloquialisms masked what was a pretty astounding escalation of his rhetoric when it comes to North Korea. Just to be clear: The president of the United States threatened to wipe a country of 25 million people off the map.” James Rubin, however, writes in a [Politico Magazine](#) (9/19, 3.55M) analysis headlined “Trump’s UN Speech Was Bad, But Let’s Not Lose Our Heads” that despite “the screaming headlines about Trump’s threat to destroy North Korea, that comment was merely a somewhat blunter statement of US declaratory policy going back decades.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, Scarry, 465K) reports that Trump “disturbed some in the press” after vowing to “destroy” North Korea. MSNBC host Lawrence O’Donnell [tweeted](#) that Trump “threatened to commit a war crime” by threatening North Korea, while a reporter for the Huffington Post “seemed to suggest Trump’s harsh comments may justify the rogue state’s actions,” saying, “Gee, Kim Jon-un is so irrational for wanting nuclear weapons.”

A [USA Today](#) (9/19, 8.62M) editorial calls the President’s threat to “destroy” North Korea “deeply unsettling,” and argues that though he “rightly called upon all nations to isolate Kim’s murderous regime,” he “undermined that goal with the kind of man-to-man tabloid bombast...that raises Kim’s stature and makes him more, rather than less, likely to cling to the nuclear arsenal that he thinks will guarantee his survival.”

David Ignatius writes in his [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) column that the “most surprising thing” about Trump’s address “was how conventional it was. He supported human rights and democracy; he opposed rogue regimes; he espoused a global community of strong, sovereign nations. Pretty shocking stuff.” But “because he’s Trump, the zingers got the headlines: He repeated his childish, snarky (but sort of funny) playground denunciation of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un,” as well as his “bombastic threat” to “totally destroy” North Korea. Ignatius writes that what worries him about Trump’s speech is “that it was so conventional. If Trump is going to deal successfully with North Korea, he’ll truly have to think outside the box.”

Poll: 82% Of Republicans Back Military Strike Against North Korea If Diplomacy Fails. The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Harper, 541K) reports that a new Gallup poll shows the “American attitude toward North Korea appears to be evolving – and not necessarily in a docile direction.” The poll shows that the number of Americans who would support a US military response is “significantly higher” these days. While the percentage of Democrats who favor military action “has hardly changed since 2003: 37 percent now vs. 41 percent then,” the “major shift has been among Republicans, whose support for military action is up 23 percentage points.”

Bolton: Tillerson Pursuing “Wrong Policy” On North Korea. The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, Gehrke, 465K) reports former Ambassador John Bolton said Tuesday that Secretary of State Tillerson backs “the wrong policy” on North Korea. Hours after the President’s UN address, Bolton “dismissed” Tillerson’s assertion that the US has imposed sanctions on North Korea in order to induce a “constructive, productive dialogue” with the regime. Said Bolton, “We’ve had constructive dialogue with North Korea for 25 years; it doesn’t work. That’s the wrong policy.”

Colin Powell: Ignore North Korea When It Launches Missiles. The [Detroit Free Press](#) (9/19, Jesse, 1.07M) reports that hours after President Trump threatened to “totally destroy” North Korea if it launched nuclear weapons, former Secretary of State Colin Powell “said a different tactic would be better.” Speaking at the University of Michigan, Powell said, “Let’s not go crazy every time they shoot missiles. Start ignoring them and maybe you can find a different way to solve this. It would probably drive them crazy if we ignored one of their launches and after the media interest went away, it would die down.”

Trump At UN: Iran Nuclear Deal An “Embarrassment.”

President Trump’s criticism of the Iran nuclear deal during Tuesday’s address to the UN General Assembly also receives significant media attention, including mentions on all three networks last night. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 4, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M) reported Iran’s delegation listened as Trump accused the country “of funding terrorism and lashed out at the nuclear agreement negotiated with President Obama and America’s European allies.” Trump: “The Iran deal was one of the worst and most one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into. Frankly, that deal is an embarrassment to the United States.” Trump, who ABC noted didn’t say if the US would withdraw from the agreement, “cast this moment as a turning point for the UN.” Trump: “It is entirely up to us, whether we lift the world to new heights or let it fall into a valley of disrepair. If the righteous many do not confront the wicked few, then evil will triumph.” The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M), however, said Trump “implied he might pull out” of the deal.

[The Hill](#) (9/19, Chalfant, 1.68M) reports Trump insisted that “it is time for the entire world to join us in demanding that Iran end its pursuit of death and destruction.”

[Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu “loved” Trump’s comments on Iran. Fox showed Netanyahu saying of Trump’s address: “I have listened to countless speeches in this hall. I can say this: none were bolder, none were more courageous and forthright than the one delivered by President Trump today. President Trump rightly called the nuclear deal with Iran, he called it an embarrassment. I couldn’t agree more.” [Breitbart](#) (9/19, Danan, 2.42M) also reports Netanyahu’s reaction.

On [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 4, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M), Hallie Jackson reported that Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, by contrast, accused Trump “of ignorant hate speech.” [Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported Zarif [tweeted](#), “Trump’s ignorant hate speech belongs in medieval times, not the 21st century. UN -unworthy of a reply.”

Iran, [Reuters](#) (9/19) reports, denounced Trump’s remarks as “shameless and ignorant” and “said his speech on Tuesday showed his lack of knowledge about Tehran’s fight against terrorism.” State media quoted Zarif as saying, “Trump’s shameless and ignorant remarks, in which he ignored Iran’s fight against terrorism, displays his lack of knowledge and unawareness.”

[CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) reported Trump’s assertion that the Iran nuclear deal is “one of the worst and one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into” was also “a cause of concern” for French President Emmanuel Macron, who said, “If we simply throw out this agreement, there is nothing to replace it. And if you have nothing, then it’s the same situation as North Korea, and I don’t want to find myself in a no man’s land.”

[Politico](#) (9/19, Toosi, 3.6M) reports that “in public, in private, and with few exceptions,” world leaders gathered at the UN this week are urging Trump “not to follow through on his threat to derail the Iran nuclear deal. But so far, Trump shows no sign of listening to them.” The issue, Politico says, will “take center stage on Wednesday,” when Secretary of State Tillerson joins a multinational meeting on the nuclear deal that will also be attended by Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, marking “the first time the two men will meet face-to-face.”

[CNN](#) (9/19, Watkins, 33.59M) reports on its website that House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce said Tuesday that the US “should focus on enforcing the nuclear agreement with Iran instead of renegotiating it.” Speaking to CNN’s Jake Tapper, Royce said, “I think we should enforce the hell out of the agreement and thereby force compliance on the part of Iran.”

Rep. Andre Carson said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) that withdrawing from the deal would be a “tremendous mistake” that “brings us closer to war.” Carson commended the Obama Administration for securing the pact, and said he thinks the “deal is working” and “is worth it.” Sen. Ben Cardin said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.22M) said “our concern” is that Trump will “rip up” the nuclear agreement despite Iran not being in violation of the deal. He said if Trump did tear up the deal, “we would be the ones walking away,” and “our allies would be scratching their heads.”

Tillerson: Deal’s Sunset Provisions “Not A Sensible Way Forward.” [Reuters](#) (9/20, Mohammed, Irish) reports Secretary of State Tillerson said Tuesday that the nuclear agreement’s “sunset” clauses, under which some restrictions against Iran’s nuclear program are slated to expire in 2025, “simply is not a sensible way forward.” Said Tillerson, “It’s just simply...kicking the can down the road again for someone in the future to have to deal with.”

Rouhani: “No One Will Trust America Again” If It Leaves Nuclear Deal. “Minutes before” Trump “ripped Iran,” Lester Holt of [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 5, 3:00, 16.61M) sat down with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, who warned that if the US pulls out of the nuclear deal, “no one will trust America again. ... Because after such a possible scenario, which country would be willing to sit across the table from the United States of America and talk about international issues?” When asked if he’d ever sit down with President Trump, Rouhani replied, “When the United States government in very transparently speaks of an aim of regime change in Iran, talking in bilateral fashion becomes very meaningless. In the current atmosphere, I do not see the current requirements for such a meeting.” Rouhani also dismissed the Trump Administration’s attempts to put Iran in the same basket as North Korea, saying, “North Korea has said in very straightforward manner that it seeks nuclear weapons. ... Iran is completely the opposite point.”

Families Of Americans Imprisoned In Iran Welcome Trump’s Call For Their Release. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/19, Crabtree, 158K) reports that “families and advocates for Americans imprisoned in Iran applauded President Trump for demanding the release of all US prisoners and others unjustly detained in Tehran” during his speech Tuesday. Family members of Siamak and Baquer Namazi, a father and son who are being held in Iran, “also urged Trump to take urgent action to try to secure their release.”

Former Iranian Political Prisoner Urges Regime To Acknowledge 1988 Executions. Former Iranian political prisoner Shabnam Madadzadeh writes in the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) that in 1988, an estimated 30,000 Iranians – mostly members of the opposition group Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) – were executed. Madadzadeh calls on Iran’s leaders to acknowledge the killings and hold the mullahs responsible for them accountable. The first step, he says, is the establishment of an independent international investigation.

Trump Calls Out Venezuela, Cuba In UN Speech.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported in his address to the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, President Trump “called Cuba and Venezuela failed socialist states. He said Venezuela has descended into chaos after illegitimate elections.” Trump: “We are prepared to take further action if the government of Venezuela persists on its path to impose authoritarian rule on the Venezuelan people.” [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that during his address, Trump threatened “further action” against Venezuela and “promised not to lift sanctions against Cuba until the government in Havana makes fundamental reforms.” In a speech that McClatchy says “moved quickly from criticism of America’s adversaries to dire warnings of nuclear war,” Trump “singl[ed] out Venezuela and Cuba for, he said, delivering only ‘anguish and failure’ to its people.” The President also “called on world leaders to do more to help the people of Venezuela and not look the other way as their government destroys democratic institutions.”

[Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported Venezuela had a “sharp reaction” to Trump’s speech, as the regime “didn’t like being called out for imposing a brutal dictatorship.” [Bloomberg News](#) (9/19, Bristow, 4.52M) reports Venezuela said in a statement that it is prepared to defend itself against aggression from US and its allies. Venezuela will “keep defeating in the political and diplomatic spheres” what “it described as an onslaught of nefarious threats against its sovereignty.”

Newsweek: Trump’s Condemnation Of Socialism Met With “Laughter,” “Weak Applause.”
In what [Newsweek](#) (9/19, Haltiwanger, 991K) calls “perhaps the most awkward moment of Trump’s speech,” when Trump “criticized socialism during his speech...he seemed to expect roaring approval from the audience. Instead, world leaders responded with laughter and weak applause.” Conservative commentator Bill O’Reilly “perhaps described it best,” saying, “Most fascinating part of Trump [United Nations] speech: After lambasting socialism, he paused, perhaps waiting for applause. None came. Stony silence.”

In UN Speech, Trump Vows To Always Put America First.

Also garnering media attention is the President’s vow to put America first during his UN remarks. The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M), for example, reported that in his first address to the UN General Assembly, President Trump “told the leaders of the world he will always put America first and said they should put their countries first, too.” [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) said Trump’s “address started much like a campaign speech, minus the applause from his conservative base, as the President talked about making America first.” While Trump “tried to win over a world body he has ridiculed as ineffective,” he also “made it clear he’s ready to go it alone on a variety of fronts.”

[Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported Trump “says it’s not his intent to nation build or impose democracy through military...action, but rather to create global stability by partnering with nations that put the well-being of their citizens first.” Trump was shown saying that as President, “I will always put America first. Just like you, as the leaders of your countries, will always and should always put your countries first.”

The President, says the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), “defended his America First policy and argued that nationalism can be reconciled with common causes,” repeatedly using the word “sovereignty” to “describe his approach in a setting where the term traditionally has been brandished by nations like Russia and China to deflect criticism of their actions.”

On its front page, the [Washington Post](#) (9/19, A1, Jaffe, DeYoung, 10.38M) says Trump “hammered the principle of national sovereignty...but then outlined an agenda that would keep the United States deeply engaged in the world.” In a [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis, Mark Landler similarly writes that Trump “offered a strikingly selective definition of the concept, threatening to act aggressively against nations like North Korea, Iran and Venezuela, whose policies he opposes, yet saying almost nothing about Russia, which seized territory from its neighbor, Ukraine, and meddled in the American presidential election.”

[USA Today](#) (9/19, Korte, 8.62M) says Tuesday’s address “was perhaps the most aggressive speech ever delivered by a US president at the UN,” but “amid the provocative language, the widely anticipated address also provided a clear articulation of Trump’s emerging worldview. He envisions an international order in which each nation pursues its own self interests — and cooperates only when those interests converge.”

[Politico](#) (9/19, Toosi, McCaskill, 3.6M) reports Trump “urged nations to band together to fight ‘evil’ — even as he extolled the virtue of respecting national sovereignty and insisted that America isn’t looking to impose its ‘way of life’ on others.” The “at-times contradictory remarks,” Politico adds, were “filled with soaring rhetoric that touched on everything from ‘God’ to ‘chaos,’ and the dark tones were reminiscent of Trump’s inaugural address, in which he promised to bring an end to ‘American carnage.’”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorializes that while Trump is right to challenge the UN and promote “national sovereignty,” there is no substitute for US leadership on the global stage. Max Boot writes for [USA Today](#) (9/19, 8.62M) that “the Trump Doctrine is selfishness squared. Just as Trump has never done anything in his life that did not benefit him personally, so he cannot imagine any nation acting for the general good. In his private life, it’s me first. In his foreign policy, it’s America First.”

[Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) columnist Gerald F. Seib writes that Trump offered world leaders a concise summary of his approach to world affairs, declaring: “We are guided by outcomes, not ideology.”

[Reuters](#) (9/19, Mason, Holland) writes that “among the many signals” that Trump sent in his speech, “one was especially clear: former chief strategist Steve Bannon’s White House departure has not muted the president’s ‘America First’ foreign policy instincts.”

Reaction to the President’s address in the media and lawmakers was generally split along party lines. Of note, however, the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) — which is typically very critical of the President — writes on its editorial page that the UN “isn’t the venue one would expect for threatening war. Yet that’s what President Trump did in his first address to the General Assembly.” But overall, the Times says Trump’s “largely benign comments about the United Nations were encouraging, considering he once condemned it as useless and having no place in his ‘America First’ vision.”

A [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) editorial says that “for those who have been alarmed by President Trump’s retreat from traditional American values, there were reassuring moments” Tuesday. Trump, it says, “rightly and scathingly attacked regimes that deprive their own people of liberty, such as those in North Korea and Venezuela.” And “less reassuring” were Trump’s “schoolboy taunts” of “Rocket Man.” And then, “somewhere in between, there was Mr. Trump’s repeated emphasis on sovereignty.”

[Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported that Rep. Mark Takano called Trump’s speech “shockingly reckless.” Rep. Barbara Lee tweeted, “Dangerous rhetoric & abdication of values” from President Trump. By contrast, Mitt Romney said Trump “gave a strong and needed challenge to UN members to live up to its charter and to confront global challenges.” New Gingrich said Trump’s speech “is historic and sets a new standard. Sovereignty and national interest are reasserted as principles.”

Rep. Andre Carson noted on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) that Trump in his speech “praised” the State Department. Carson found that “interesting, because his proposal in his budget makes the deepest cuts in State Department history.”

Gloria Borger said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M), “This was a speech that you can say is full of bombast, which it was, but is the first time we heard laid out completely, clearly Donald Trump’s vision for the world. He took on North Korea directly. He took on Iran directly. He took on Venezuela. He took on Syria directly. And he also, in addition to taking on those bad actors, he made the case that we foot a lot of the bill in the United Nations and that has to change. There are a lot of people in the audience that would be upset about it. People who will not be upset about it are Donald Trump’s base and lots of Republicans.” A [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Kumar, 67K) analysis says Trump “delivered the message of the voters who elected him.”

Mara Liasson of NPR said on [Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M), “This is what the White House wanted. I thought the speech had something for everyone. For people who wanted some tough, nationalist populist rhetoric, it was in there. I thought it was a step back from the UN bashing that Trump had done during the campaign.”

Catherine Lucey of the AP said on [Fox News’ Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.24M) that Trump “really put the world on notice today. The President came in with a clear message he wanted to deliver. If you’ve been watching his speeches throughout the year and the campaign, it really was a continuation of a vision we’ve seen from him before. This was a dark interpretation of the state of affairs in the world, but it revealed his frustration and the way he thinks, and it’s the way he thinks he needs to deliver the message. This is the kind of rhetoric he’s comfortable with. This is the way he wants to communicate. He wanted to make a stand today.”

In his opening monologue on [Fox News’ Hannity](#) (9/19, 2.85M), Sean Hannity said of Trump’s address, “This is what leading on the world stage actually looks like. President Trump refused to appease and capitulate to countries like Iran and the hate America crowd in North Korea, countries that want to see Israel wiped off the map.” Hannity added that Trump “is receiving very high praise for his very bold and direct address.”

Trump Declares Emergency As Hurricane Maria Heads Toward Puerto Rico.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M) reported that Hurricane Maria is “already deadly and battering the Caribbean.” Maria made landfall in Dominica with 160 mph winds. Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit: “I believe we caught a very bad blow. There appears to be a lot of destruction.” The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Semple, Ramzy, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Skerrit said Dominica “sustained ‘mind boggling’ damage.” Skerrit wrote on Facebook, “So far we have lost all what money can buy and replace. ... My greatest fear for the morning is that we will wake to news of serious physical injury and possible deaths as a result of likely landslides triggered by persistent rains.” The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 3, 2:00, Mason, 11.17M) reported the Caribbean island of Tortola is “bracing for the worst.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, Correll, 465K) reports that President Trump has “issued an emergency declaration for the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, making the territories eligible for federal funding for disaster relief.” In a [tweet](#) Tuesday evening, Trump wrote, “Puerto Rico being hit hard by new monster Hurricane. ... Be careful, our hearts are with you – will be there to help!”

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M) said that as Puerto Rico braces for impact, more than three million US citizens are “at risk” there, with some “warned to evacuate or risk death.” [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 2, 2:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the San Juan airport is shutting down as Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello “warns of catastrophic impact.” Rossello said on [CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360](#) (9/19, 1.29M) that “conditions are deteriorating rapidly. We are expecting a very tough hurricane, the worst hurricane in modern history in Puerto Rico. So for the past couple of days, we’ve been organizing so that we can get people out of harms way.”

Rep. Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon said on [CNBC’s Closing Bell](#) (9/19, 170K) that Puerto Rico has “never been hit by a hurricane of this category before since 1928. At that time, there were more than 5,000 people who lost their lives in that kind of hurricane. So we’re very concerned. The Governor has taken measures. I’ll tell you that FEMA and all the Federal agencies in the island are doing a wonderful job moving people and actually we got more than 500 shelters this time and asking people to move and be safe.”

Meteorologist Eric Fisher said on the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 4, 0:35, Mason, 11.17M) that Maria “has a very tight core, meaning the winds, the most destructive ones are right around the eye, but that eye bearing down on St. Croix, as well as Puerto Rico, as we head into early on Wednesdays morning, just before daylight, crossing the island as a catastrophic hurricane.” The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Samenow, 10.38M) says a warning statement from the National Weather Service “carried an apocalyptic tone,” warning people to expect “‘catastrophic damage’ from winds to 160 mph, including ‘structural damage to sturdy buildings, some with complete roof and wall failures.’” The statement “also predicts ‘devastating to catastrophic flooding’ from rainfall amounts of 12 to 18 inches, with isolated totals exceeding 25 inches.”

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 3, 1:10, Holt, 16.61M) reported that Puerto Rico could see a storm surge of six to nine feet before Maria continues to Turks and Caicos on Friday. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 3, 0:55, Zee, 14.63M) reported that Maria will keep “well east of Florida and...away from the Carolinas in all of the computer modeling as we go into next week.”

NFIP Director Says Irma Claims Could Exceed \$11 Billion From Harvey.

Roy E. Wright, director of the National Flood Insurance Program, said Tuesday that Hurricane Irma “has already generated almost 20,000 federal flood insurance claims totaling billions of dollars in Florida,” and the figure “could eventually exceed US flooding coverage for Hurricane Harvey in Texas,” [McClatchy](#) (9/19, Weaver, 67K) reports. Wright told the [Miami Herald](#) that total “damage claims from Irma-related flooding will be ‘several billion dollars’ in Florida” and “could exceed claims in Texas generated by Hurricane Harvey, which total \$11 billion so far, mainly because of Irma’s flooding of expensive waterfront properties in Florida.”

Long: FEMA Will Not Rely On Trailers To House Harvey, Irma Victims.

The [AP](#) (9/19, Kunzelman, Biesecker) reports that FEMA “said it’s not borrowing from its much-maligned Katrina playbook to rely on government-issued trailers or mobile homes to shelter residents displaced by hurricanes Harvey and Irma.” FEMA Administrator Long said at a briefing last week, “We don’t have enough FEMA trailers for all the homes that were destroyed. ... If you combine Harvey and Irma, this is an extraordinary event that is going to require innovative solutions when it comes to housing.” Long, who is “working with Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to find ways to get people back in their flood-damaged homes more quickly, without using manufactured housing,” said, “The way we’ve done business in the past has not necessarily been successful. It’s been a frustrating road.”

Red Cross Says Its System Couldn’t Handle Demand For Aid After Harvey.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/19, story 6, 2:05, Holt, 16.61M) reported that while Americans donated \$300 million to the Red Cross “to aid victims of Hurricane Harvey,” families in Houston “who said they were promised immediate relief are asking where is the money?” NBC (Beck) added that many people were “denied immediate help after Red Cross online systems crashed from heavy volume.” The Red Cross said that “their system couldn’t handle the demand. They’ve given out \$45 million so far, and the immediate assistance program will be working by Thursday.”

Citing “Bigger, Larger, More Violent” Storms, Lengyel Says Climate Is Changing.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Lamothe, 10.38M) reports that Air Force Gen. Joseph L. Lengyel, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, said Tuesday that “he believes the world’s climate is changing, and that this year’s deadly and destructive hurricane season underscores the importance of keeping Guardsmen dispersed across the United States so they can respond quickly to natural disasters.” Lengyel said, “I do think that the climate is changing, and I do think that it is becoming more severe. ... I do think that storms are becoming bigger, larger, more violent. You know, I never know if this one speck of time is an anomaly or not, but, you know, we’ve all seen now three Category-5 storms that popped out in a period of a month.” Although hurricanes Harvey and Jose actually “topped out as Category-4 storms,” Lengyel’s comments nonetheless “illustrate...the general’s concern now and in the future.”

Bacteria In Everglades City Floodwaters “Too Numerous To Count.”

The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (9/19, Staats, 142K) reports that the floodwaters in Everglades City, Florida following Hurricane Irma, bacteria were “too numerous to count,” according to Collier County Pollution Control director Danette Kinaszczuk. Tests conducted “on three samples of receding floodwaters taken Sunday stopped counting fecal coliform, an indicator of human or animal waste, at 10,000 units per 100 milliliters.” The Daily News adds that “health standards for fishable and swimmable waters in Florida are violated if any single sample tests at 800 units.”

Scott Administration Blames Nursing Home For Residents' Deaths.

The [Miami Herald](#) (9/19, Miller, Klas, 701K) reports that as a ninth resident from the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills died, Florida Gov. Rick Scott's Administration has released a timeline declaring that nursing home “failed to do their basic duty to protect life.” The release of the timeline came four days after the owners of the nursing home released their own timeline “casting blame for the deaths...on Florida health administrators and a local utility.” Scott said in a prepared statement, “This facility is failing to take responsibility for the fact that they delayed calling 911 and made the decision to not evacuate their patients to one of the largest hospitals in Florida, which is directly across the street.”

White House Joins Graham-Cassidy Push, But Bill's Prospects Remain Uncertain.

On Tuesday, the White House threw itself into the effort to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, but reports portray the bill's prospects as uncertain despite the optimism of Sen. Lindsay Graham – with the vote of Graham's close friend Sen. John McCain again possibly proving decisive.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 6, 2:00, Muir, 14.63M) reported on the “last-ditch effort” in the Senate “to kill Obamacare, but time is running out. They have to get it done by next week.” ABC's Mary Bruce: “Tonight, the mad dash to deliver. Mr. Vice President, are you finally going to get health reform done?” Vice President Pence: “We're making progress.” Bruce: “Just six working days left for Republicans to overhaul Obamacare with a simple majority vote. The White House tonight is fully on board; the President's working the phones.” Pence: “All-in.” Bruce: “The new GOP plan ends Obamacare subsidies and the Medicaid expansion. Instead, states will get some money to use as they see fit.” Graham: “Here's the choice for America: socialism or federalism when it comes to your healthcare.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Mascaro, 4.49M) reports that the President “is making a big push to revive the Republican healthcare overhaul days before a Senate deadline.” Pence, who was in New York with the President for the General Assembly meeting, “returned to the Capitol to tell Republican senators: ‘Now is the time. We have 12 days.’” [Breitbart](#) (9/19, Moons, 2.42M) reports, “Pence said that President Trump is ‘a great believer in federalism.’ The Vice President indicated that this fact moved the Trump Administration to spend the past six weeks ‘in discussions about the way forward, about [Graham's and Sen. Bill Cassidy's] development of the bill’ and have ‘provided administration resources to support their analysis.’”

[The Hill](#) (9/19, Carney, 1.68M) reports that Graham told reporters on Tuesday, “I really believe we’re going to get 50 Republican votes. I’ve never felt better about where we’re at.” Guy Benson of [Townhall](#) (9/19, 523K) writes that Graham told reporters that House Speaker Ryan “pledged to him that if the Senate passes the legislation, the House will follow suit – but that the House will not take up a bill that merely props up Obamacare with more bailout-style money, which is the ‘compromise’ sought by Democrats.” [Townhall](#) (9/19, O'Brien, 523K) additionally reports that Graham has been working with Stephen Bannon, who he dubbed “Darth Vader,” as well as “figures like Alan Greenspan [and] Jeb Bush,” to help win support. [Reuters](#) (9/19, Cornwell) reports that Senate Majority Leader McConnell said on the floor that “lawmakers should act because ‘our opportunity to do so may well pass us by if we don’t act soon.’”

The deciding vote could be McCain’s, and the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that the bill is testing the very close bond between McCain and his close friend Graham – “who is so closely identified with Mr. McCain that when he arrived in the Senate after serving in the House, he was called ‘McCain’s mini-me.’” The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Howell, 541K) reports that McCain “refused to tip his hand Tuesday.” He told reporters, “I have nothing to say. I have nothing to say.”

Margot Sanger-Katz writes in the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) “The Upshot” that “the bill faces substantial challenges.” Sen. Rand Paul “is a hard no, which makes the math difficult,” the bill contains “a huge redistribution of money between states in the bill’s formula” that would negatively impact “states with must-get senators,” and “the timing is tight, and the bill still has a long way to go.” However, ACA repeal “is a core promise for Republicans,” and the GOP is motivated to get it done.

Sen. Ben Cardin said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.22M), “We’ve been working the last two weeks, Democrats and Republicans, in order to improve the Affordable Care Act. That’s what the American people want us to do. ... But what the Cassidy bill would do is significantly reduce coverage in this country. Tens of millions of people lose coverage. And more tragically, the progress we’ve made against abuse of practices with insurance companies...is at great risk with the Cassidy bill. It’s moving again in the wrong direction.”

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) calls the bill “about as execrable as the others that GOP lawmakers previously failed to approve,” and the process “as sloppy and partisan as the one to which” McCain and other senators “objected earlier in the summer. The outcome would be no less destructive.”

Timothy Jost of Washington and Lee University Law School writes in the [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) that Graham-Cassidy would “hand the states block grants and abandon to them millions of Americans whom the ACA now helps. ... It would effectively strangle the efforts of states – predominantly Democratic – that have been most successful in extending coverage under the ACA’s Medicaid expansion, tax credits and cost-sharing reductions. Conversely, it would lavish funding on states – predominantly Republican – that have resisted the coverage expansion opportunities the ACA offered.”

CNN Analysis: With “Private Outreach,” Trump Trying To Smooth Relations With Senate Republicans. On its website, [CNN](#) (9/19, Raju, 33.59M) reported that earlier this summer, Trump “had a contentious phone call with” Sen. Lisa Murkowski “and also berated her on Twitter, accusing her of letting the country down for voting against GOP plans to gut Obamacare. But behind the scenes, Trump has since tried to make nice, inviting her to a private lunch earlier this month –

something that seems to have defused tensions, at least for now.." CNN added, "The private outreach is part of a more concerted White House effort to repair relations Trump damaged with his own party over a tumultuous August, following the failure of the GOP effort to repeal Obamacare and a slew of White House controversies." The effort "comes at a critical time: The White House is desperately trying to revive its health care push before a September 30 deadline – and needs senators like Murkowski to salvage the President's agenda."

Bipartisan Group Of Governors Opposes Graham-Cassidy. The [New York Times](#) (9/19, A1, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that a bipartisan group of governors "including five Republicans and a pivotal Alaskan independent urged the Senate on Tuesday to reject a last-ditch push to dismantle the Affordable Care Act." Govs. Charles Baker of Massachusetts, Steve Bullock of Montana, John Bel Edwards of Louisiana, John Hickenlooper of Colorado, John Kasich of Ohio, Terry McAuliffe of Virginia, Brian Sandoval of Nevada, Phil Scott of Vermont, Bill Walker of Alaska, and Tom Wolf of Pennsylvania signed [a letter](#) opposing Graham-Cassidy, while Govs. Larry Hogan of Maryland and Chris Sununu of New Hampshire "expressed similar concerns in separate statements."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, A1, Sullivan, Snell, Eilperin, 10.38M) says that Walker "holds sway" over Sen. Lisa Murkowski, "a potentially decisive vote," while Sandoval "is now at odds" with Sen. Dean Heller, "who is a co-sponsor of the bill." The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/19, King, 465K) reports that "a group of 15 Republican governors" announced their support for the bill in a Tuesday letter.

Americans For Limited Government Backs Bill. [Breitbart](#) (9/19, Moran, 2.42M) reports that Americans for Limited Government President Rick Manning endorsed the bill on Tuesday, saying, "We are encouraged that the Senate is close to passage on the Cassidy-Graham bill, which is the last best chance for Republicans to keep their basic promise to repeal and replace Obamacare."

Kimmel: Cassidy "Just Lied Right To My Face." On [ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live](#) (9/19, 3.85M), host Jimmy Kimmel criticized Cassidy for saying on his show earlier this year that he would enact "the Jimmy Kimmel test" to protect families from losing health coverage. Kimmel said, "He got a lot of credit and attention for coming off like a rare, reasonable voice in the Republican Party when it came to healthcare. ... [Cassidy] just lied right to my face." Kimmel's segment on the bill ran seven minutes.

Sessions Warns "Sanctuary Cities" After Passage Of California Bill.

[Reuters](#) (9/19, Gorman) reports Attorney General Sessions on Tuesday intensified "the Trump administration's critique of so-called sanctuary cities." His comments came just "days after repudiation of his stance against the sanctuary movement in separate actions by a federal judge in Chicago and the California legislature." A federal judge in Chicago "on Friday barred the Justice Department from withholding public safety grants to" so-called sanctuary cities, while state lawmakers voted Saturday to make California a sanctuary state by "approving a bill barring local governments from forcing undocumented immigrants to spend extra time in jail just to allow immigration agents to take them into their custody." Sessions, who urged California Gov. Jerry Brown not to sign the bill, said, "Such policies undermine the moral authority of law and undermine the safety of the jurisdictions that adopt them. That makes a sanctuary city a trafficker, smuggler or gang member's best friend."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/19, Tanfani, 4.49M) reports protesters in Portland reportedly "gathered outside the venue where Sessions spoke" to protest the "his enforcement positions and

opposition to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.” According to the Times, the sanctuary cities issue “has become a primary battleground for the broader immigration debate, playing out in courtrooms, city halls and statehouses.” Sessions reportedly “attacked” the California bill on Tuesday, calling it an “unconscionable” threat to public safety. However, the Times says “Brown fired back, strongly defending the measure as a ‘well-balanced bill’ and a reaction to ‘this kind of xenophobia we see coming out of Washington.’” Brown said on [CNN’s The Lead](#) (9/19, 1.33M), “There is no word sanctuary. This is a bill to have the immigration service do their own work and not attempt to conscript state officials into being part of the immigration service.” Asked if he believes complying with federal immigration law is optional, Brown said, “No. And we comply with immigration laws. We are not soldiers of Donald Trump or the Federal immigration service. We have our own laws. To arrest criminals. To give them jury trial. And then to provide appropriate punishment. That’s our job. Now, the immigration people can come into our jails, they can interview people, they can pick up people that they think are appropriate. But don’t tell California to do your work.”

According to the [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Noble, 541K), Brown is expected to sign the California Values Act into law, prohibiting “local police and sheriffs from asking a person about his or her immigration status or from participating in immigration enforcement efforts.” The law will allow “local law enforcement agencies, including those that oversee jails...to share information with federal immigration agents and transfer people into their custody if they have previously been convicted of one of some 800 crimes, mostly felonies and misdemeanors that can be charged as felonies,” while preventing cooperation “if the person has only minor offense convictions on his or her record.” Commenting Tuesday on the decision out of Chicago, Sessions lamented, “We cannot continue giving such federal grants to cities that actively undermine the safety of federal law officers and actively frustrate efforts to reduce crime in their own cities. Our duty [is] to protect public safety and protect taxpayer dollars and I plan to fulfill that duty.”

Three Democratic Congressmen Arrested In Protest At Trump Tower.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports three Democratic members of Congress – Raul Grijalva, Luis Gutierrez and Adriano Espaillat – were arrested Tuesday afternoon while protesting outside Trump Tower in New York City. The trio were reportedly “among a small group of demonstrators who sat down in the street on Fifth Avenue Tuesday afternoon and refused to move.” Also handcuffed and led away was New York City Council speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. According to the AP, the protesters demanded that “Congress pass legislation protecting thousands of young immigrants from deportation,” and organizers knew “prior to the event that the lawmakers planned to get arrested.”

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, O’Keefe, 10.38M), which characterizes Gutierrez as “among the most emotional advocates for comprehensive immigration reform” and “a strident critic of Trump’s decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program,” reports that Espaillat was formerly an undocumented immigrant and that he and “Grijalva, who represents parts of southern Arizona, are also strong critics of Trump’s decision.” President Trump was in New York on Tuesday to address the UN General Assembly and meet with other world leaders. The Post adds that “progressive, immigrants’ rights group” Make The Road New York organized the protest, which followed “a day after dozens of protesters loudly shouted down House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi...during a San Francisco event designed to call for the immediate passage of the Dream Act, a bill created to permanently grant protections to dreamers.”

According to [Politico](#) (9/19, Nelson, 3.6M), Gutierrez said, in a statement provided by his spokesman after the arrest, "We're taking the necessary steps to make it clear to President Trump, the Republicans and the Democrats that we will continue this peaceful fight for DREAMers and immigrants as long as it takes to enact legislation and put DREAMers in a safe place. A few Congressmen and elected-officials gathering in front of Trump Tower doesn't mean much if it is not backed up by the grassroots and allies and today we are standing with diverse allies to make sure Congress and the President do more than just talk about solutions, they actually follow through with action." The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Dinan, 541K) offers similar coverage, mentioning also that the arrest is Gutierrez's his second "in little more than a month." The Chicago lawmaker was arrested in August "for protesting outside the White House. He paid a \$50 fine and was released." A House ethics committee investigation last week determined Gutierrez "did nothing to deserve a punishment from the chamber" for his previous arrest.

AP Analysis: Supreme Court Could Avoid Issuing Verdict On Trump Travel Ban.

An [AP](#) (9/19, Sherman) analysis suggests the timetable for President Trump's travel ban offers the Supreme Court an opportunity to "avoid second-guessing the president on a matter of national security or endorsing an especially controversial part of Trump's agenda," which "may be what a majority of the court is hoping for." The travel ban expires on September 24 and the "refugee ban lapses a month later," which could prompt the court to rule "that a new lawsuit is necessary" or remand the issue to lower courts. Though the court has already "stepped in three times to evaluate what parts of the policy can take effect," the AP says several justices may have incentives to avoid judgment in the case, in part due to "a widely held view that the case is difficult to predict. Presidents have substantial power over immigration and courts typically are reluctant to undercut executive authority, especially when presidents say national security is at stake."

Administration Rejects Study Showing Net Economic Benefit From Refugees.

The [New York Times](#) (9/18, Davis, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says a draft report completed in late July by the Department of Health and Human Services, but never released, showed the "net fiscal impact of refugees was positive over the 10-year period, at \$63 billion." The report apparently contradicts the rationale of Trump Administration officials to reduce the number of refugees allowed into the US. John Graham, HHS Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, referred to a three page "report the agency ultimately submitted, dated Sept. 5," which shows the per capita cost of a refugee is \$3,300, compared to \$2,500 for the US population. Raj Shah, a White House spokesman, said, "The actual report pursuant to the presidential memorandum shows that refugees with few skills coming from war-torn countries take more government benefits from the Department of Health and Human Services than the average population, and are not a net benefit to the US economy."

Manafort Was Under FISA Warrant Wiretap During 2016 Campaign.

[Fox News Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported that former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was “under federal wiretap from sometime in 2016 into early this year – a period when, CNN states, Manafort was known to talk to President Trump.” The Justice Department is not commenting, but Manafort’s spokesman noted it is a felony to reveal the existence of a FISA warrant. The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 6, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported that a former US official says the surveillance on Manafort “picked up conversations between Manafort and Russian individuals about the campaign. The intercepts potentially include conversations between Manafort and Mr. Trump.” [CBS News](#) (9/19, Pegues, 4.42M) reports on its website “that the surveillance on Manafort occurred during the 2016 presidential campaign.”

[USA Today](#) (9/19, Heath, 8.62M) reports that Manafort “demanded on Tuesday that the government open an investigation into news reports that he had been wiretapped by the FBI.” Manafort spokesman Jason Maloni “said if that report is true, the Justice Department’s Inspector General should open an investigation into the leak of a FISA warrant, which is a felony.” [Politico](#) (9/19, McCaskill, 3.6M) reports that Maloni said, “Mr. Manafort requests that the Department of Justice release any intercepts involving him and any non-Americans so interested parties can come to the same conclusion as the DOJ – there is nothing there.” The [Daily Caller](#) (9/19, 521K) also reports on Maloni’s statement.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) said it has learned that Manafort “has been threatened with indictment.” ABC adds that “sources” say the July raid on Manafort’s home “was a sign” that special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigators “fear Manafort could destroy evidence, and was an effort to pressure him to divulge details in the Russia probe. They are looking into his business dealings overseas, especially Ukraine.”

[CNN](#) (9/19, Perez, Prokupecz, 33.59M) reports on its website that Mueller’s team “is reaching back more than a decade” in the Manafort investigation. The FBI’s warrant for the July search of Manafort’s home “said the investigation centered on possible crimes committed as far back as January 2006, according to a source briefed on the investigation.”

Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN) said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) that if the FBI obtains a FISA warrant, it means they’ve “establish[ed] probable cause.” He added that the FISA warrant is different from a standard warrant in that it “deals with Americans who may be acting as agents for foreign governments,” so “the question becomes: was Mr. Manafort acting as an agent of a foreign country?”

House Intelligence Committee member Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT) said on [CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360](#) (9/19, 1.29M), “We don’t talk to Bob Mueller all that much, but what I can tell you is just the sheer volume of activity...out there suggest there’s a huge amount of work being done on Paul Manafort. From my standpoint, that is interesting because Manafort is one of the two to three nexuses, maybe three or four nexuses, between people who were very close to the Trump campaign and Russia.”

In a [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) op-ed, Randall Eliason of George Washington University Law School calls the wiretap “a big deal primarily because of what it takes to obtain such a wiretap order.” A FISA warrant “means investigators have demonstrated probable cause to an independent judicial authority. Obtaining a warrant actually says much more about the strength of the underlying allegations than issuing a grand jury subpoena. ... News of the FISA surveillance is the latest evidence that Mueller’s investigation is serious, aggressive and will be with us for some time.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says in an editorial that a Manafort wiretap would show that there was indeed federal wiretapping of Trump Tower, where Manafort has owned a condo since 2006, during the campaign.

Senate Panel Cancels Private Interview With Cohen After He Releases Statement. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/19, story 5, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) reported that the Senate Intelligence Committee canceled Tuesday's private interview with Michael Cohen, President Trump's "long-time personal lawyer," after he released a statement denying any collusion with Russia and defending President Trump. [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) reported that Cohen, a "heavily anticipated" witness in the Russia investigations "because of his close relationship with President Trump and the recently revealed issue of him pushing for a Trump Tour Moscow project during the campaign season," was set to meet with committee staff on Tuesday. [Fox News Special Report](#) (9/19, 2.66M) reported that the committee said Cohen will instead appear in a public hearing on October 25, but [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/19, 1.28M) said there is "no word back if he will come forward in that public testimony."

The [AP](#) (9/19, Tucker, Jalonick) reports that the scheduled meeting "was abruptly canceled on Tuesday amid a dispute over a public statement [that Cohen] issued before the meeting." Committee leaders "said they called off the closed-door staff meeting" after Cohen "sent a public statement to the media just as the interview was about to start." Chairman Richard Burr and ranking member Sen. Mark Warner "issued a terse statement saying the panel had asked Cohen to 'refrain from public comment' and that they would request he return – this time for a public hearing."

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Fandos, Apuzzo, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Cohen "was prepared to tell the committee's investigators that the president's critics were using rumors and innuendo about Russian interference in the election in an attempt to undercut Mr. Trump's presidency." The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Helderman, Demirjian, 10.38M) similarly reports that Cohen "had planned to use the session to vigorously deny playing any role in Russia's efforts during the presidential election campaign." Cohen's lawyer Steve Ryan "told reporters that Cohen stood by written testimony that had been obtained by The Washington Post and had submitted it to the committee for its review."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, Scarborough, 541K) reports that in the statement, Cohen "lashed out at a Trump-Russia dossier that has fed conspiracy theories by Democrats and influenced the FBI, saying the document is 'riddled with total falsehoods.'" Cohen "also said he was as close to President Trump as any one during the campaign and never witnessed any collusion with Russia." [Reuters](#) (9/19), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Ballhaus, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), and [Politico](#) (9/19, Wright, 3.6M) also report on the cancellation.

Trump Using RNC, 2020 Campaign Funds To Pay Lawyers. [Reuters](#) (9/19, Freifeld, Gibson) reports that President Trump is using money donated to the Republican National Committee and his re-election campaign to pay for his attorneys in the Russia probe, "according to two people familiar with the matter." The Federal Election Commission "allows the use of private campaign funds to pay legal bills arising from being a candidate or elected official." Trump attorney John Dowd "declined to say how the president's legal bills were being paid, adding: 'That's none of your business.'" The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Gold, 10.38M) reports that the RNC directed "more than \$230,000 to [the President's] attorneys in August alone, party officials confirmed Tuesday."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) editorializes, "As the investigation apparently gathers steam, so does a debate over an Office of Government Ethics rule prohibiting anonymous donations to legal defense funds of government employees. While no such defense fund has yet been set up"

for Trump's aides, "its creation would help staffers shoulder the costs of the high-quality legal representation needed to weather questioning. ... And the recent confusion over OGE rules shows that it's time for the office to make clear its position on requiring donor disclosures."

Stone Says His Legal Fees Could Top \$500,000. The [Daily Caller](#) (9/19, 521K) reports, "Trump confidant" Roger Stone said Tuesday "that a lawsuit and congressional inquiries will likely cost him at least \$500,000 in legal fees." Stone has set up a legal defense fund.

Mueller's Office Interviewed Rosenstein About Comey Firing. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, Viswanatha, Wilber, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Mueller's office has interviewed Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein about Trump's firing of FBI Director James Comey, according to sources familiar with the investigation. The interview took place in June or July.

Senate Judiciary Committee To Consider Bills To Protect Mueller. [USA Today](#) (9/19, Kelly, 8.62M) reports that the Senate Judiciary Committee will consider two bills to protect Mueller from being fired. Chairman Charles Grassley has scheduled a hearing for next Tuesday "to discuss 'special counsels and the separation of powers.'"

Burr Expects Facebook To Testify Publicly. [Politico](#) (9/19, Schor, 3.6M) reports that Burr says that he "expects Facebook officials to appear at a public hearing examining its role in Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election." Burr "told reporters that he anticipates Facebook representatives testifying sometime this fall."

Huntsman: "No Question" That Russia Interfered In Election. The [AP](#) (9/19, Lardner) reports that Jon Huntsman, President Trump's nominee to be ambassador to Russia, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Tuesday "that Moscow's meddling in the 2016 presidential election led directly to the lack of trust between the two former Cold War foes." Huntsman said, "There is no question that the Russian government interfered in the US election last year and Moscow continues to meddle in the democratic processes of our friends and allies. Right now we're at a low point. It reminds me of 1986." [Reuters](#) (9/19, Zengerle) also reports on Huntsman's remarks.

NYTimes' Vogel Discusses "Accidental Scoop" About Cobb. Kenneth Vogel of the [New York Times](#) (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes about his "accidental scoop" when he overheard President Trump's attorney Ty Cobb discussing the Russia probe at a Washington restaurant last week. Vogel writes, "I have always thought of overhearing conversations as an underappreciated journalistic tool...but I've never overheard a conversation quite like" that one.

Pruitt Questions Whether Climate Change Is An "Existential Threat."

EPA Administrator Pruitt said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (9/19, 1.24M), "With this climate change, we know certain things. We know the climate is always changing. We know that humans contribute to it in some way. To what degree to measure that with precision is very difficult. But what we don't know is we are in a situation where it's an existential threat. Is it unsustainable with respect to what we see presently. Let's have a debate about that, bring scientists in, red team scientists, blue team scientists and have a discussion about the importance of this issue so the American people deserve that type of objective, transparent discussion."

Brown: Trump's Claims About Paris Agreement Are "Fake." California Gov. Jerry Brown was asked on [CNN's The Lead](#) (9/19, 1.33M) about President Trump's claim that China got a better deal than the US in the Paris agreement. Brown said, "China is doing more than the US right now. They are closing down coal plants. They are massively investing in solar and wind. They are mastering battery technology, which will help America. So this point that America got a bad deal is fake. It's more fake than any fake news assertion by President Trump."

Politico Analysis: Price's Travel By Private Jet Breaks With His Obama-Era Predecessors.

[Politico](#) (9/19, Diamond, Pradhan, 3.6M) reported, "In a sharp departure from his predecessors," HHS Secretary Price "last week took private jets on five separate flights for official business, at a cost of tens of thousands of dollars more than commercial travel." Price's "travel by corporate-style jet comes at a time when other members of the Trump administration are under fire for travel expenditures, and breaks with the practices of Obama-era Secretaries Sylvia Matthews Burwell and Kathleen Sebelius, who flew commercially while in the continental" US. Politico added, "HHS spokespeople declined to confirm details of the flights, or respond to questions about who paid for them, with a spokesperson only saying that Price sometimes charts planes when commercial flights aren't feasible."

In Tweet, Trump Mocks Low Emmy Ratings.

The [New York Post](#) (9/19, Li, 4.31M) reports, "A sarcastic President Trump gloated Tuesday about low viewership of the Emmy Awards – implying that non-stop bashing of his White House led to dismal numbers." Trump is quoted as [tweeting](#), "I was saddened to see how bad the ratings were on the Emmys last night – the worst ever. Smartest people of them all are the 'DEPLORABLES.'" The Post adds, "Sunday night's show on CBS drew 11.4 million viewers – a tiny bump up from the all-time low Emmy viewership, set in 2016, with 11.3 million viewers. With Stephen Colbert as host, the three-hour-long extravaganza barely spared a moment from ripping Trump's presidency."

Fed Set To Reduce \$4.2 Trillion Balance Sheet.

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the Federal Reserve is expected to announce Wednesday that it will begin gradually reducing its \$4.2 trillion balance sheet of mortgage-backed securities and US Treasury debt, "a move that would amount to a vote of confidence that the economy's slow-but-steady growth is likely to continue." The Fed has not indicated how large it intends the portfolio to be, and there is a "good chance" the reduction will not be completed under current leadership, as Fed Chairwoman Janet Yellen's term expires in February and President Trump has not announced whether he intends to nominate her for a second term.

Economists Say Labor Shortage Gives Workers An Edge. The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Porter, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the labor shortage in parts of the US economy may provide workers with an advantage as labor demand increases along with wages, according to some economists. But although economists think the labor shortage could spell a "brighter future for the

working class,” they also “worry that the new age of tight labor markets and rising wages” could constrain economic growth. Employers increasingly “must contend with the unflinching force of demography: a work force that is growing at its slowest pace in over a half-century,” as baby boomers retire. To offset the wave of retirement, policymakers are examining how to pull more able-bodied people into the work force.

Bloomberg Flummoxed By Rising Stock Market.

On the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/19, story 7, 2:50, Mason, 11.17M), Anthony Mason reported on a Tuesday interview he conducted with Michael Bloomberg, in which he asked the former New York City mayor, “One of the first things the President said in his speech today, which he often said, is the stock market is at a record high. ... What is that a reflection of?” Bloomberg replied, “I have absolutely no idea. I cannot for the life of me understand why the market keeps going up. Our economy has some real challenges. The infrastructure is falling apart, we’re destroying jobs with technology, we are keeping the best and the brightest from around the world coming to America to create new jobs and create new businesses. All of those things would give you pause to worry about the future.”

Bloomberg Fills Void In Wake Of End Of Clinton Global Initiative. The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Goldmacher, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, “For more than a decade, the Clinton Global Initiative was the star-studded marquee attraction during the annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.” However, “after Bill and Hillary Clinton announced the end of their signature conference during last year’s presidential” race, Bloomberg “has stepped unto the breach.” Today, Bloomberg “will host a reorganized and rebranded Bloomberg Global Business Forum at the Plaza Hotel, drawing a high-powered crowd and speakers from Tim Cook, the chief executive of Apple, to President Emmanuel Macron of France. In a symbolic passing of the guard, Mr. Clinton will be the first speaker on the day’s agenda.”

Three Constitutional Scholars Back Zervos Suit Against Trump.

The [New York Post](#) (9/19, Marsh, 4.31M) reports that three constitutional law scholars have submitted an amicus brief backing Summer Zervos’ libel suit against President Trump, “after he called her a liar for claiming he groped her at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2007.” The three experts – Stephen B. Burbank of the University of Pennsylvania, Richard D. Parker at Harvard University, and Lucas A. Powe Jr. at the University of Texas – argue that “no one in our nation is above the law, not even the president,” and that there is “no basis for concluding that subjecting President Trump to claims in state court will unduly distract him from the execution of his presidential duties.”

Navy Pledges To Address Problems Stretching Sailors’ Limits.

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Cooper, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Admiral John Richardson and other top Navy leaders acknowledged on Tuesday that the US fleet of warships and the sailors that operate them “are deeply stretched because of a combination of 100-hour workweeks, budget constraints, extended deployments and delays in training and maintenance.” Addressing the

Senate Armed Services Committee, Richardson, Navy Secretary Richard Spencer, and GAO Director John H. Pendleton said they were not ready to say definitively that those factors contributed to recent naval accidents, but Richardson pledged that “we will fix this.”

One Poll Shows Northam Leading Gillespie By A Single Point, Another By 10.

The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (9/19, 394K) reports that a Mason-Dixon poll of 625 likely Virginia voters, taken Sept. 10-15, shows Virginia Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D) leading ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie 44%-43% in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D); Libertarian candidate Cliff Hyra drew 2%, while 12% were undecided. Meanwhile, a Quinnipiac University survey of 850 likely Virginia voters, taken Sept. 14-18, shows Northam leading Gillespie 51%-41%, with Hyra at 3% and 5% undecided. Both polls were released on Tuesday. The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports, “Both results come a day after Suffolk University released a poll that found the race in dead heat and the University of Mary Washington released its poll that gave Northam a slight edge but still within the margin of error.”

Gillespie, Northam Face Off In “Genteel” Debate. The [AP](#) (9/19, Suderman) reports that Gillespie and Northam, during a debate, “argued in mostly cordial tones Tuesday over taxes, President Donald Trump and what Virginia should do with its numerous monuments to the Confederacy.” The AP says, “The debate lacked the kind of sharp-elbowed jabs and name-calling often seen in last year’s presidential debates.” The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports, “In their first televised debate, the two contenders debated issues in an aggressive but genteel manner, and refrained from the personal attacks that have recently begun to flavor their campaign commercials and social media posts.”

The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (9/19, Moomaw, 394K) reports that Northam cast his opponent “as a follower of...Trump,” while Gillespie “sought to separate himself from Washington with a wall of state policy proposals.” In response to a question about “what he’d say to Northern Virginia Republicans disillusioned by Trump’s win,” Gillespie “said voters should look at the plans he’s put forward, specifically the proposed tax cut at the center of his economic message, and dinged Northam for failing to put up a tax plan of his own.” Northam “said he’s bothered by many of the things Trump has done so far: including the ban on travelers from some majority-Muslim countries, pulling out of the Paris climate change accord and talk of deporting the so-called Dreamers protected under the DACA program.”

The [Washington Times](#) (9/19, McLaughlin, 541K) reports that the candidates “split over what to do with Confederate monuments on display in Virginia.” Gillespie “said he would stop state-controlled statues from being removed and would encourage cities and counties to follow suit.” Northam said, “If these statues give individuals, white supremacists like that, an excuse to do what they did [in Charlottesville], then we need to have a discussion about the statues. Personally, I would think the statues would be better placed in museums with certainly historical context, but I am leaving it up to the localities.” [Politico](#) (9/19, Robillard, 3.6M) reported that the candidates’ “gentlemanly exchange contained few personal attacks and plenty of policy contrast on economic development, health care and immigration.”

Charlottesville Council Votes To Observe Indigenous Peoples Day On What’s Traditionally Columbus Day. The [Charlottesville \(VA\) Daily Progress](#) (9/19, 83K) reports that the Charlottesville City Council on Monday “voted to commemorate the second Monday of October as

Indigenous Peoples Day. The date traditionally has been celebrated as Columbus Day, though the city does not currently observe the holiday.” The Daily Progress adds that “the resolution says the city ‘shall continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of the Charlottesville American Indian and Indigenous community.’”

Potential 2020 Hopefuls Sanders, Warren Diverge In Efforts “To Expand Their Constituencies.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Sens. Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren “work to expand their constituencies ahead of possible” 2020 presidential bids, “they are making very different wagers about the electorate.” Warren “has taken steps that reflect a traditional and practical course,” such as joining “the Senate Armed Services Committee to attain national security credentials” and courting religious African Americans by “invoking Scripture.” Sanders, meanwhile, “appears to believe that no such nods toward pragmatism or convention are necessary in today’s Democratic Party,” thinking “people will respond to his well-honed pleas to confront the billionaire class, provide health care for all and offer tuition-free access to college.” The Times says Sanders “has shown no willingness to veer from his social justice catechism to tell voters the personal details of his life’s journey, banking that an electorate that could elect Donald J. Trump to the White House no longer needs such political rituals.”

Menendez Judge Sides With Prosecutors In One Ruling On Evidence, With Defense In Another.

The [AP](#) (9/19) reports that US District Judge William Walls, who is overseeing the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor, eye doctor Salomon Melgen, “refused a request from defense lawyers on Tuesday to show jurors parts of a TV interview and press release that references discredited rumors about the Democrat consorting with underage prostitutes in the Dominican Republic.” While the “rumors aren’t a part of the 2015 indictment of” the two defendants, Menendez lawyer Abbe Lowell “said they provide context for what Menendez was facing when he did the CNN interview in early 2013, when rumors first surfaced about the two men.” Prosecutors argued “that the interview, as well as other evidence, shows” Menendez “trying to conceal the number of flights he took on a plane owned by Melgen.” Of Lowell’s request, Walls “said there was ‘no way in God’s green earth’ he would allow the evidence in.”

[Politico](#) (9/19, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that Menendez on Tuesday “won a legal skirmish with prosecutors,” as Walls “said he would allow Menendez’s legal team to tell jurors about official actions the senator took to help people other than his co-defendant.” Menendez’s lawyers “plan to introduce evidence showing he has helped many constituents with visa and other issues during his 11 years in the Senate – the same types of acts he’s alleged to have done for Melgen and his girlfriends from other countries, in exchange for Melgen providing lavish vacations, private jet flights and hundreds of thousands of dollars in” donations. Prosecutors “had sought to bar the defense from introducing that evidence.”

Prosecutors: Menendez’s Girlfriend Traveled Free Of Charge On Melgen’s Private Jet. Meanwhile, the [New York Post](#) (9/19, Whitehouse, 4.31M) reports that prosecutors on Tuesday asserted that Menendez “didn’t just accept flights on” Melgen’s “private jet for himself – he also

arranged for a gal pal to fly for free.” The Post adds, “In May 2010, Menendez asked...Melgen to fly his girlfriend – financial advisor-turned-political candidate Gwendolyn Beck – to the Dominican Republic on the doctor’s dime, prosecutors said.” Menendez, “who was already on the Caribbean island at the time, made the request to” Melgen “by email, FBI agent Alan Mohl testified in Newark federal court.” Asked by a prosecutor if Menendez paid for Beck’s flight, Mohl replied, “No.” The Post adds that Beck “also flew on Melgen’s private jet with Menendez for an all-expense-paid weekend at the luxurious Tortuga Bay resort in Sept. 2010, records showed.”

CNN: “At Least Four Jurors Appeared To Doze Off” During Testimony. On its website, [CNN](#) (9/19, Jarrett, Jorgensen, 33.59M) reported, “At least four jurors appeared to doze off as prosecutors guided...Mohl through dozens of records showing Menendez’s travel to the Dominican Republic allegedly arranged by...Melgen. In the midst of a particularly drowsy stretch of testimony...Lowell interjected: ‘If it would help save time – we’d stipulate that all of these flights occurred.’ Prosecutors, however, were unrelenting, and DOJ attorney Monique Abrishami said that the jury deserves to ‘see the evidence.’”

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, “For a hotly anticipated case that was preceded by salacious tabloid coverage, the corruption trial has instead been a methodical parsing of receipts, credit card reports, flight manifests, travel vouchers, hotel and resort brochures and numerous other seemingly mundane details. Indeed, for most of the third week of testimony, the trial has become a travel seminar, taking a slight detour into a protracted presentation of the extravagant lifestyle that prosecutors say Mr. Menendez enjoyed courtesy of Dr. Melgen.”

Newly Formed Support PAC Aims To Boost Ogles’ Bid For Corker’s Seat.

The [AP](#) (9/19, Schelzig) reports that “conservative Tennessee auto dealer” Lee Beaman on Tuesday announced that he has formed a super PAC aimed at boosting Andy Ogles (R) in his 2018 run for the seat of Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN), who has yet to say whether he’ll seek reelection next year. The AP says, “Two people familiar with a White House discussion between the senator and President Trump] last week told” the AP “that Trump urged Corker to run during the meeting.” Ogles, who announced his bid last week, “is the former state director of Americans for Prosperity, the political arm of conservative billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch’s network.” Beaman “said he plans to raise \$4 million to support Ogles,” adding “in a release that the goal is ‘to provide President Trump with an ally in the US Senate that he will be able to depend upon.’” The [Tennessean](#) (9/19, Ebert, 499K) also reports on the story.

AP Analysis: RGA’s Online Publication “Looks Like A Media Outlet.”

The [AP](#) (9/19, Barrow) reports that the Republican Governors Association is “getting into the ‘news’ business,” launching “an online publication that looks like a media outlet and is branded as such on social media. The Free Telegraph blares headlines about the virtues of GOP governors, while framing Democrats negatively,” and “asks readers to sign up for breaking news alerts. It launched in the summer bearing no acknowledgment that it was a product of an official [GOP] committee. ... Only after [the AP] inquired about the site last week was a disclosure added to The Free Telegraph’s pages identifying the publication’s partisan source.” The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Chokshi,

Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that GOP operative Rick Tyler told the AP “that the site amounted to ‘propaganda.’” However, RGA spokesman Jon Thompson “dismissed that accusation, and argued that the website’s links to the group were obvious. It’s an outlet to share the positive results Republican governors are getting in the states,” he said by email.”

Obama To Host Event For New Jersey Gubernatorial Hopeful Murphy This Fall.

[The Hill](#) (9/19, Parnes, 1.68M) reported that ex-President Obama “will host an event this fall for” ex-Goldman Sachs executive Phil Murphy (D), who is battling Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno (R-NJ) in the 2017 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Chris Christie (R-NJ). Murphy “served as US ambassador to Germany from 2009 to 2013 under Obama.” Polls have shown Murphy with “a massive lead” in the race.

RGA Ad Hits Murphy On Taxes. Meanwhile, [NJ News](#) (9/19, Salant, 1.21M) reports that the Republican Governors Association on Tuesday launched a TV ad targeting Murphy on taxes. In the spot, a narrator says, “Phil Murphy believes taxes in Jersey aren’t high enough. So, Murphy plans to raise them \$1.3 billion more.” The narrator concludes, “Phil Murphy: He’s really loaded, really liberal, and really doesn’t get New Jersey.” NJ News adds that Murphy “has detailed plans to raise taxes by \$1.3 billion to pay for his initiatives, including hiking taxes on wealthy residents and taxing legalized marijuana. But he says the tax hikes would spare the middle class, and he also plans to close corporate loopholes and grow the economy to help cover the costs.”

Michelle Obama’s Former Policy Director Enters Maryland Democratic Primary.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Hicks, 10.38M) reports that Krishanti Vignarajah (D), “a former policy director for then-first lady Michelle Obama,” on Tuesday kicked off her 2018 campaign to oust Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R), saying that “as governor she would push for mandatory paid family leave for new mothers and fathers and for universal prekindergarten and make education her ‘top priority.’” Vignarajah joins a crowded Democratic primary that includes Prince George’s County Executive Rushern L. Baker III (D), ex-NAACP chief Ben Jealous (D), and Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz (D), among others.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/19, Cox, 706K) reports, “As the only woman in the crowded Democratic” primary, “Vignarajah put her gender at the center of her candidacy. ‘They say no man can beat Governor Hogan,’ she said. ‘Well, I’m no man.’ She pointed out that Maryland currently has no women elected to any of its 14 federal and statewide offices” and “has never elected a woman for governor.” Said Vignarajah, “Let me be clear: part of why I am running is because we need more women in public office.”

Report: Liberal Groups Received \$765M “From Union Members’ Paychecks” From 2012-2016.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/19, McMorris, 158K) said that a report from “labor watchdog group Center for Union Facts” shows that progressive “groups and election campaigns cashed in on about \$765 million from union members’ paychecks” from 2012-2016. The Free Beacon added, “Unions nationwide shipped more than \$100 million each year to liberal advocacy groups and political groups backing Democratic candidates” during the period, according to the report. A number “of these groups are overtly political with more than \$300 million spent supporting campaigns and ballot initiatives. The AFL-CIO-backed Working America was the largest beneficiary of union resources, collecting more than \$50 million from national, state, and local unions. “

Democrats Launch Initiative Aimed At Boosting Ranks Of Female State Attorneys General.

The [New York Times](#) (9/19, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Democrats have a paucity “of female officeholders in state capitals. Only two governors and five state attorneys general are Democratic women, an acute problem for a party that counts women as a pillar of its base and trumpets the value of diverse representation. Moving to address the disparity, the Democratic Attorneys General Association” met “last week to announce a commitment to ensuring that in five years, at least half of the party’s attorneys general will be women. The group is creating a committee of current and former attorneys general and other partners to recruit, train and raise money for female candidates as part of what they are calling the 1881 Initiative, named for the first year that a woman sought, unsuccessfully, the office of state attorney general.”

In Book, Ex-Secret Service Agent Says Agency Lowered Standards In Quest For Diversity.

The [Daily Caller](#) (9/19, Hunter, 521K) reports, “As the US Secret Service sought greater diversity in its ranks, the agency lowered its standards, former agent Dan Bongino says in a new book on the inner workings of the government agency. ... The lowering of standards has been ongoing since at least ‘the early 2000s,’ according to the book, and continue to this day. ‘Sadly, and for many years, the Secret Service has been sacrificing mission-readiness at the altar of political correctness,’ Bongino writes in ‘Protecting The President: An Inside Account of the Troubled Secret Service in an Era of Evolving Threats,’ out Tuesday.”

WSJournal A1: Antifa Is Dividing The Left.

On its front page, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/19, A1, Lovett, Levitz, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) analyzes how antifa activists have created divisions among liberals over whether to denounce the group and its occasionally violent tactics. Some, such as House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, have spoken out against antifa violence, but others are uncomfortable with denouncing the loose affiliation of far-left groups and individuals – especially after the violence in Charlottesville sparked by far-right protests.

Largest Confederate Monument In Middle Of Georgia's Politics.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/19, Hendrix, 10.38M) reports on the ongoing debate over whether to remove the Confederate Memorial Carving in Georgia's Stone Mountain Park – a carving that is reportedly the largest flat relief sculpture in the world and increasingly a fixture of Georgia politics. Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacy Abrams is calling for the carving's removal, calling it "a blight on our state," but others, including Republican gubernatorial candidate Casey Cagle, argue the state should work to add to its history, rather than remove monuments.

NYTimes A1: Murder Of Civil Rights Pioneer Again Under Investigation 52 Years Later.

In a front-page article, the [New York Times](#) (9/19, A1, Gabriel, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports on efforts by activists, police, and the Justice Department to re-examine the unsolved murder of Alberta Jones, a "civil rights pioneer" who was "brutally" murdered in 1965. Bellarmine University professor Lee Remington – who examined 1,600 pages of police files and "laid out what she believed were overlooked clues to the murder in a long letter last year to the Louisville police," who agreed to reopen the case – says attempting to solve Jones' murder is a "quest for justice."

O'Reilly Says His Firing Was A "Political And Financial Hit Job."

[Reuters](#) (9/19) reports Bill O'Reilly said Tuesday on [NBC's Today Show](#) that he was fired from Fox News as a result of a "political and financial hit job" and that he "never mistreated anyone...in 42 years" of reporting. During the interview – his first on television since leaving Fox in April – he said his conscience was "clear" and that he was organizing a legal team "to get the truth to the American people."

Hewitt: Overall, Trump Has Had "A Pretty Good Eight Months."

In his [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) column, Hugh Hewitt argues that overall, President Trump has had "a pretty good eight months" since entering the White House. Hewitt, among other things, praises Trump for "his 'American carnage' inaugural address, his speech to the assembled leaders of Sunni countries wherein he demanded that they demand of their religious authorities the preaching of a message that the terrorists would find their souls eternally damned, and his 'West is best' speech in Poland"; his appointing of Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch; his assembling of a national security "team of exceptional competence"; and his "regulatory rollbacks."

WPost's Sullivan Sides With ESPN's Hill In Controversy Over Trump "A White Supremacist" Tweet.

In her [Washington Post](#) (9/19, 10.38M) column, Margaret Sullivan sides with ESPN's Jemele Hill, who in a recent tweet "described President Trump as a white supremacist," a move that drew a rebuke from ESPN and criticism from the Trump Administration. Sullivan says that "Hill doesn't cover the White House, nor does she work for a newspaper or political-news outlet. She also has a measure of truth on her side. Trump was elected in part because of his appeal to racism – yes, and sexism – in America." Sullivan adds, "At a time in America when authoritarian tendencies are rising, shutting down voices such as Jemele Hill's is worse than inappropriate. It's dangerous."

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[Trump Issues Dire Warning To North Korea In Address To UN](#)
[Heavy Debt Crushed Owners Of Toys 'R' Us](#)
[CEO Catches Stranger After Hours, Prompting Espionage Charges](#)
[How Antifa Violence Has Split The Left](#)

New York Times:

[With Combative Style And Epithets, Trump Takes America First To The UN](#)
[Trump Offers A Selective View Of Sovereignty In UN Speech](#)
[Powerful Earthquake Strikes Mexico, Killing Over 100](#)
[Senate Republicans Embrace Plan For \\$1.5 Trillion Tax Cut](#)
[Republican Leaders Defy Bipartisan Opposition To Health Law Repeal](#)
[Aung San Suu Kyi, A Much-Changed Icon, Evades Rohingya Accusations](#)
[A 'Quest For Justice' For A Murdered Civil Rights Pioneer, 52 Years Later](#)

Washington Post:

[GOP Health Bill Hits Hurdle In Resistance From Governors](#)
[Trump Makes Defiant UN Debut](#)
[Robust Emphasis On Sovereignty Echoes President's Domestic Agenda](#)
[Puerto Rico Prepares For Direct Hit By Maria](#)
[Ugly Past, Unattractive Present For Biggest Confederate Monument](#)
[Scores Dead After Powerful Quake Jolts Mexico](#)

Financial Times:

[Trump Threatens To 'Totally Destroy' North Korea](#)
[Theresa May Prepares €20bn EU Budget Offer](#)
[Russian-Built Nuclear Plant Revives Chernobyl Fears](#)
[Aung San Suu Kyi Defends Handling Of Rohingya Crisis](#)

Washington Times:

[Trump Defines 'America First' To Wary World Leaders At U.N., Warns North Korea And Iran](#)
[Senate Republicans Close To Pushing Through Obamacare Repeal](#)
[National Mall Faces Space Crunch For Global War On Terror Memorial](#)

[In U.N. Address, Trump Replaces Obama's Soft Talk With Big Stick](#)
[At Least 149 Dead In Mexico After Magnitude 7.1 Earthquake](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Wheaton College-Football Team Hazing; Florida-Hospital Outrage; Russia Military Training Accident; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Disabled Pilot.

CBS: Mexico City Earthquake; Mexico City Earthquake-Expert Comment; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Michael Bloomberg Interview; Guns In Classrooms; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Mexico City Earthquake-Situation Update.

NBC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Iranian President Interview; Red Cross Controversy; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Florida Sinkhole; Dodge Trucks Recall; Wrong Baby Registry; Children Night Lights.

Network TV At A Glance:

Mexico City Earthquake – 10 minutes, 15 seconds

Hurricanes – 9 minutes, 30 seconds

Trump-UN Address – 7 minutes, 30 seconds

Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort – 4 minutes, 35 seconds

Toys R Us-Bankruptcy – 2 minutes, 20 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Congress-Healthcare Reform.

CBS: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Sanctuary Cities; Wall Street News.

FOX: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Trump-UN Address.

NPR: Hurricanes; Mexico City Earthquake; Trump-UN Address; Congress-Healthcare Reform.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participates in an expanded meeting with the King of Jordan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of the Palestinian Authority; attends a working lunch with African leaders; participates in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Egypt.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Delivers remarks at a UN Security Council high-level debate on reform of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations; joins the President for an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; joins the President for an expanded meeting with the President of Egypt.

US Senate: 9:00 AM Senate Aging Committee hearing on disaster preparedness and response – Hearing on 'Disaster Preparedness and Response: The Special Needs of Older Americans', with testimony from former New Orleans Health Commissioner Karen DeSalvo; University of South Florida

School of Aging Studies Professor / Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging Director Dr Kathryn Hyer; Portlight Inclusive Disaster Strategies CEO/President Paul Timmons Jr.; and Wilkes-Barre, PA, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator Jay Delaney Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 562, Washington, DC <http://aging.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Judiciary Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Allison Eid to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit; Annemarie Carney Axon to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama; Michael Lawrence Brown and William Ray II to be U.S. District Judges for the Northern District of Georgia; and Thomas Alvin Farr to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 226, Washington, DC <http://judiciary.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Environment and Public Works Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Michael Dourson, Matthew Leopold, David Ross, and William Wehrum to be Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrators; and Jeffery Baran to be a Nuclear Regulatory Commission member Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 406, Washington, DC <http://epw.senate.gov/public/>

10:30 AM Republican Sen. James Lankford meets with Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney Location: Washington, DC <http://www.lankford.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenatorLankford>

1:00 PM Dem Sen. Jack Reed and military consumer advocates hold briefing on the CFPB arbitration rule – Democratic Sen. Jack Reed and military consumer advocates hold briefing on 'how the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's arbitration rule directly benefits the military community and helps protect service members from financial frauds and abuses', and 'how the CFPB rule directly impacts Equifax and Wells Fargo customers'. Other participants include Commissioned Officers Association Deputy Executive Director John McElligot, Public Justice Executive Director Paul Bland, and Wells Fargo fake account victim Tracey Kilgore Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 538, Washington, DC <http://reed.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenJackReed>

2:30 PM Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee hearing on end of the year spending – Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management Subcommittee hearing on 'Prudent Planning or Wasteful Binge? Another Look at End of the Year Spending', with testimony from Section 809 Panel Commissioner Dr Allan Burman; Mercatus Center at George Mason University Senior Research Fellow Dr Jason Fichtner; and Government Accountability Office Director of Strategic Issues Heather Krause Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 342, Washington, DC <http://hsgac.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenateHSGAC>

US House: 9:00 AM Dem Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee co-hosts event on ending all discrimination against all women and girls – 'Target One: Ending All Forms of Discrimination Against All Women and Girls Everywhere' – the inaugural event of a new breakfast series hosted by Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) exploring each element of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #5, 'Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls'. Participants include University of Delaware Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies Dr Kara Ellerby, Smash Strategies partner Susan Markham, and IFES Director of Monitoring and Evaluation and Public Opinion Research Rakesh Sharma Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2045, Washington, DC www.ifes.org <https://twitter.com/IFES1987> #SDG5

10:30 AM Pelosi, others ahead of HBCU Roundtable – House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Congressman Bobby Scott, and Members of the Congressional Black Caucus will deliver brief remarks ahead of a roundtable with Historically Black Colleges And Universities (HBCU) Presidents and Chancellors to discuss legislative priorities. Remarks will be delivered at the top of the meeting. Location: Gabe Zimmerman Room, HVC-215 Capitol Visitor Center The Capitol. <http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

12:00 PM Pelosi Weekly briefing – Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi will hold her weekly press conference. Location: HVC Studio A (Enter through HVC-117), Capitol Visitor Center. <http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

On recess until 25 September.

Other: 7:30 AM Air, Space & Cyber Conference continues with Defense Secretary Mattis keynote – Air Force Association Annual Air, Space & Cyber Conference and Technology Exposition continues, with final day keynote from U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis Location: Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, 201 Waterfront St, National Harbor, MD National Harbor www.afa.org [#ASC17](https://twitter.com/AirForceAssoc)

8:00 AM U.S. Black Chambers Policy Breakfast – U.S. Black Chambers Policy Breakfast, with panel discussions on 'Doing Business with Corporate America', and 'Public Sector Contracting: Diverse Supply Chains on a Local Level'. Speakers include Democratic Rep. Cedric Richmond Location: NCTA – The Internet & Television Association, 25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC www.usblackchambers.org <https://twitter.com/usblackchambers>

9:00 AM Department of Labor releases updated child labor report and apps – Department of Labor simultaneously releases an update to its annual child labor report, representing 'the most comprehensive research product to date on the state of child labor in over 130 countries worldwide'; a new app entitled 'Comply Chain', designed to help businesses root out child labor, forced labor, and modern slavery from global supply chains; and an updated version of the smartphone app 'Sweat & Toil', which contains information on goods produced by child labor or forced labor, and the latest findings on govts' efforts to address child labor (9:00 AM EDT) * Deputy Under Secretary of Labor for International Labor Affairs Martha Newton participates in briefing on the releases at the Washington Foreign Press Center, National Press Building, 529 14th St NW, Washington, DC (11:00 AM EDT) Location: TBD <http://www.dol.gov> <https://twitter.com/USDOL>

11:30 AM HUD Secretary Carson pen-and-pad on hurricane recovery efforts – Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson discusses HUD's role in the long-term recovery efforts for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Topics will include CDBG-DR funding, the timeline for recovery, and what people in the affected region can expect from HUD, via pen-and-pad with select reporters. Other participants include Associate General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Janet Golrick, General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research Todd Richardson, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs Stan Gimont Location: Robert C. Weaver Federal Building, 451 7th St, Washington, DC <http://www.hud.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HUDNews>

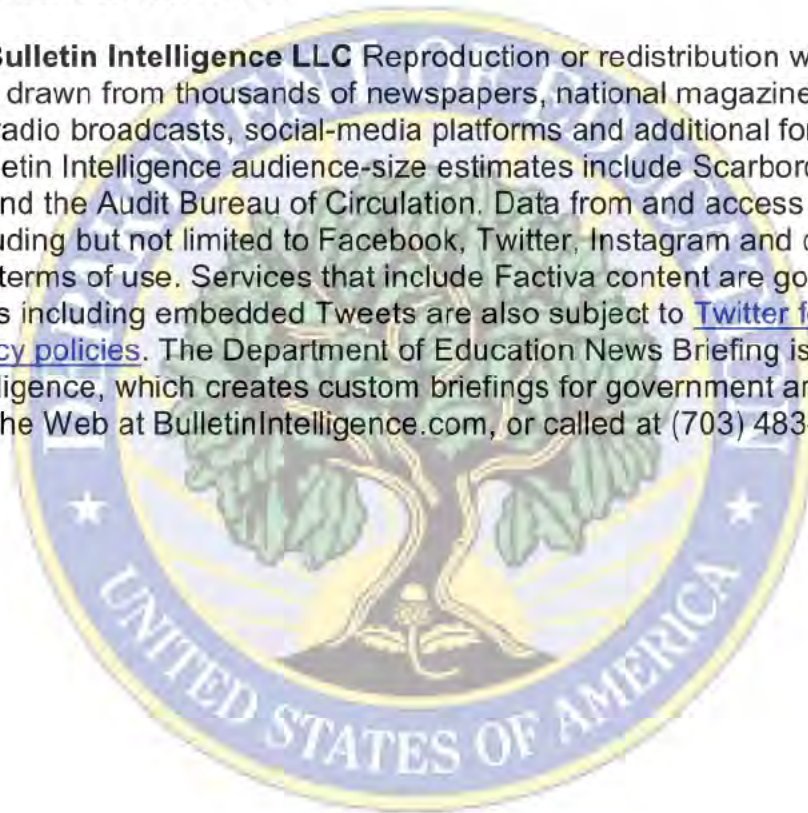
2:00 PM Brookings Institution discussion on Saudi Arabia and 'Vision 2030' – 'Saudi Arabia looks forward: Vision 2030 and Mohammed bin Salman' Brookings Institution Intelligence project discussion, with Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs Senior Fellow Karen Elliott House discussing the findings from her new paper 'Saudi Arabia in Transition', which analyzes the progress the Saudis have made and the challenges they face in implementing Vision 2030 – a plan to modernize its economy and society while allowing it to maintain its hold on power – amidst the recent

changes in leadership Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.brookings.edu> <https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst>

8:00 PM Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Celebration of Leadership in the Fine Arts – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Celebration of Leadership in the Fine Arts, honoring Spike Lee, Yolanda Adams and Simone Paulwell * Organized in cooperation with the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Visual and Performance Arts Scholarship program Location: Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St NW, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org <https://twitter.com/CBCFInc>

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference, themed 'And Still I Rise'. Includes National Action Network panel discussion with NAN Founder and President Rev. Al Sharpton and Democratic Sen. Cory Booker on diversity in asset management (12:30 PM EDT) Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org/alc <https://twitter.com/CBCFInc> #CBCFALC17

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From: FSA Communications
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 8:03 AM
To: FSA ED Employees
Subject: The Department of Education News Briefing for September 20, 2017

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=001-941&t=c>>

TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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- Education Committee Lawmakers Unhappy With ESSA Plan.
- Indiana Federal Lawmakers Ask DeVos To Delay Grad Rate Change.
- Banks, Indiana Delegation Write To Secretary DeVos Regarding Indiana Graduation Rate.
- Minnesota School Accountability System Up For Review To Meet Federal Standards.

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- Failed Charters Increasingly Going Private, Benefiting From Vouchers.
- Los Angeles BOE President Announces Resignation.
- Missouri Governor's Efforts To Overhaul State BOE Hits Latest In Series Of Roadblocks.
- Report: Utah School Nursing Shortage Has Worsened.
- State Of Maryland, Baltimore District Agree To Struggling School Improvement Partnership.
- Houston ISD Elementary Schools Still Closed From Hurricane Take Students On Field Trips.
- AEI Fellow: States, Schools Should Address Growing Pensions And Benefits Problem.
- Educators Debate Allowing Teachers To Carry Guns In Classrooms.
- Alabama County Launches Campaign To Stop Bullying In School.
- Black Students Discuss Racial Inequality In Alabama Schools.
- Many Tennessee School Districts Earning Top Growth Score, But Struggling Schools Post Lower-Than-Expected Scores.
- State Superintendent Presents Graph To Board On How Ohio Test Scores Fell With New Tests, Expectations.
- High-Speed Internet Connectivity In Classrooms Skyrockets Through Federal E-Rate Program.
- Documentary Examines Gap In Student Access To Technology.
- Computer Science Initiative In Arkansas Schools Detailed.
- Kyyba CEO: America Needs To Encourage Young People Into STEM Careers.



- Lafayette Officials Consider Expanding Opportunities For Language Immersion, STEM Education.
- Nonprofit Aims To Get More People Of Color Into Teaching Careers.
- Teacher Shortage Shrinks In Detroit's Public Schools.
- Majority Of States First To Adopt Common Core Standards Still Using Them.

Additional Reading

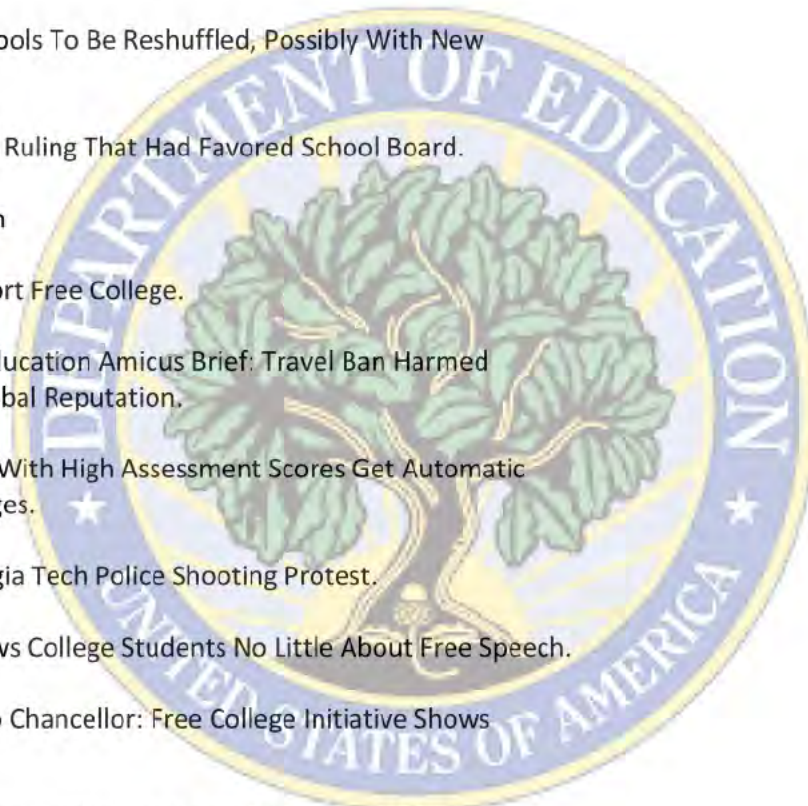
- Former Howard Superintendent Renee Foose Hired By Maryland Education Department.
- Six Struggling Philly Schools To Be Reshuffled, Possibly With New Teachers.
- Appeals Court Reverses Ruling That Had Favored School Board.

Post-Secondary Education

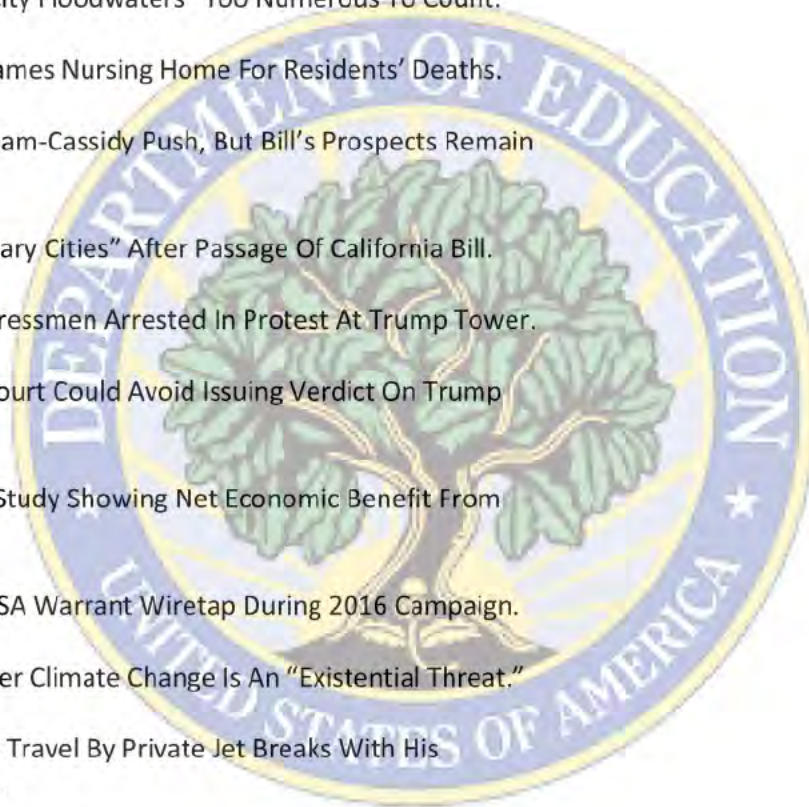
- Poll: Most Voters Support Free College.
- American Council On Education Amicus Brief: Travel Ban Harmed American Education's Global Reputation.
- South Dakota Students With High Assessment Scores Get Automatic Admission To State Colleges.
- Three Arrested In Georgia Tech Police Shooting Protest.
- WSJ: Survey Shows College Students No Little About Free Speech.
- City Colleges Of Chicago Chancellor: Free College Initiative Shows Early Signs Of Success.
- Governors Of Western States Discuss Region's Shortage Of Skilled Workers.
- Companies, Colleges Partner To Train Workers For Tech Maintenance Jobs.

Other Washington News

- Trump Slams "Rocket Man" At UN, Threatens To "Totally Destroy" North Korea.
- Trump At UN: Iran Nuclear Deal An "Embarrassment."
- Trump Calls Out Venezuela, Cuba In UN Speech.



- In UN Speech, Trump Vows To Always Put America First.
- Trump Declares Emergency As Hurricane Maria Heads Toward Puerto Rico.
- NFIP Director Says Irma Claims Could Exceed \$11 Billion From Harvey.
- Long: FEMA Will Not Rely On Trailers To House Harvey, Irma Victims.
- Red Cross Says Its System Couldn't Handle Demand For Aid After Harvey.
- Citing "Bigger, Larger, More Violent" Storms, Lengyel Says Climate Is Changing.
- Bacteria In Everglades City Floodwaters "Too Numerous To Count."
- Scott Administration Blames Nursing Home For Residents' Deaths.
- White House Joins Graham-Cassidy Push, But Bill's Prospects Remain Uncertain.
- Sessions Warns "Sanctuary Cities" After Passage Of California Bill.
- Three Democratic Congressmen Arrested In Protest At Trump Tower.
- AP Analysis: Supreme Court Could Avoid Issuing Verdict On Trump Travel Ban.
- Administration Rejects Study Showing Net Economic Benefit From Refugees.
- Manafort Was Under FISA Warrant Wiretap During 2016 Campaign.
- Pruitt Questions Whether Climate Change Is An "Existential Threat."
- Politico Analysis: Price's Travel By Private Jet Breaks With His Obama-Era Predecessors.
- In Tweet, Trump Mocks Low Emmy Ratings.
- Fed Set To Reduce \$4.2 Trillion Balance Sheet.
- Bloomberg Flummoxed By Rising Stock Market.
- Three Constitutional Scholars Back Zervos Suit Against Trump.
- Navy Pledges To Address Problems Stretching Sailors' Limits.
- One Poll Shows Northam Leading Gillespie By A Single Point, Another By 10.



- Potential 2020 Hopefuls Sanders, Warren Diverge In Efforts “To Expand Their Constituencies.”
- Menendez Judge Sides With Prosecutors In One Ruling On Evidence, With Defense In Another.
- Newly Formed Support PAC Aims To Boost Ogles’ Bid For Corker’s Seat.
- AP Analysis: RGA’s Online Publication “Looks Like A Media Outlet.”
- Obama To Host Event For New Jersey Gubernatorial Hopeful Murphy This Fall.
- Michelle Obama’s Former Policy Director Enters Maryland Democratic Primary.
- Report: Liberal Groups Received \$765M “From Union Members’ Paychecks” From 2012-2016.
- Democrats Launch Initiative Aimed At Boosting Ranks Of Female State Attorneys General.
- In Book, Ex-Secret Service Agent Says Agency Lowered Standards In Quest For Diversity.
- WSJournal A1: Antifa Is Dividing The Left.
- Largest Confederate Monument In Middle Of Georgia’s Politics.
- NYTimes A1: Murder Of Civil Rights Pioneer Again Under Investigation 52 Years Later.
- O’Reilly Says His Firing Was A “Political And Financial Hit Job.”
- Hewitt: Overall, Trump Has Had “A Pretty Good Eight Months.”
- WPost’s Sullivan Sides With ESPN’s Hill In Controversy Over Trump “A White Supremacist” Tweet.



The Big Picture

- Headlines From Today’s Front Pages.

Washington’s Schedule

- Today’s Events In Washington.

Secretary and Department News

Education Chief In Betsy DeVos’s Home State Clarifies Comments On

School Choice.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=002-788&t=c>> (9/19, Strauss, 10.38M) reports Brian Whiston is the superintendent of public instruction in Michigan, "the home state of U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who has played a pivotal role in the growth of the state's controversial charter school sector and been a staunch advocate for choice programs." Based on his experience, the Post says, it is "fair to assume that [Whiston] knew what he was talking about and meant what he said" when he recently went on the public television show "Off the Record" to discuss education. However, Whiston went back and forth on whether he supported school choice in Michigan. He said during the interview that school choice has "probably taken" the state backwards overall, but after the interview, he clarified in a statement that but after the interview clarified that "that was a poor choice of words" on his part and that he does "support school choice for students and parents."

ED Approves Purdue's Plan To Buy Kaplan University.

The Indianapolis Star

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=003-b4e&t=c>> (9/19, 479K) reports that Purdue University officials say that ED has approved the school's plan to purchase for-profit chain Kaplan University. However, ED "has outlined certain conditions that need to be met, which Purdue says it will work to address as it prepares to complete the transaction." Now, the Star reports, the biggest remaining stumbling block to the deal is the approval of the accreditor the Higher Learning Commission, which "is expected to make a decision in the coming months." Purdue's plan to purchase Kaplan and "create a new, online university that Purdue is calling 'New University' ...rocked the higher education world, where for-profit institutions have fought against reputations as predatory debt-traps and struggled against increased regulation imposed by the Obama administration."

The Chronicle of Higher Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=004-ed4&t=c>> (9/19, 43K) reports that ED "preliminarily concluded" that it had no objections to the deal," but "noted that final approval requires more information from the parties involved, and that conditions would be imposed." The AP <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=005-e26&t=c>> (9/19) reports that the deal had already been approved by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education in August. This piece adds that "some Purdue faculty members have criticized the deal, saying they're worried about the reputation of Kaplan University and parent Kaplan Higher Education," both of which

"face investigations and lawsuits in several states over hiring and recruitment practices."

Inside INdiana Business

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=006-378&t=c>> (9/19) and the St. Joseph (MO) News-Press

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=007-141&t=c>> (9/19, 12K) also cover this story.

ED Also Approves Art Institutes Sale. The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=008-260&t=c>> (9/19, Savransky, 1.68M) reports that in addition to the Purdue/Kaplan deal, ED approved the nonprofit Dream Center's purchase of the Art Institutes, currently owned by EDMC. The Hill reports that ED's approval of the deals "could signal a change in the way these deals are looked at under Education Secretary Betsy DeVos," noting that the Obama administration "did not allow for the conversion of one for-profit to nonprofit college."

Senate Holds Confirmation Hearing For Muñiz.

Andrew Ujifusa writes at the Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=009-c0e&t=c>> (9/19, 127K) "Politics K-12" blog that the Senate HELP Committee held a confirmation hearing Tuesday for Carlos Muñiz, the nominee to serve as ED General Counsel. Questioned about how much flexibility states should have under ESSA by ranking Democrat Patty Murray, Muñiz "said he would tell states and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to follow the Every Student Succeeds Act." Muñiz "gave a narrow answer about ESSA oversight," saying to Murray, "My advice to states would be to follow the law. ... My job would be to advise her as to what the law requires, advise her as to what her discretion might be." Muñiz "took a similar line with" Chairman Lamar Alexander, "who asked Muñiz if DeVos should follow ESSA's clear prohibitions on the secretary's role in issues such as state's long-term academic goals."

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=00a-43d&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) reports that Senate Democrats had planned to "air their grievances" at Muñiz' hearing over DeVos' "plans to rewrite Obama-era efforts designed to protect defrauded for-profit college students and campus sexual assault victims."

HBCU Gathering Occurs Amid Tensions With Administration.

NPR

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=00b-6e8&t=c>> (9/19, 2.4M) reports that most years, HBCU leaders “gather in Washington D.C., to lobby Congress and the White House. This year President Trump was not there to greet them, which was just as well because the meeting took place amid simmering frustration with the Trump administration.” HBCU leaders say they have received “little or no support from the administration” and complain of “a lack of understanding of the financial straits some schools are facing.” Other sources of tension between HBCUs and the administration include “President Trump’s response to the violence in Charlottesville” and his “questioning of the constitutionality of federal funding that HBCUs receive for construction projects.”

Johnathan Holifield To Lead White House Initiative On Historically Black Colleges. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=00c-f24&t=c>> (9/19, Scott, 10.38M) reports in its “The Fix” blog the White House “has finally hired someone to head the president’s historically black colleges and universities initiative after reports that the administration was having a difficult time finding a person willing to take the job.” However, the new head is attracting attention “because of his lack of experience in the area that he will lead.” The White House announced Monday “that former Cincinnati Bengals player Johnathan Holifield would lead its initiative on historically black colleges and universities, a group of more than 100 higher education institutions founded to serve black Americans when the majority of colleges and universities prevented minorities from enrolling.”

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=00d-667&t=c>> (9/19, Rosenblatt, 4.49M) reports that the “Trump administration has named Johnathan M. Holifield, a former NFL player, author and entrepreneur, to lead” the White House Initiative HBCUs. “Advocates applauded the appointment and said they look forward to working with Holifield,” but others “are still skeptical and called for more substantive changes, particularly a reversal of proposed budget cuts and a greater commitment to Title III of the Higher Education Act, which helps institutions of higher education support low-income students.”

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=00e-6a5&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) reports that according to Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC), “co-chairwoman of the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus,” the administration’s “appointment of a director for a federal initiative aimed at boosting historically black colleges and universities is ‘the first step’ toward repairing the administration’s relationship with HBCUs.”

DeVos Has Templates For Campus Sexual Assault Compromise.

NPR

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=00f-eb5&t=c>> (9/19, 2.4M) aired a segment on the debate over how ED's campus sexual assault guidance might be changed by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who has stressed that schools can find better ways to address the issue, saying that "new rules must be more fair to the accused students." The segment explores "compromise proposals" that have been made, saying that such plans could inform DeVos' ultimate determination.

Democrats Call On DeVos To Maintain Status Quo On Campus Sexual Assault Guidance.

The Detroit News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=010-633&t=c>> (9/19, 725K) reports that Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI) "led a group of a dozen Democratic lawmakers in urging Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to keep" ED's current campus sexual assault guidance. The letter, expressing "deep concern" about DeVos' plans to change the guidance, calls on her "not to weaken enforcement of Title IX protections for sexual assault victims and stressing the need to ensure the department's policy protects survivors across the country."

Groups Call On DeVos To Cancel Student Loan Policy Changes.

Diverse Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=011-b9e&t=c>> (9/19, Abdul-Alim) reports that a coalition of 39 organizations has written to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos calling on her to forego planned student loan regulatory changes, saying they could "spell disaster for students of color who are too often exploited in consumer lending." The letter was "signed by a diverse array of organizations including the NAACP, Urban League and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, or HACU." The groups lament "a series of changes that DeVos has sought or implemented in recent months — including the delay and renegotiating of the gainful employment and borrower defense rules meant to hold for-profit colleges accountable for employment outcomes and to give relief to defrauded student loan borrowers."

Senate Democrats Call On CFPB To Keep Pressure On Student Loan Industry.

Inside Higher Ed

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=012-26e&t=c>> (9/19, Kreighbaum, 70K) reports Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) have written to Consumer Financial Protection Bureau director Richard Cordray calling for the agency “to maintain active oversight of loan servicers and other participants in the student loan industry.” The letter comes “in the wake of a Department of Education decision to terminate two agreements with the agency involving oversight of student loan programs.” The letter calls this move “another example of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos acting in favor of private student loan companies at the expense of borrowers.”

ED’s ESSA Approvals Begin To Paint Picture.

Alyson Klein writes at the Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=013-9e4&t=c>> (9/20, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and ED officials “have been approving state plans for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act at a fast and furious pace.” She writes about some “big takeaways” from the plan that have been approved to date. She writes that ED’s “feedback on plans may not be as influential as would be expected,” saying that states got their plans approved even though they made only small revisions based on ED feedback. However, “states worked the hardest to fix their plans in the areas in which the department pushed the most.” Moreover, some plans “may not be as ambitious as some ESSA experts would have hoped.”

Additional Reading

Education Committee Lawmakers Unhappy With ESSA Plan.

The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=014-786&t=c>> (9/19, Martinez, 236K)

Indiana Federal Lawmakers Ask DeVos To Delay Grad Rate Change.

WVIK-FM

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=015-179&t=c>> Rock Island, IL (9/19)

Banks, Indiana Delegation Write To Secretary DeVos Regarding Indiana

Graduation Rate.

WBIW-AM

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=016-b4c&t=c>> Bedford, IN (9/19)

Minnesota School Accountability System Up For Review To Meet Federal Standards.

The Worthington (MN) Daily Globe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=017-80c&t=c>> (9/19, 27K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Connecticut Districts Brace For Funding Cuts As Budget Bill Fizzles.

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=018-dae&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) reports that Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) is expected to veto a Republican budget proposal, meaning that “more than 100 school districts must brace for funding cuts come Oct. 1. That’s when Connecticut public schools are due for state education dollars, funding they’re unlikely to get unless state lawmakers approve a budget by the start of the coming month.” Malloy plans to give the neediest districts emergency payments, but this will leave “54 districts with significant funding reductions and 85 districts with no state funding at all.”

Failed Charters Increasingly Going Private, Benefiting From Vouchers.

ProPublica

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=019-1a1&t=c>> (9/19, 15K) reports that after district officials in Jacksonville, Florida canceled the charter of Orange Park Performing Arts Academy over abysmally poor academic outcomes, the school “surprisingly...didn’t shut down — and even found a way to stay on the public dime. It reopened last month as a private school charging \$5,000 a year, below the \$5,886 maximum that low-income students receive to attend the school of their choice under a state voucher program.” The piece reports that private schools have often gone charter in the past to “take advantage of public dollars, more schools are now heading in the opposite direction. As voucher programs across the country proliferate, shuttered charter schools...have begun to

privatize in order to stay open with state assistance.”

Los Angeles BOE President Announces Resignation.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=01a-cbb&t=c>> (9/19, Blume, 4.49M) reports Ref Rodriguez announced Tuesday that he is voluntarily resigning from his post as Los Angeles Unified Public Schools Board of Education president – less than three months into his tenure. Rodriguez “faces three felony charges on allegations of campaign money laundering,” and his announcement “marks a stunning turnaround for Rodriguez and supporters of charter schools, who spent record sums in campaigns this year to elect a board majority that is widely viewed as pro-charter.” That pro-charter majority will be left largely intact; however, the legal problems surrounding Rodriguez “could detract from what the majority has described as its ‘kid-first’ agenda.”

Missouri Governor’s Efforts To Overhaul State BOE Hits Latest In Series Of Roadblocks.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=01b-494&t=c>> (9/19, 831K) reports Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens’ efforts to overhaul the State Board of Education “hit another roadblock on Tuesday” when the board withdrew from consideration his pick “to replace current and well-liked Education Commissioner Margie Vandeven.” Previously, Heidi Crane, “a last-minute choice to replace Springfield resident Melissa Gelner on the board after Gelner’s nomination was withdrawn by Greitens,” had declined to accept her appointment. Greitens’ third appointee, Delbert Scott, withdrew his candidacy after learning “his job barred him from sitting on the board.” Since the governor has only replaced three board members, he “is short of having the votes to bring in his own person to run the agency.”

Report: Utah School Nursing Shortage Has Worsened.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=01c-0af&t=c>> (9/19) reports the Utah Department of Health’s annual report found that the state had one school nurse per 4,543 students, slightly worse than the year prior. The shortage has left “school nurses with six times the recommended students under their care.” School enrollment continues to climb annually, “but school nursing levels have not kept pace amid tight school budgets, leaving multiple schools relying on a single nurse and sometimes putting

children at risk, parents and advocates say.” Utah state legislatures are considering using Medicaid funds to pay for the school nurses, a move estimated to cost about \$3 million. The National Association of School Nurses has recommended one all-day nurse per school; to meet that goal, Utah “would have to hire more than 950 nurses, at a cost of about \$91 million,” which is about 10 times as much as what the state currently spends.

State Of Maryland, Baltimore District Agree To Struggling School Improvement Partnership.

The Baltimore Sun

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=01d-3d1&t=c>> (9/19, 706K) reports the Maryland State Department of Education and Baltimore City Public Schools chief executive Sonja Santelises signed a memorandum of understanding this month that “outlines the state’s plan to help improve schools in the bottom 5 percent in the state.” Twenty-four of the 27 priority schools are in Baltimore. Under the agreement, the state will “send leadership coaches to work one-on-one with principals in targeted schools on strategies for improvement.” Assistant principals, teachers, and other school officials “will also participate in programs aimed at stemming high turnover in underperforming schools.” The state will conduct monthly checks to monitor progress, and revise improvement plans as needed. Santelises conceded the partnership will not turn around the city’s struggling schools overnight, but it will “hold each other mutually accountable.”

Houston ISD Elementary Schools Still Closed From Hurricane Take Students On Field Trips.

The Houston Chronicle

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=01e-e32&t=c>> (9/19, Webb, 1.97M) reports that “students of three Houston ISD elementary schools still closed due to Hurricane Harvey will be able to take free field trips this week.” Houston ISD announced that students at the schools “would embark on trips around the museum district. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for free by Houston ISD’s Food Services.”

AEI Fellow: States, Schools Should Address Growing Pensions And Benefits Problem.

American Enterprise Institute Education Policy Studies Research Fellow Nat Malkus writes in U.S. News & World Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ>

ation&r=email-1371&l=01f-576&t=c> (9/19, 1.73M) that Illinois last month “passed a new school funding formula that would dramatically alter the state’s education finance system, and gave much-needed funding to the nation’s third largest school district, Chicago Public Schools,” which “will get desperately needed \$450 million windfall.” He adds, “One would think such a large infusion of funds would allow the district to invest in schools and classrooms, but the bulk will instead go towards the district’s pension problem.” Malkus describes growing benefits costs as putting a “squeeze on districts because they take more and more money for relatively unproductive uses.” He concludes saying that districts “can take steps to limit the growing burden of benefits, but none of them are easy. One is moving away from pensions toward more sustainable options, such as 401k plans that are both more sustainable and often better for teachers.”

Educators Debate Allowing Teachers To Carry Guns In Classrooms.

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=020-16b&t=c>> (9/19, story 8, 3:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that teachers across the country are debating whether to allow educators to carry firearms in classrooms to protect their students. Some, such as the 1,000 educators from 12 states that recently participated in a three-day firearms course in Ohio called “Faster Saves Lives,” believe training and the ability to carry a gun prepares teachers to protect students against school shooters. Others, such as Sandy Hook Elementary School teacher Abbey Clements, believe additional firearms present more danger to students. The director of the “Faster Saves Lives” course “says all participants must pass the same firearms test required to become a police officer in Ohio where they only need 80 percent accuracy to pass. But teachers in this training are held to 90 percent.”

Alabama County Launches Campaign To Stop Bullying In School.

WSFA-TV

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=021-526&t=c>> Montgomery, AL (9/19, 55K) reports online that Alabama’s Montgomery County District Attorney Daryl Bailey announced on Tuesday the launch of a new initiative, dubbed “Bullying Stops with Me,” aimed “at combating bullying in schools by having students notify authorities about the problem through texting.” Bailey’s office has in the last few years intensified efforts “to tackle truancy in schools,” and “Bailey says students who end up dropping out of high school are more likely to fall into a life of crime.” Montgomery Public Schools will participate in the initiative by placing “posters in schools and get the word out to students” so they are aware “that help is available to those who witness bullying or who are being bullied.”

Details of students' text messages will be forwarded "to the Helping Montgomery Families Initiatives, who will follow up."

Black Students Discuss Racial Inequality In Alabama Schools.

As part of its ongoing "Tackling the Gap" series on "the large and persistent achievement gap between black and white students when it comes to the percentage scoring proficient on standardized tests,"

Alabama Live

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=022-0bb&t=c>> (9/19, 608K) publishes video interviews with four black students who discussed "the barriers they and other black students faced during their enrollment at different school districts within Jefferson County." Their experiences also provided "some solutions as to how to equalize the educational experience in Alabama." The students discussed "how some teachers evaluated their educational success and character through the lens of racial biases and how the lack of opportunities for advance coursework can feed the achievement gap." One student said her white AP Calculus teacher "treated the black students differently than the white students." Another student's experience underscored "how the lack of opportunity to take advance courses or be provided with certain materials, such as AP classes, feeds the achievement gap."

Many Tennessee School Districts Earning Top Growth Score, But Struggling Schools Post Lower-Than-Expected Scores.

Chalkbeat

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=023-28a&t=c>> (9/19, Aldrich) reports data released Tuesday shows that the majority of Tennessee's 147 school districts posted scores "that suggest students are making or exceeding expected progress, with over a third earning the top growth score." However, Tennessee districts with many struggling schools "posted lower-than-expected growth scores on this year's state exams," according to the data. Most students "in three of the state's four largest districts – in Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga – aren't growing academically as they should, and neither are those in most of their "priority schools" in the state's bottom 5 percent." Education Commissioner Candice McQueen to sent a "good news, bad news" email to superintendents after the data was released, saying, "These results point to the ability for all students to grow." Of those in the bottom, she "said the state would analyze the latest data to determine 'critical next steps,' especially for priority schools, which also are located in high-poverty communities."

State Superintendent Presents Graph To Board On How Ohio Test Scores

Fell With New Tests, Expectations.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=024-012&t=c> (9/19, 927K) reports that Ohio State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria presented a graph to the state school board on Monday that “offers a dramatic look at how changes in state tests the last three years sent once-rising test scores into free fall.” DeMaria shared the graph “to provide some context to the low grades on the state’s report cards for schools and districts released last week.” It shows “the rise and fall of Ohio’s average test score each year since 2001, using Performance Index, which combines scores from all grades and tests at a school or district into a single score.”

High-Speed Internet Connectivity In Classrooms Skyrockets Through Federal E-Rate Program.

Under former President Obama, the Federal Communications Commission voted in favor of modernizing the E-Rate program and approved a \$1.5 million funding boost to expand high-speed broadband Internet in all classrooms and libraries, reports U.S. News & World Report <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=025-cef&t=c> (9/19, Camera, 1.73M). After the modernization of the E-Rate program in 2014 and through the efforts of “a broad bipartisan coalition of federal and state lawmakers and policymakers dedicated to the cause,” the number of students with access to broadband Internet in the classroom “catapulted” from four million in 2013 to 39.2 million. There are still about 6.5 million students without access to high-speed classroom Internet, but that gap is “expected to be eliminated by 2020 based on current growth models.” Meanwhile, “46 state governors have pledged to upgrade their schools’ broadband networks and they’ve allocated nearly \$200 million in state matching funds for construction to help connect the schools that are particularly difficult to reach.” Politico Morning Education <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=026-991&t=c> (9/19, 3.55M) also reports on this story.

Documentary Examines Gap In Student Access To Technology.

The Lexington (KY) Herald-Leader

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=027-df5&t=c> (9/19, 278K) reports on a documentary titled “Without a Net: The Digital Divide in America,” slated to air on the National Geographic Channel next Tuesday. The documentary “highlights schools around the country, some like the Eastern Kentucky schools that are aggressively trying to prepare students for a

technological world and others in various parts of the United States that have fallen short.” The Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative received a \$30 million grant from ED’s Race to the Top District Initiative in 2014, as well as \$200,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to upgrade school technology. On Monday, the cooperative’s executive director, Jeff Hawkins, said “while schools in the region are connected to high speed fiber, ‘not all of our homes in our communities have high speed internet’ access. Because not having high speed internet at home can be a problem for students, there are also efforts in Kentucky to improve that situation.”

Computer Science Initiative In Arkansas Schools Detailed.

The Seventy Four

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=028-4f5&t=c> (9/18) reported that Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson recently visited a North Little Rock high school classroom to “experience firsthand what students across his state are learning, thanks to an ambitious, first-in-the-nation initiative he is spearheading – in partnership with universities, major corporations, and educators – to teach computer science to every student in Arkansas.” The article characterizes Arkansas as “going all in on computer education, spending an initial \$5 million to train teachers and help districts pay for staffing and equipment to bring computer literacy to all grade levels.” In the initiative’s first two years, “the number of Arkansas high schoolers taking computer science has exploded, from 1,100 to 5,500 students – nearly 20 percent of the high school senior population.”

Kyyba CEO: America Needs To Encourage Young People Into STEM Careers.

Kyyba President and CEO Tel Ganesan writes in the Detroit News

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=029-6ce&t=c> (9/19, 725K) that the economic stability and growth of the nation “is hindered – and is at risk of weakening – due to combined problems in STEM industries,” adding, “We must get American young people interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) careers.” Some of the problems he lists include “the current lack of quality U.S.-born candidates to fill too many vacant STEM jobs,” the “current demise of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” and “too few H1-B visas permitted annually which allow foreign- born STEM experts into the country for work.” He adds, “Our nation’s strength relies too heavily on the H1-B visa system. Immigration policies and our educational system should support and be a catalyst for creating disruptive, ground-breaking technologies that improve the world and keep the U.S. on the cutting edge in these fields.”

Lafayette Officials Consider Expanding Opportunities For Language Immersion, STEM Education.

The Lafayette (LA) Daily Advertiser

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=02a-b89&t=c>> (9/19, McElfresh, 80K) reports that Lafayette school officials “are considering ways to expand opportunities for language immersion and STEM education.” Lafayette’s David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy “has nearly 1,200 students in sixth through 12th grades.” Because of the school’s popularity, the district “has added 75 slots per year, starting last year, said Superintendent Donald Aguiard. Officials plan to add seats for the next couple of years.” School Board President Dawn Morris said on Monday, “It’s my belief we need to expand our STEM offerings across the board.” Morris “suggested a STEM-focused elementary school, and perhaps another site for a STEM middle school, allowing David Thibodaux to become a complete high school site.”

Nonprofit Aims To Get More People Of Color Into Teaching Careers.

NPR

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=02b-682&t=c>> (9/19, 2.4M) reports new research “shows that the number of K-12 teachers who belong to minority groups has doubled since the 1980s, growing at a faster rate than the profession as a whole. But big gaps persist, with around 80 percent of teachers identifying as white.” Meanwhile, “the need for minority teachers is especially glaring since people of color now make up about half of enrollment in public schools.” NPR profiles “a new nonprofit that has just launched, called The Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity or BranchED,” which is “aiming programming at the 253 educator-preparation programs at federally-designated colleges and universities that serve African-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans.” BranchED’s mission “is to get more people from these groups to consider teaching as a career.”

Teacher Shortage Shrinks In Detroit’s Public Schools.

The Detroit News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=02c-b17&t=c>> (9/19, Chambers, 725K) reports the Detroit Public Schools Community District “has hired an additional 56 teachers in the last two weeks, reducing its teacher shortage to 194 vacancies, but its superintendent said he will continue to search for and hire teachers until that number is zero.” At the start of school on Sept. 8, the district “had 250 vacancies in its teacher ranks. On Tuesday, Superintendent Nikolai Vitti said the district has 142

vacancies in general education and 52 in special education. Of the 142 vacancies, 54 are at former Education Achievement Authority schools, which were returned to DPSCD's supervision this summer."

Majority Of States First To Adopt Common Core Standards Still Using Them.

The AP

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=02d-83f&t=c> (9/19) reports most of the states that first endorsed the Common Core academic standards "are still using them in some form, despite continued debate over whether they are improving student performance in reading and math." Of the states "that opted in after the standards were introduced in 2010 – 45 plus the District of Columbia – only eight have moved to repeal the standards, largely due to political pressure from those who saw Common Core as infringing on local control, according to Abt Associates, a research and consulting firm." The AP says President Trump and Education Secretary DeVos "spoke out against the standards, but the issue has been largely out of their hands" because a 2015 law "prohibits the federal government from promoting any set of standards, including Common Core."

Additional Reading

Former Howard Superintendent Renee Foose Hired By Maryland Education Department.

The Baltimore Sun

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=02e-0d8&t=c> (9/19, 706K)

Six Struggling Philly Schools To Be Reshuffled, Possibly With New Teachers.

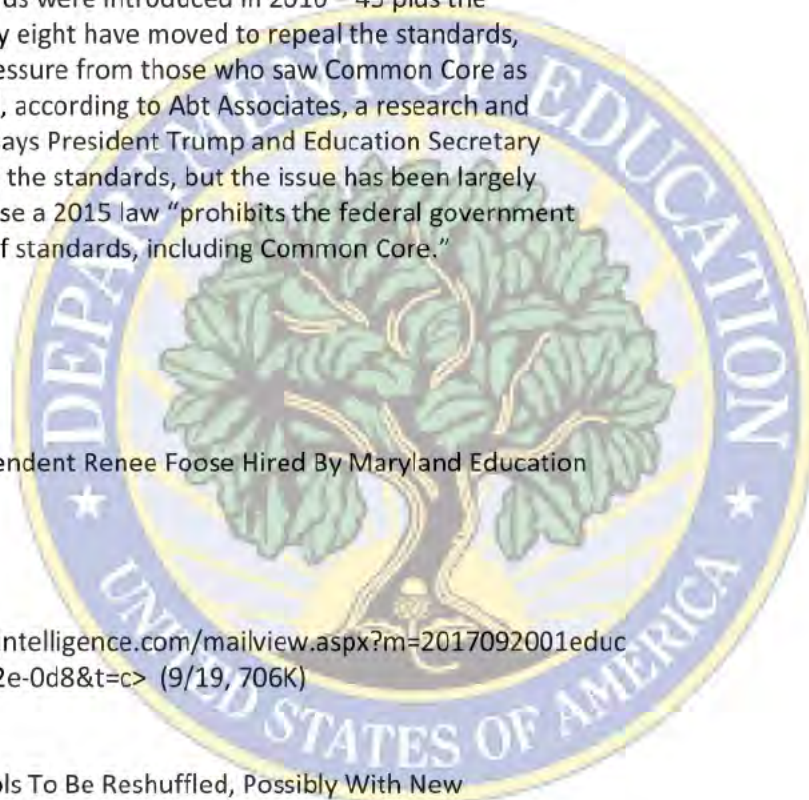
WHYY-FM

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=02f-2ec&t=c> Philadelphia (9/19, 20K)

Appeals Court Reverses Ruling That Had Favored School Board.

The AP

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=030-a49&t=c> (9/19)



Post-Secondary Education

Poll: Most Voters Support Free College.

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=031-84e&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) reports that according to a Politico/Morning Consult poll, 63% of respondents expressed some level of support for making four-year college free. The concept is, “unsurprisingly, more popular among those who describe themselves as liberal than conservative — though 40 percent of conservatives said they’d support the proposal — and it enjoyed strong support from younger voters.”

American Council On Education Amicus Brief: Travel Ban Harmed American Education’s Global Reputation.

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=032-fe8&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) reports that the American Council on Education is planning to file an amicus brief with the US Supreme Court arguing that “the Trump administration’s travel ban has harmed America’s reputation in a global education market.” The brief says, “From the moment it was signed, prospective students expressed serious concerns about attending American colleges and universities. Faculty recruits were similarly deterred from accepting teaching and research positions. And scholars based abroad pulled out of academic conferences in the United States, either because they were directly affected by the EO or because they are concerned about the EO’s harmful impact on academic discourse and research worldwide.”

South Dakota Students With High Assessment Scores Get Automatic Admission To State Colleges.

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=033-973&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) reports South Dakota education officials have announced that “high school seniors who achieve a level 3 or 4 on their 11th grade Smarter Balanced state assessments in English and math, or who achieve an ACT composite score of 18, will be automatically admitted into the state’s public universities and technical institutes.”

Three Arrested In Georgia Tech Police Shooting Protest.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=034-279&t=c>> (9/19, Shapiro, Selk, Lowery, Chason, 10.38M) reports on the lingering unrest at Georgia Tech “days after a student was fatally shot by campus police outside a dormitory building.”

The piece reports that Georgia Tech president G.P. “Bud” Peterson wrote an open letter “that mourned Scout Schultz and blamed ‘outside agitators’ for hijacking the student’s memorial.” Law enforcement authorities said Schultz “was suicidal and armed with a knife when police shot them.” The piece reports that after a peaceful protest Monday night, “several dozen of the hundreds of mourners headed to the campus police headquarters afterward.” Two campus officers were injured and three protesters were arrested. NPR

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=035-a8d&t=c>> (9/19, 2.4M) reports the violence “left officers with minor injuries and one police vehicle damaged by fire.” Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=036-69e&t=c>> (9/19) and the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=037-10b&t=c>> (9/19) also cover this story.

WSJournal: Survey Shows College Students No Little About Free Speech.

In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=038-df3&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) writes that a new Brookings Institution survey of more than 1,500 undergraduates found that most did not know hate speech was constitutionally protected, half agreed with shouting down speakers with whom they disagreed, and a fifth believed in the use of violence against speakers. The Journal concludes that many college students are clueless about free speech.

City Colleges Of Chicago Chancellor: Free College Initiative Shows Early Signs Of Success.

City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Juan Salgado, in a piece for the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=039-f7a&t=c>> (9/19, Salgado, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), says since Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel introduced two years ago the Star Scholarship program, through which the city offers “free community college to all public high school graduates who earned a B average or higher and demonstrated near college-level

proficiency," about 1,000 students have participated annually. The program's early successes "have been incredibly encouraging," with the percentage of two-year graduates on par with the national three-year community college graduation rate, and the retention rate nearly "twice the national average for community college students." Furthermore, of "the more than 200 students who have graduated already, more than two-thirds were the first in their families to go to college, more than 90 percent were members of minority groups and more than 60 percent were female." It is also open "to undocumented immigrants who were brought to the country as children."

Governors Of Western States Discuss Region's Shortage Of Skilled Workers.

Citing the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Denver Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=03a-d9f&t=c>> (9/19, 817K) reports four out of the five states with the lowest unemployment rates are in the western half of the US, "a region where economic development is increasingly finding itself handcuffed to workforce development." At a Western Governors' Association-hosted workforce development workshop on Monday, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper commented, "Our labor market is way tight," but companies do not want to relocate to the region because of a shortage of skilled laborers. The WGA, which is comprised of 19 western states, is hoping to address that problem by "better aligning the skills workers have with those that employers want." South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard told attendees that one goal of workforce development programs is to raise awareness among high school students about the necessity of pursuing post-graduation training and the dangers of dropping out. Those post-graduation options, he said, include pathways outside of the traditional four-year college degree.

Companies, Colleges Partner To Train Workers For Tech Maintenance Jobs.

NBC News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=03b-d33&t=c>> (9/19, 3.46M) reports that companies and colleges are uniting to train "new collar" students to maintain and program computers. These "new collar" jobs are positions "that require some specialized education (typically in a technical field), but not a four-year college degree." Some companies "have become so desperate for the right worker, they have started or invested in job training programs of their own, partnering with schools to equip students with the exact skills they will need to get a job, and then to do the job right." Delta, for example, "has partnered with 37 aviation maintenance schools across the country to give thousands of students the technical knowledge needed to be an aviation maintenance technician (AMT) — and ideally to get them jobs at Delta down the road."

Other Washington News

Trump Slams "Rocket Man" At UN, Threatens To "Totally Destroy" North Korea.

Media coverage of President Trump's address Tuesday to the UN General Assembly is widespread, with most reports focusing on his comments about North Korea. Outlets overwhelmingly cast the President as toughening his stance on Pyongyang, threatening to "totally destroy" North Korea and repeating his "Rocket Man" nickname for leader Kim Jong-Un.

All three networks covered the President's speech, dedicating seven-and-a-half minutes of total airtime, but none of them led with it. Jonathan Karl said on ABC World News Tonight <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=03c-16b&t=c> (9/19, story 4, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M) that while he "has spoken of fire and fury...today, President Trump went even further, raising the possibility of wiping North Korea off the map." Trump was shown saying: "The United States has great strength and patience, but if it is forced to depend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea." Trump then "directly referred to North Korean dictator...by his new nickname: 'Rocket Man.'" Trump: "Rocket Man is on a suicide mission for himself and for his regime."

On NBC Nightly News <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=03d-ee2&t=c> (9/19, story 4, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M), Hallie Jackson said the comment was "met with gasps inside the room." Jim Sciutto said on CNN's The Lead <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=03e-092&t=c> (9/19, 1.33M) that "a senior UN diplomat in the room" said that "when Trump uttered those words...the diplomats in the room were taken aback. It, in his words, 'felt like a wind had swept through the room,' an emotional response from those present unlike anything they had heard from an American President before." According to CNN's Situation Room <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=03f-e8e&t=c> (9/19, 1.28M), "an official" says the comment was added to the President's speech Tuesday morning.

The CBS Evening News <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=040-dda&t=c> (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) said that during "his debut," Trump "vowed to work with [world leaders] for peace, but threatened to wipe one nation off the face of the earth." Trump, Bloomberg News <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ>

ation&r=email-1371&l=041-ec5&t=c> (9/19, Talev, Wadhams, 4.52M) says, "bluntly threatened North Korea with annihilation," and the Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=042-57d&t=c>> (9/19, Wilkinson, Bierman, 4.49M) says he "delivered a forceful inaugural speech" that "ranged from warlike to flowery and that challenged some long-cherished tenets of US foreign policy." In particular, he "caused a stir when he mocked...Kim...as 'Rocket Man on a suicide mission' and threatened his 'depraved regime.'" The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=043-9fd&t=c>> (9/19, Fabian, 1.68M) similarly says that the President's comments "caused a stir among the crowd of leaders and diplomats at the UN and represented his starkest ultimatum yet against North Korea," while the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=044-5ab&t=c>> (9/19, Stokols, Fassihi, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) was more measured, saying that the speech drew a mixed reaction.

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=045-41a&t=c>> (9/19, Jackson, 8.62M) writes that "even as he addressed deadly serious issues that could involve American forces, the reality television star-turned-president deployed a colorful array of Trumpian phrases to make his points before the traditionally staid United Nations delegates." With regards to Kim, Bloomberg News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=046-ea3&t=c>> (9/19, Talev, Wadhams, 4.52M) says Trump "at times cast aside conventions of political and diplomatic dialogue in favor of the aggressive dialect of social media," and McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=047-942&t=c>> (9/19, Hadley, 67K) says he "used harsh and mocking language when addressing" the North Korean leader. John Roberts said on Fox News' Special Report <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=048-20c&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) that Trump "left no room for interpretation or ambiguity, demanding Kim Jong-un give up his nuclear program or else."

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=049-477&t=c>> (9/19) says Trump "escalated his standoff with North Korea...threatening to 'totally destroy' the country of 26 million people and mocking its leader." His remarks, Reuters adds, "rattled world leaders." Using what the AP <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=04a-4ee&t=c>> (9/19, Lemire, Superville) calls "dark language reminiscent of his 'American carnage' inaugural address," Trump delivered a "combative debut speech to the UN General Assembly, threatened to 'totally destroy' North Korea." The AP adds that while his

"lashing was a vigorous restatement of what's been said by US leaders before," it was "likely to hit home harder for being intensely delivered in diplomatic prime time at the UN General Assembly."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=04b-0b7&t=c>> (9/19, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says the "bellicose speech...drew a series of good-versus-evil lines that forecast confrontations to come," but the President "singled out North Korea for his harshest words, broadening his indictment of the Pyongyang government beyond just its pursuit of nuclear weapons to its treatment of its own people and captured foreigners." And "without mentioning it by name," Trump also "chastised China for continuing to deal with its rogue neighbor," saying, "It is an outrage that some nations would not only trade with such a regime, but would arm, supply and financially support a country that imperils the world with nuclear conflict." The New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=04c-5ee&t=c>> (9/19, Moore, 4.31M) reports that while Trump "thanked members of the UN Security Council, which has imposed several rounds of sanctions against North Korea," he also "chided those countries that still do business with Pyongyang."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=04d-4c9&t=c>> (9/19, Nakamura, Gearan, 10.38M) reports that following the speech, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders "sought to temper the idea that Trump's remarks about North Korea were a break from past US policy."

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=04e-cf4&t=c>> (9/19, Boyer, 541K) reports Sen. Dianne Feinstein criticized Trump for using his UN address "as a stage to threaten war," while Sen. David Perdue said he is "glad" that Trump and Ambassador Haley are getting more aggressive with the UN. Sen. Ben Cardin said on CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=04f-56e&t=c>> (9/19, 1.22M), "I don't think his remarks were well received by our allies." He added that the "international community should be there to help us" deal with the threat posed by the North, but "the President's comments put a wedge in our international coalition."

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce said on CNN's

The Lead

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=050-0c8&t=c>> (9/19, 1.33M), "These aren't the words I would have used. But what I'll share with you here is that in point of fact our biggest challenge right now is applying full diplomatic and financial pressure on North Korea and getting compliance from these other countries to do it."

Rep. Andre Carson said on CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=051-9ce&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) that Trump was being his "provocative" self in his threats to North Korea. Carson added that "to President Trump's credit...you have to be firm with those who threaten to do us harm," but "having said that, in our firmness we should not ostracize those trying to keep the peace."

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=052-a4a&t=c>> (9/19, story 7, 2:50, Mason, 11.17M) reported on an interview with former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who said "you can't deal with a rogue state like" North Korea "by yourself. You have to have great, tight relationships with all, or lots of other countries, particularly the surrounding countries. And, unfortunately, America is going in the other direction."

A Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=053-860&t=c>> (9/19, Blake, 10.38M) analysis says Trump's "oddly chosen colloquialisms masked what was a pretty astounding escalation of his rhetoric when it comes to North Korea. Just to be clear: The president of the United States threatened to wipe a country of 25 million people off the map." James Rubin, however, writes in a Politico Magazine
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=054-3e7&t=c>> (9/19, 3.55M) analysis headlined "Trump's UN Speech Was Bad, But Let's Not Lose Our Heads" that despite "the screaming headlines about Trump's threat to destroy North Korea, that comment was merely a somewhat blunter statement of US declaratory policy going back decades."

The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=055-4bf&t=c>> (9/19, Scarry, 465K) reports that Trump "disturbed some in the press" after vowing to "destroy" North Korea. MSNBC host Lawrence O'Donnell tweeted
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=056-2fd&t=c>> that Trump "threatened to commit a war crime" by threatening North Korea, while a reporter for the Huffington Post "seemed to suggest Trump's harsh comments may justify the rogue state's actions," saying, "Gee, Kim Jon-un is so irrational for wanting nuclear weapons."

A USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=057-6dd&t=c>> (9/19, 8.62M) editorial calls the President's threat to "destroy" North Korea "deeply unsettling," and argues that though he "rightly called upon all nations to isolate Kim's murderous regime," he "undermined that goal with the kind of man-to-man tabloid bombast...that raises Kim's stature and makes him more, rather

than less, likely to cling to the nuclear arsenal that he thinks will guarantee his survival."

David Ignatius writes in his Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=058-e87&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) column that the "most surprising thing" about Trump's address "was how conventional it was. He supported human rights and democracy; he opposed rogue regimes; he espoused a global community of strong, sovereign nations. Pretty shocking stuff." But "because he's Trump, the zingers got the headlines: He repeated his childish, snarky (but sort of funny) playground denunciation of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un," as well as his "bombastic threat" to "totally destroy" North Korea. Ignatius writes that what worries him about Trump's speech is "that it was so conventional. If Trump is going to deal successfully with North Korea, he'll truly have to think outside the box."

Poll: 82% Of Republicans Back Military Strike Against North Korea If Diplomacy Fails. The Washington Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=059-faf&t=c>> (9/19, Harper, 541K) reports that a new Gallup poll shows the "American attitude toward North Korea appears to be evolving – and not necessarily in a docile direction." The poll shows that the number of Americans who would support a US military response is "significantly higher" these days. While the percentage of Democrats who favor military action "has hardly changed since 2003: 37 percent now vs. 41 percent then," the "major shift has been among Republicans, whose support for military action is up 23 percentage points."

Bolton: Tillerson Pursuing "Wrong Policy" On North Korea. The Washington Examiner
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=05a-495&t=c>> (9/19, Gehrke, 465K) reports former Ambassador John Bolton said Tuesday that Secretary of State Tillerson backs "the wrong policy" on North Korea. Hours after the President's UN address, Bolton "dismissed" Tillerson's assertion that the US has imposed sanctions on North Korea in order to induce a "constructive, productive dialogue" with the regime. Said Bolton, "We've had constructive dialogue with North Korea for 25 years; it doesn't work. That's the wrong policy."

Colin Powell: Ignore North Korea When It Launches Missiles. The Detroit Free Press
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=05b-096&t=c>> (9/19, Jesse, 1.07M) reports that hours after President Trump threatened to "totally destroy" North Korea if it launched nuclear weapons, former Secretary of State Colin Powell "said a different tactic would be better." Speaking at the University of Michigan, Powell said, "Let's not go crazy every time they shoot missiles. Start ignoring them and maybe you can find a different way to solve this. It would probably drive them crazy if we ignored one of

their launches and after the media interest went away, it would die down.”

Trump At UN: Iran Nuclear Deal An “Embarrassment.”

President Trump’s criticism of the Iran nuclear deal during Tuesday’s address to the UN General Assembly also receives significant media attention, including mentions on all three networks last night. ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=05c-f4f&t=c>> (9/19, story 4, 2:25, Muir, 14.63M) reported Iran’s delegation listened as Trump accused the country “of funding terrorism and lashed out at the nuclear agreement negotiated with President Obama and America’s European allies.” Trump: “The Iran deal was one of the worst and most one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into. Frankly, that deal is an embarrassment to the United States.” Trump, who ABC noted didn’t say if the US would withdraw from the agreement, “cast this moment as a turning point for the UN.” Trump: “It is entirely up to us, whether we lift the world to new heights or let it fall into a valley of disrepair. If the righteous many do not confront the wicked few, then evil will triumph.” The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=05d-c5d&t=c>> (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M), however, said Trump “implied he might pull out” of the deal.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=05e-c89&t=c>> (9/19, Chalfant, 1.68M) reports Trump insisted that “it is time for the entire world to join us in demanding that Iran end its pursuit of death and destruction.”

Fox News’ Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=05f-612&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu “loved” Trump’s comments on Iran. Fox showed Netanyahu saying of Trump’s address: “I have listened to countless speeches in this hall. I can say this: none were bolder, none were more courageous and forthright than the one delivered by President Trump today. President Trump rightly called the nuclear deal with Iran, he called it an embarrassment. I couldn’t agree more.” Breitbart <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=060-63c&t=c>> (9/19, Danan, 2.42M) also reports Netanyahu’s reaction.

On NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=061-cfa&t=c>> (9/19, story 4, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M), Hallie Jackson reported that Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, by contrast, accused Trump “of ignorant hate speech.” Fox News’

Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=062-8a7&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported Zarif tweeted <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=063-c50&t=c>> , "Trump's ignorant hate speech belongs in medieval times, not the 21st century. UN -unworthy of a reply."

Iran, Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=064-2c2&t=c>> (9/19) reports, denounced Trump's remarks as "shameless and ignorant" and "said his speech on Tuesday showed his lack of knowledge about Tehran's fight against terrorism." State media quoted Zarif as saying, "Trump's shameless and ignorant remarks, in which he ignored Iran's fight against terrorism, displays his lack of knowledge and unawareness."

CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=065-6d9&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) reported Trump's assertion that the Iran nuclear deal is "one of the worst and one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into" was also "a cause of concern" for French President Emmanuel Macron, who said, "If we simply throw out this agreement, there is nothing to replace it. And if you have nothing, then it's the same situation as North Korea, and I don't want to find myself in a no man's land."

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=066-d3f&t=c>> (9/19, Toosi, 3.6M) reports that "in public, in private, and with few exceptions," world leaders gathered at the UN this week are urging Trump "not to follow through on his threat to derail the Iran nuclear deal. But so far, Trump shows no sign of listening to them." The issue, Politico says, will "take center stage on Wednesday," when Secretary of State Tillerson joins a multinational meeting on the nuclear deal that will also be attended by Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, marking "the first time the two men will meet face-to-face."

CNN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=067-62e&t=c>> (9/19, Watkins, 33.59M) reports on its website that House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce said Tuesday that the US "should focus on enforcing the nuclear agreement with Iran instead of renegotiating it." Speaking to CNN's Jake Tapper, Royce said, "I think we should enforce the hell out of the agreement and thereby force compliance on the part of Iran."

Rep. Andre Carson said on CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=068-9a9&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) that withdrawing from the deal would be a "tremendous mistake" that "brings us closer to war."

Carson commended the Obama Administration for securing the pact, and said he thinks the “deal is working” and “is worth it.” Sen. Ben Cardin said on CNN’s Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=069-6a6&t=c>> (9/19, 1.22M) said “our concern” is that Trump will “rip up” the nuclear agreement despite Iran not being in violation of the deal. He said if Trump did tear up the deal, “we would be the ones walking away,” and “our allies would be scratching their heads.”

Tillerson: Deal’s Sunset Provisions “Not A Sensible Way Forward.” Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=06a-767&t=c>> (9/20, Mohammed, Irish) reports Secretary of State Tillerson said Tuesday that the nuclear agreement’s “sunset” clauses, under which some restrictions against Iran’s nuclear program are slated to expire in 2025, “simply is not a sensible way forward.” Said Tillerson, “It’s just simply...kicking the can down the road again for someone in the future to have to deal with.”

Rouhani: “No One Will Trust America Again” If It Leaves Nuclear Deal. “Minutes before” Trump “ripped Iran,” Lester Holt of NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=06b-e00&t=c>> (9/19, story 5, 3:00, 16.61M) sat down with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, who warned that if the US pulls out of the nuclear deal, “no one will trust America again. ... Because after such a possible scenario, which country would be willing to sit across the table from the United States of America and talk about international issues?” When asked if he’d ever sit down with President Trump, Rouhani replied, “When the United States government in very transparently speaks of an aim of regime change in Iran, talking in bilateral fashion becomes very meaningless. In the current atmosphere, I do not see the current requirements for such a meeting.” Rouhani also dismissed the Trump Administration’s attempts to put Iran in the same basket as North Korea, saying, “North Korea has said in very straightforward manner that it seeks nuclear weapons. ... Iran is completely the opposite point.”

Families Of Americans Imprisoned In Iran Welcome Trump’s Call For Their Release. The Washington Free Beacon

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=06c-59e&t=c>> (9/19, Crabtree, 158K) reports that “families and advocates for Americans imprisoned in Iran applauded President Trump for demanding the release of all US prisoners and others unjustly detained in Tehran” during his speech Tuesday. Family members of Siamak and Baquer Namazi, a father and son who are being held in Iran, “also urged Trump to take urgent action to try to secure their release. “

Former Iranian Political Prisoner Urges Regime To Acknowledge 1988 Executions. Former Iranian political prisoner Shabnam Madadzadeh

writes in the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=06d-5e6&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) that in 1988, an estimated 30,000 Iranians – mostly members of the opposition group Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) – were executed. Madadzadeh calls on Iran's leaders to acknowledge the killings and hold the mullahs responsible for them accountable. The first step, he says, is the establishment of an independent international investigation.

Trump Calls Out Venezuela, Cuba In UN Speech.

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=06e-b1b&t=c>> (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported in his address to the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, President Trump "called Cuba and Venezuela failed socialist states. He said Venezuela has descended into chaos after illegitimate elections." Trump: "We are prepared to take further action if the government of Venezuela persists on its path to impose authoritarian rule on the Venezuelan people." McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=06f-92a&t=c>> (9/19, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that during his address, Trump threatened "further action" against Venezuela and "promised not to lift sanctions against Cuba until the government in Havana makes fundamental reforms." In a speech that McClatchy says "moved quickly from criticism of America's adversaries to dire warnings of nuclear war," Trump "singl[ed] out Venezuela and Cuba for, he said, delivering only 'anguish and failure' to its people." The President also "called on world leaders to do more to help the people of Venezuela and not look the other way as their government destroys democratic institutions."

Fox News' Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=070-286&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported Venezuela had a "sharp reaction" to Trump's speech, as the regime "didn't like being called out for imposing a brutal dictatorship." Bloomberg News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=071-830&t=c>> (9/19, Bristow, 4.52M) reports Venezuela said in a statement that it is prepared to defend itself against aggression from US and its allies. Venezuela will "keep defeating in the political and diplomatic spheres" what "it described as an onslaught of nefarious threats against its sovereignty."

Newsweek: Trump's Condemnation Of Socialism Met With

"Laughter," "Weak Applause." In what Newsweek

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=072-c6a&t=c>> (9/19, Haltiwanger, 991K) calls "perhaps the most awkward moment of Trump's speech," when Trump "criticized socialism during his speech...he seemed to expect roaring

approval from the audience. Instead, world leaders responded with laughter and weak applause.” Conservative commentator Bill O’Reilly “perhaps described it best,” saying, “Most fascinating part of Trump [United Nations] speech: After lambasting socialism, he paused, perhaps waiting for applause. None came. Stony silence.”

In UN Speech, Trump Vows To Always Put America First.

Also garnering media attention is the President’s vow to put America first during his UN remarks. The CBS Evening News
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=073-79b&t=c>> (9/19, story 5, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M), for example, reported that in his first address to the UN General Assembly, President Trump “told the leaders of the world he will always put America first and said they should put their countries first, too.” CNN’s Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=074-497&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) said Trump’s “address started much like a campaign speech, minus the applause from his conservative base, as the President talked about making America first.” While Trump “tried to win over a world body he has ridiculed as ineffective,” he also “made it clear he’s ready to go it alone on a variety of fronts.”

Fox News’ Special Report
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=075-830&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported Trump “says it’s not his intent to nation build or impose democracy through military...action, but rather to create global stability by partnering with nations that put the well-being of their citizens first.” Trump was shown saying that as President, “I will always put America first. Just like you, as the leaders of your countries, will always and should always put your countries first.”

The President, says the New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=076-aa7&t=c>> (9/19, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), “defended his America First policy and argued that nationalism can be reconciled with common causes,” repeatedly using the word “sovereignty” to “describe his approach in a setting where the term traditionally has been brandished by nations like Russia and China to deflect criticism of their actions.”

On its front page, the Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=077-91b&t=c>> (9/19, A1, Jaffe, DeYoung, 10.38M) says Trump “hammered the principle of national sovereignty...but then outlined an agenda that would keep the United States deeply engaged in the world.” In a New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ>

ation&r=email-1371&l=078-bc8&t=c> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis, Mark Landler similarly writes that Trump “offered a strikingly selective definition of the concept, threatening to act aggressively against nations like North Korea, Iran and Venezuela, whose policies he opposes, yet saying almost nothing about Russia, which seized territory from its neighbor, Ukraine, and meddled in the American presidential election.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=079-e9e&t=c>> (9/19, Korte, 8.62M) says Tuesday’s address “was perhaps the most aggressive speech ever delivered by a US president at the UN,” but “amid the provocative language, the widely anticipated address also provided a clear articulation of Trump’s emerging worldview. He envisions an international order in which each nation pursues its own self interests — and cooperates only when those interests converge.”

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=07a-b75&t=c>> (9/19, Toosi, McCaskill, 3.6M) reports Trump “urged nations to band together to fight ‘evil’ — even as he extolled the virtue of respecting national sovereignty and insisted that America isn’t looking to impose its ‘way of life’ on others.” The “at-times contradictory remarks,” Politico adds, were “filled with soaring rhetoric that touched on everything from ‘God’ to ‘chaos,’ and the dark tones were reminiscent of Trump’s inaugural address, in which he promised to bring an end to ‘American carnage.’”

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=07b-5fb&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorializes that while Trump is right to challenge the UN and promote “national sovereignty,” there is no substitute for US leadership on the global stage. Max Boot writes for USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=07c-f83&t=c>> (9/19, 8.62M) that “the Trump Doctrine is selfishness squared. Just as Trump has never done anything in his life that did not benefit him personally, so he cannot imagine any nation acting for the general good. In his private life, it’s me first. In his foreign policy, it’s America First.”

Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=07d-e0d&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) columnist Gerald F. Seib writes that Trump offered world leaders a concise summary of his approach to world affairs, declaring: “We are guided by outcomes, not ideology.”

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=07e-9f2&t=c>> (9/19, Mason, Holland) writes that

“among the many signals” that Trump sent in his speech, “one was especially clear: former chief strategist Steve Bannon’s White House departure has not muted the president’s ‘America First’ foreign policy instincts.”

Reaction to the President’s address in the media and lawmakers was generally split along party lines. Of note, however, the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=07f-5ad&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) – which is typically very critical of the President – writes on its editorial page that the UN “isn’t the venue one would expect for threatening war. Yet that’s what President Trump did in his first address to the General Assembly.” But overall, the Times says Trump’s “largely benign comments about the United Nations were encouraging, considering he once condemned it as useless and having no place in his ‘America First’ vision.”

A Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=080-7ec&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) editorial says that “for those who have been alarmed by President Trump’s retreat from traditional American values, there were reassuring moments” Tuesday. Trump, it says, “rightly and scathingly attacked regimes that deprive their own people of liberty, such as those in North Korea and Venezuela.” And “less reassuring” were Trump’s “schoolboy taunts” of “Rocket Man.” And then, “somewhere in between, there was Mr. Trump’s repeated emphasis on sovereignty.”

Fox News’ Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=081-edb&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported that Rep. Mark Takano called Trump’s speech “shockingly reckless.” Rep. Barbara Lee tweeted, “Dangerous rhetoric & abdication of values” from President Trump. By contrast, Mitt Romney said Trump “gave a strong and needed challenge to UN members to live up to its charter and to confront global challenges.” New Gingrich said Trump’s speech “is historic and sets a new standard. Sovereignty and national interest are reasserted as principles.”

Rep. Andre Carson noted on CNN’s Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=082-a79&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) that Trump in his speech “praised” the State Department. Carson found that “interesting, because his proposal in his budget makes the deepest cuts in State Department history.”

Gloria Borger said on CNN’s Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=083-8f3&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M), “This was a speech that you can say is full of bombast, which it was, but is the first time we heard laid out completely, clearly Donald Trump’s vision for the

world. He took on North Korea directly. He took on Iran directly. He took on Venezuela. He took on Syria directly And he also, in addition to taking on those bad actors, he made the case that we foot a lot of the bill in the United Nations and that has to change. There are a lot of people in the audience that would be upset about it. People who will not be upset about it are Donald Trump's base and lots of Republicans." A McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=084-c21&t=c>> (9/19, Kumar, 67K) analysis says Trump "delivered the message of the voters who elected him."

Mara Liasson of NPR said on Fox News' Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=085-0a3&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M), "This is what the White House wanted. I thought the speech had something for everyone. For people who wanted some tough, nationalist populist rhetoric, it was in there. I thought it was a step back from the UN bashing that Trump had done during the campaign."

Catherine Lucey of the AP said on Fox News' Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=086-2ac&t=c>> (9/19, 2.24M) that Trump "really put the world on notice today. The President came in with a clear message he wanted to deliver. If you've been watching his speeches throughout the year and the campaign, it really was a continuation of a vision we've seen from him before. This was a dark interpretation of the state of affairs in the world, but it revealed his frustration and the way he thinks, and it's the way he thinks he needs to deliver the message. This is the kind of rhetoric he's comfortable with. This is the way he wants to communicate. He wanted to make a stand today."

In his opening monologue on Fox News' Hannity

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=087-9ed&t=c>> (9/19, 2.85M), Sean Hannity said of Trump's address, "This is what leading on the world stage actually looks like. President Trump refused to appease and capitulate to countries like Iran and the hate America crowd in North Korea, countries that want to see Israel wiped off the map." Hannity added that Trump "is receiving very high praise for his very bold and direct address."

Trump Declares Emergency As Hurricane Maria Heads Toward Puerto Rico.

ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=088-c8e&t=c>> (9/19, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M) reported that Hurricane Maria is "already deadly and battering the Caribbean." Maria made landfall in Dominica with 160 mph winds. Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit: "I believe we caught a very bad blow. There appears to be a lot of destruction." The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ>

ation&r=email-1371&l=089-41c&t=c> (9/19, Semple, Ramzy, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Skerrit said Dominica “sustained ‘mind boggling’ damage.” Skerrit wrote on Facebook, “So far we have lost all what money can buy and replace. ... My greatest fear for the morning is that we will wake to news of serious physical injury and possible deaths as a result of likely landslides triggered by persistent rains.” The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=08a-eb5&t=c>> (9/19, story 3, 2:00, Mason, 11.17M) reported the Caribbean island of Tortola is “bracing for the worst.”

The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=08b-d40&t=c>> (9/19, Correll, 465K) reports that President Trump has “issued an emergency declaration for the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, making the territories eligible for federal funding for disaster relief.” In a tweet

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=08c-d57&t=c>> Tuesday evening, Trump wrote, “Puerto Rico being hit hard by new monster Hurricane. ... Be careful, our hearts are with you – will be there to help!”

ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=08d-4fb&t=c>> (9/19, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M) said that as Puerto Rico braces for impact, more than three million US citizens are “at risk” there, with some “warned to evacuate or risk death.” NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=08e-13f&t=c>> (9/19, story 2, 2:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the San Juan airport is shutting down as Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello “warns of catastrophic impact.” Rossello said on CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=08f-8a0&t=c>> (9/19, 1.29M) that “conditions are deteriorating rapidly. We are expecting a very tough hurricane, the worst hurricane in modern history in Puerto Rico. So for the past couple of days, we’ve been organizing so that we can get people out of harms way.”

Rep. Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon said on CNBC’s Closing Bell

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=090-493&t=c>> (9/19, 170K) that Puerto Rico has “never been hit by a hurricane of this category before since 1928. At that time, there were more than 5,000 people who lost their lives in that kind of hurricane. So we’re very concerned. The Governor has taken measures. I’ll tell you that FEMA and all the Federal agencies in the island are doing a wonderful job moving people and actually we got more than 500 shelters this time and asking people to move and be safe.”

Meteorologist Eric Fisher said on the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=091-493&t=c>>

ation&r=email-1371&l=091-b6a&t=c> (9/19, story 4, 0:35, Mason, 11.17M)
that Maria “has a very tight core, meaning the winds, the most
destructive ones are right around the eye, but that eye bearing down on
St. Croix, as well as Puerto Rico, as we head into early on Wednesdays
morning, just before daylight, crossing the island as a catastrophic
hurricane.” The Washington Post
<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ
ation&r=email-1371&l=092-e0f&t=c> (9/19, Samenow, 10.38M) says a
warning statement from the National Weather Service “carried an
apocalyptic tone,” warning people to expect “‘catastrophic damage’ from
winds to 160 mph, including ‘structural damage to sturdy buildings, some
with complete roof and wall failures.’” The statement “also predicts
‘devastating to catastrophic flooding’ from rainfall amounts of 12 to 18
inches, with isolated totals exceeding 25 inches.”

NBC Nightly News

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ
ation&r=email-1371&l=093-71f&t=c> (9/19, story 3, 1:10, Holt, 16.61M)
reported that Puerto Rico could see a storm surge of six to nine feet
before Maria continues to Turks and Caicos on Friday. ABC World News
Tonight
<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ
ation&r=email-1371&l=094-ff1&t=c> (9/19, story 3, 0:55, Zee, 14.63M)
reported that Maria will keep “well east of Florida and...away from the
Carolinas in all of the computer modeling as we go into next week.”

NFIP Director Says Irma Claims Could Exceed \$11 Billion From Harvey.

Roy E. Wright, director of the National Flood Insurance Program, said
Tuesday that Hurricane Irma “has already generated almost 20,000 federal
flood insurance claims totaling billions of dollars in Florida,” and the
figure “could eventually exceed US flooding coverage for Hurricane
Harvey in Texas,” McClatchy
<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ
ation&r=email-1371&l=095-4ee&t=c> (9/19, Weaver, 67K) reports. Wright
told the Miami Herald
<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ
ation&r=email-1371&l=096-17a&t=c> that total “damage claims from
Irma-related flooding will be ‘several billion dollars’ in Florida” and
“could exceed claims in Texas generated by Hurricane Harvey, which total
\$11 billion so far, mainly because of Irma’s flooding of expensive
waterfront properties in Florida.”

Long: FEMA Will Not Rely On Trailers To House Harvey, Irma Victims.

The AP

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001educ
ation&r=email-1371&l=097-e0b&t=c> (9/19, Kunzelman, Biesecker) reports

that FEMA “said it’s not borrowing from its much-maligned Katrina playbook to rely on government-issued trailers or mobile homes to shelter residents displaced by hurricanes Harvey and Irma.” FEMA Administrator Long said at a briefing last week, “We don’t have enough FEMA trailers for all the homes that were destroyed. ... If you combine Harvey and Irma, this is an extraordinary event that is going to require innovative solutions when it comes to housing.” Long, who is “working with Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to find ways to get people back in their flood-damaged homes more quickly, without using manufactured housing,” said, “The way we’ve done business in the past has not necessarily been successful. It’s been a frustrating road.”

Red Cross Says Its System Couldn’t Handle Demand For Aid After Harvey.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=098-253&t=c>> (9/19, story 6, 2:05, Holt, 16.61M) reported that while Americans donated \$300 million to the Red Cross “to aid victims of Hurricane Harvey,” families in Houston “who said they were promised immediate relief are asking where is the money?” NBC (Beck) added that many people were “denied immediate help after Red Cross online systems crashed from heavy volume.” The Red Cross said that “their system couldn’t handle the demand. They’ve given out \$45 million so far, and the immediate assistance program will be working by Thursday.”

Citing “Bigger, Larger, More Violent” Storms, Lengyel Says Climate Is Changing.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=099-f8a&t=c>> (9/19, Lamothe, 10.38M) reports that Air Force Gen. Joseph L. Lengyel, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, said Tuesday that “he believes the world’s climate is changing, and that this year’s deadly and destructive hurricane season underscores the importance of keeping Guardsmen dispersed across the United States so they can respond quickly to natural disasters.” Lengyel said, “I do think that the climate is changing, and I do think that it is becoming more severe. ... I do think that storms are becoming bigger, larger, more violent. You know, I never know if this one speck of time is an anomaly or not, but, you know, we’ve all seen now three Category-5 storms that popped out in a period of a month.” Although hurricanes Harvey and Jose actually “topped out as Category-4 storms,” Lengyel’s comments nonetheless “illustrate...the general’s concern now and in the future.”

Bacteria In Everglades City Floodwaters “Too Numerous To Count.”

The Naples (FL) Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=09a-088&t=c>> (9/19, Staats, 142K) reports that the floodwaters in Everglades City, Florida following Hurricane Irma, bacteria were “too numerous to count,” according to Collier County Pollution Control director Danette Kinaszczuk. Tests conducted “on three samples of receding floodwaters taken Sunday stopped counting fecal coliform, an indicator of human or animal waste, at 10,000 units per 100 milliliters.” The Daily News adds that “health standards for fishable and swimmable waters in Florida are violated if any single sample tests at 800 units.”

Scott Administration Blames Nursing Home For Residents' Deaths.

The Miami Herald

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=09b-422&t=c>> (9/19, Miller, Klas, 701K) reports that as a ninth resident from the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills died, Florida Gov. Rick Scott's Administration has released a timeline declaring that nursing home “failed to do their basic duty to protect life.” The release of the timeline came four days after the owners of the nursing home released their own timeline “casting blame for the deaths...on Florida health administrators and a local utility.” Scott said in a prepared statement, “This facility is failing to take responsibility for the fact that they delayed calling 911 and made the decision to not evacuate their patients to one of the largest hospitals in Florida, which is directly across the street.”

White House Joins Graham-Cassidy Push, But Bill's Prospects Remain Uncertain.

On Tuesday, the White House threw itself into the effort to pass the Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, but reports portray the bill's prospects as uncertain despite the optimism of Sen. Lindsay Graham – with the vote of Graham's close friend Sen. John McCain again possibly proving decisive.

ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=09c-b63&t=c>> (9/19, story 6, 2:00, Muir, 14.63M) reported on the “last-ditch effort” in the Senate “to kill Obamacare, but time is running out. They have to get it done by next week.” ABC's Mary Bruce: “Tonight, the mad dash to deliver. Mr. Vice President, are you finally going to get health reform done?” Vice President Pence: “We're making progress.” Bruce: “Just six working days left for Republicans to overhaul Obamacare with a simple majority vote. The White

House tonight is fully on board; the President's working the phones." Pence: "All-in." Bruce: "The new GOP plan ends Obamacare subsidies and the Medicaid expansion. Instead, states will get some money to use as they see fit." Graham: "Here's the choice for America: socialism or federalism when it comes to your healthcare."

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=09d-743&t=c>> (9/19, Mascaro, 4.49M) reports that the President "is making a big push to revive the Republican healthcare overhaul days before a Senate deadline." Pence, who was in New York with the President for the General Assembly meeting, "returned to the Capitol to tell Republican senators: 'Now is the time. We have 12 days.'"

Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=09e-6aa&t=c>> (9/19, Moons, 2.42M) reports, "Pence said that President Trump is 'a great believer in federalism.' The Vice President indicated that this fact moved the Trump Administration to spend the past six weeks 'in discussions about the way forward, about [Graham's and Sen. Bill Cassidy's] development of the bill' and have 'provided administration resources to support their analysis.'"

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=09f-b9b&t=c>> (9/19, Carney, 1.68M) reports that Graham told reporters on Tuesday, "I really believe we're going to get 50 Republican votes. I've never felt better about where we're at." Guy Benson of Townhall

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a0-cb2&t=c>> (9/19, 523K) writes that Graham told reporters that House Speaker Ryan "pledged to him that if the Senate passes the legislation, the House will follow suit – but that the House will not take up a bill that merely props up Obamacare with more bailout-style money, which is the 'compromise' sought by Democrats."

Townhall

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a1-1b9&t=c>> (9/19, O'Brien, 523K) additionally reports that Graham has been working with Stephen Bannon, who he dubbed "Darth Vader," as well as "figures like Alan Greenspan [and] Jeb Bush," to help win support. Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a2-613&t=c>> (9/19, Cornwell) reports that Senate Majority Leader McConnell said on the floor that "lawmakers should act because 'our opportunity to do so may well pass us by if we don't act soon.'"

The deciding vote could be McCain's, and the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a3-6c1&t=c>> (9/19, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that the bill is testing the very close bond between McCain and his close friend Graham – "who is so closely identified with Mr. McCain that when he arrived in the Senate after

serving in the House, he was called 'McCain's mini-me.'" The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a4-b6c&t=c>> (9/19, Howell, 541K) reports that McCain "refused to tip his hand Tuesday." He told reporters, "I have nothing to say. I have nothing to say."

Margot Sanger-Katz writes in the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a5-227&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) "The Upshot" that "the bill faces substantial challenges." Sen. Rand Paul "is a hard no, which makes the math difficult," the bill contains "a huge redistribution of money between states in the bill's formula" that would negatively impact "states with must-get senators," and "the timing is tight, and the bill still has a long way to go." However, ACA repeal "is a core promise for Republicans," and the GOP is motivated to get it done.

Sen. Ben Cardin said on CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a6-d07&t=c>> (9/19, 1.22M), "We've been working the last two weeks, Democrats and Republicans, in order to improve the Affordable Care Act. That's what the American people want us to do. ... But what the Cassidy bill would do is significantly reduce coverage in this country. Tens of millions of people lose coverage. And more tragically, the progress we've made against abuse of practices with insurance companies...is at great risk with the Cassidy bill. It's moving again in the wrong direction."

In an editorial, the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a7-1e2&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) calls the bill "about as execrable as the others that GOP lawmakers previously failed to approve," and the process "as sloppy and partisan as the one to which" McCain and other senators "objected earlier in the summer. The outcome would be no less destructive."

Timothy Jost of Washington and Lee University Law School writes in the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a8-584&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) that Graham-Cassidy would "hand the states block grants and abandon to them millions of Americans whom the ACA now helps. ... It would effectively strangle the efforts of states – predominantly Democratic – that have been most successful in extending coverage under the ACA's Medicaid expansion, tax credits and cost-sharing reductions. Conversely, it would lavish funding on states – predominantly Republican – that have resisted the coverage expansion opportunities the ACA offered."

CNN Analysis: With "Private Outreach," Trump Trying To Smooth Relations With Senate Republicans. On its website, CNN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0a9-1e2&t=c>>

ation&r=email-1371&l=0a9-27d&t=c> (9/19, Raju, 33.59M) reported that earlier this summer, Trump “had a contentious phone call with” Sen. Lisa Murkowski “and also berated her on Twitter, accusing her of letting the country down for voting against GOP plans to gut Obamacare. But behind the scenes, Trump has since tried to make nice, inviting her to a private lunch earlier this month – something that seems to have defused tensions, at least for now.” CNN added, “The private outreach is part of a more concerted White House effort to repair relations Trump damaged with his own party over a tumultuous August, following the failure of the GOP effort to repeal Obamacare and a slew of White House controversies.” The effort “comes at a critical time: The White House is desperately trying to revive its health care push before a September 30 deadline – and needs senators like Murkowski to salvage the President’s agenda.”

Bipartisan Group Of Governors Opposes Graham-Cassidy. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0aa-b0b&t=c>> (9/19, A1, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that a bipartisan group of governors “including five Republicans and a pivotal Alaskan independent urged the Senate on Tuesday to reject a last-ditch push to dismantle the Affordable Care Act.” Govs. Charles Baker of Massachusetts, Steve Bullock of Montana, John Bel Edwards of Louisiana, John Hickenlooper of Colorado, John Kasich of Ohio, Terry McAuliffe of Virginia, Brian Sandoval of Nevada, Phil Scott of Vermont, Bill Walker of Alaska, and Tom Wolf of Pennsylvania signed a letter
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ab-07b&t=c>> opposing Graham-Cassidy, while Govs. Larry Hogan of Maryland and Chris Sununu of New Hampshire “expressed similar concerns in separate statements.”

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ac-979&t=c>> (9/19, A1, Sullivan, Snell, Eilperin, 10.38M) says that Walker “holds sway” over Sen. Lisa Murkowski, “a potentially decisive vote,” while Sandoval “is now at odds” with Sen. Dean Heller, “who is a co-sponsor of the bill.” The Washington Examiner
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ad-d65&t=c>> (9/19, King, 465K) reports that “a group of 15 Republican governors” announced their support for the bill in a Tuesday letter.

Americans For Limited Government Backs Bill. Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ae-bc3&t=c>> (9/19, Moran, 2.42M) reports that Americans for Limited Government President Rick Manning endorsed the bill on Tuesday, saying, “We are encouraged that the Senate is close to passage on the Cassidy-Graham bill, which is the last best chance for Republicans to keep their basic promise to repeal and replace Obamacare.”

Kimmel: Cassidy "Just Lied Right To My Face." On ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0af-6cd&t=c>> (9/19, 3.85M), host Jimmy Kimmel criticized Cassidy for saying on his show earlier this year that he would enact "the Jimmy Kimmel test" to protect families from losing health coverage. Kimmel said, "He got a lot of credit and attention for coming off like a rare, reasonable voice in the Republican Party when it came to healthcare. ... [Cassidy] just lied right to my face." Kimmel's segment on the bill ran seven minutes.

Sessions Warns "Sanctuary Cities" After Passage Of California Bill.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b0-d5f&t=c>> (9/19, Gorman) reports Attorney General Sessions on Tuesday intensified "the Trump administration's critique of so-called sanctuary cities." His comments came just "days after repudiation of his stance against the sanctuary movement in separate actions by a federal judge in Chicago and the California legislature." A federal judge in Chicago "on Friday barred the Justice Department from withholding public safety grants to" so-called sanctuary cities, while state lawmakers voted Saturday to make California a sanctuary state by "approving a bill barring local governments from forcing undocumented immigrants to spend extra time in jail just to allow immigration agents to take them into their custody." Sessions, who urged California Gov. Jerry Brown not to sign the bill, said, "Such policies undermine the moral authority of law and undermine the safety of the jurisdictions that adopt them. That makes a sanctuary city a trafficker, smuggler or gang member's best friend."

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b1-2d5&t=c>> (9/19, Tanfani, 4.49M) reports protesters in Portland reportedly "gathered outside the venue where Sessions spoke" to protest the "his enforcement positions and opposition to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program." According to the Times, the sanctuary cities issue "has become a primary battleground for the broader immigration debate, playing out in courtrooms, city halls and statehouses." Sessions reportedly "attacked" the California bill on Tuesday, calling it an "unconscionable" threat to public safety. However, the Times says "Brown fired back, strongly defending the measure as a 'well-balanced bill' and a reaction to 'this kind of xenophobia we see coming out of Washington.'" Brown said on CNN's The Lead

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b2-167&t=c>> (9/19, 1.33M), "There is no word sanctuary. This is a bill to have the immigration service do their own work and not attempt to conscript state officials into being part of the immigration service." Asked if he believes complying with federal

immigration law is optional, Brown said, "No. And we comply with immigration laws. We are not soldiers of Donald Trump or the Federal immigration service. We have our own laws. To arrest criminals. To give them jury trial. And then to provide appropriate punishment. That's our job. Now, the immigration people can come into our jails, they can interview people, they can pick up people that they think are appropriate. But don't tell California to do your work."

According to the Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b3-418&t=c>> (9/19, Noble, 541K), Brown is expected to sign the California Values Act into law, prohibiting "local police and sheriffs from asking a person about his or her immigration status or from participating in immigration enforcement efforts." The law will allow "local law enforcement agencies, including those that oversee jails...to share information with federal immigration agents and transfer people into their custody if they have previously been convicted of one of some 800 crimes, mostly felonies and misdemeanors that can be charged as felonies," while preventing cooperation "if the person has only minor offense convictions on his or her record." Commenting Tuesday on the decision out of Chicago, Sessions lamented, "We cannot continue giving such federal grants to cities that actively undermine the safety of federal law officers and actively frustrate efforts to reduce crime in their own cities. Our duty [is] to protect public safety and protect taxpayer dollars and I plan to fulfill that duty."

Three Democratic Congressmen Arrested In Protest At Trump Tower.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b4-ffc&t=c>> (9/19) reports three Democratic members of Congress – Raul Grijalva, Luis Gutierrez and Adriano Espaillat – were arrested Tuesday afternoon while protesting outside Trump Tower in New York City. The trio were reportedly "among a small group of demonstrators who sat down in the street on Fifth Avenue Tuesday afternoon and refused to move." Also handcuffed and led away was New York City Council speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. According to the AP, the protesters demanded that "Congress pass legislation protecting thousands of young immigrants from deportation," and organizers knew "prior to the event that the lawmakers planned to get arrested."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b5-2d3&t=c>> (9/19, O'Keefe, 10.38M), which characterizes Gutierrez as "among the most emotional advocates for comprehensive immigration reform" and "a strident critic of Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program," reports that Espaillat was formerly an undocumented immigrant and that he and "Grijalva, who represents parts of southern Arizona, are also

strong critics of Trump's decision." President Trump was in New York on Tuesday to address the UN General Assembly and meet with other world leaders. The Post adds that "progressive, immigrants' rights group" Make The Road New York organized the protest, which followed "a day after dozens of protesters loudly shouted down House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi...during a San Francisco event designed to call for the immediate passage of the Dream Act, a bill created to permanently grant protections to dreamers."

According to Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b6-5ba&t=c>> (9/19, Nelson, 3.6M), Gutierrez said, in a statement provided by his spokesman after the arrest, "We're taking the necessary steps to make it clear to President Trump, the Republicans and the Democrats that we will continue this peaceful fight for DREAMers and immigrants as long as it takes to enact legislation and put DREAMers in a safe place. A few Congressmen and elected officials gathering in front of Trump Tower doesn't mean much if it is not backed up by the grassroots and allies and today we are standing with diverse allies to make sure Congress and the President do more than just talk about solutions, they actually follow through with action." The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b7-2fe&t=c>> (9/19, Dinan, 541K) offers similar coverage, mentioning also that the arrest is Gutierrez's his second "in little more than a month." The Chicago lawmaker was arrested in August "for protesting outside the White House. He paid a \$50 fine and was released." A House ethics committee investigation last week determined Gutierrez "did nothing to deserve a punishment from the chamber" for his previous arrest.

AP Analysis: Supreme Court Could Avoid Issuing Verdict On Trump Travel Ban.

An AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b8-d60&t=c>> (9/19, Sherman) analysis suggests the timetable for President Trump's travel ban offers the Supreme Court an opportunity to "avoid second-guessing the president on a matter of national security or endorsing an especially controversial part of Trump's agenda," which "may be what a majority of the court is hoping for." The travel ban expires on September 24 and the "refugee ban lapses a month later," which could prompt the court to rule "that a new lawsuit is necessary" or remand the issue to lower courts. Though the court has already "stepped in three times to evaluate what parts of the policy can take effect," the AP says several justices may have incentives to avoid judgment in the case, in part due to "a widely held view that the case is difficult to predict. Presidents have substantial power over immigration and courts typically are reluctant to undercut executive authority, especially when presidents say national security is at

stake.”

Administration Rejects Study Showing Net Economic Benefit From Refugees.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0b9-c6c&t=c>> (9/18, Davis, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says a draft report completed in late July by the Department of Health and Human Services, but never released, showed the “net fiscal impact of refugees was positive over the 10-year period, at \$63 billion.” The report apparently contradicts the rationale of Trump Administration officials to reduce the number of refugees allowed into the US. John Graham, HHS Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, referred to a three page “report the agency ultimately submitted, dated Sept. 5,” which shows the per capita cost of a refugee is \$3,300, compared to \$2,500 for the US population. Raj Shah, a White House spokesman, said, “The actual report pursuant to the presidential memorandum shows that refugees with few skills coming from war-torn countries take more government benefits from the Department of Health and Human Services than the average population, and are not a net benefit to the US economy.”

Manafort Was Under FISA Warrant Wiretap During 2016 Campaign.

Fox News Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ba-6a0&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported that former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was “under federal wiretap from sometime in 2016 into early this year – a period when, CNN states, Manafort was known to talk to President Trump.” The Justice Department is not commenting, but Manafort’s spokesman noted it is a felony to reveal the existence of a FISA warrant. The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0bb-c95&t=c>> (9/19, story 6, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported that a former US official says the surveillance on Manafort “picked up conversations between Manafort and Russian individuals about the campaign. The intercepts potentially include conversations between Manafort and Mr. Trump.” CBS News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0bc-01b&t=c>> (9/19, Pegues, 4.42M) reports on its website “that the surveillance on Manafort occurred during the 2016 presidential campaign.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0bd-e88&t=c>> (9/19, Heath, 8.62M) reports that Manafort “demanded on Tuesday that the government open an investigation

into news reports that he had been wiretapped by the FBI.” Manafort spokesman Jason Maloni “said if that report is true, the Justice Department’s Inspector General should open an investigation into the leak of a FISA warrant, which is a felony.” Politico
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0be-e89&t=c>> (9/19, McCaskill, 3.6M) reports that Maloni said, “Mr. Manafort requests that the Department of Justice release any intercepts involving him and any non-Americans so interested parties can come to the same conclusion as the DOJ – there is nothing there.” The Daily Caller
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0bf-54b&t=c>> (9/19, 521K) also reports on Maloni’s statement.

ABC World News Tonight
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c0-d70&t=c>> (9/19, story 5, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) said it has learned that Manafort “has been threatened with indictment.” ABC adds that “sources” say the July raid on Manafort’s home “was a sign” that special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigators “fear Manafort could destroy evidence, and was an effort to pressure him to divulge details in the Russia probe. They are looking into his business dealings overseas, especially Ukraine.”

CNN
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c1-31a&t=c>> (9/19, Perez, Prokupecz, 33.59M) reports on its website that Mueller’s team “is reaching back more than a decade” in the Manafort investigation. The FBI’s warrant for the July search of Manafort’s home “said the investigation centered on possible crimes committed as far back as January 2006, according to a source briefed on the investigation.”

Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN) said on CNN’s Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c2-08d&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) that if the FBI obtains a FISA warrant, it means they’ve “establish[ed] probable cause.” He added that the FISA warrant is different from a standard warrant in that it “deals with Americans who may be acting as agents for foreign governments,” so “the question becomes: was Mr. Manafort acting as an agent of a foreign country?”

House Intelligence Committee member Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT) said on CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c3-b9d&t=c>> (9/19, 1.29M), “We don’t talk to Bob Mueller all that much, but what I can tell you is just the sheer volume of activity...out there suggest there’s a huge amount of work being done on Paul Manafort. From my standpoint, that is interesting because Manafort is one of the two to three nexuses, maybe three or four nexuses, between people who were very close to the Trump campaign and Russia.”

In a Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c4-ee6&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) op-ed, Randall Eliason of George Washington University Law School calls the wiretap “a big deal primarily because of what it takes to obtain such a wiretap order.” A FISA warrant “means investigators have demonstrated probable cause to an independent judicial authority. Obtaining a warrant actually says much more about the strength of the underlying allegations than issuing a grand jury subpoena. ... News of the FISA surveillance is the latest evidence that Mueller’s investigation is serious, aggressive and will be with us for some time.”

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c5-a7c&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says in an editorial that a Manafort wiretap would show that there was indeed federal wiretapping of Trump Tower, where Manafort has owned a condo since 2006, during the campaign.

Senate Panel Cancels Private Interview With Cohen After He Releases Statement. ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c6-d32&t=c>> (9/19, story 5, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) reported that the Senate Intelligence Committee canceled Tuesday’s private interview with Michael Cohen, President Trump’s “long-time personal lawyer,” after he released a statement denying any collusion with Russia and defending President Trump. CNN’s Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c7-26c&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) reported that Cohen, a “heavily anticipated” witness in the Russia investigations “because of his close relationship with President Trump and the recently revealed issue of him pushing for a Trump Tour Moscow project during the campaign season,” was set to meet with committee staff on Tuesday. Fox News Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c8-e62&t=c>> (9/19, 2.66M) reported that the committee said Cohen will instead appear in a public hearing on October 25, but CNN’s Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0c9-c2d&t=c>> (9/19, 1.28M) said there is “no word back if he will come forward in that public testimony.”

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ca-19a&t=c>> (9/19, Tucker, Jalonick) reports that the scheduled meeting “was abruptly canceled on Tuesday amid a dispute over a public statement [that Cohen] issued before the meeting.” Committee leaders “said they called off the closed-door staff meeting” after Cohen “sent a public statement to the media just as the interview was about to start.” Chairman Richard Burr and ranking member Sen. Mark Warner “issued a terse statement saying the panel had asked Cohen to

'refrain from public comment' and that they would request he return – this time for a public hearing."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0cb-d74&t=c>> (9/19, Fandos, Apuzzo, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Cohen "was prepared to tell the committee's investigators that the president's critics were using rumors and innuendo about Russian interference in the election in an attempt to undercut Mr. Trump's presidency." The Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0cc-9e1&t=c>> (9/19, Helderman, Demirjian, 10.38M) similarly reports that Cohen "had planned to use the session to vigorously deny playing any role in Russia's efforts during the presidential election campaign." Cohen's lawyer Steve Ryan "told reporters that Cohen stood by written testimony that had been obtained by The Washington Post and had submitted it to the committee for its review."

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0cd-Off&t=c>> (9/19, Scarborough, 541K) reports that in the statement, Cohen "lashed out at a Trump-Russia dossier that has fed conspiracy theories by Democrats and influenced the FBI, saying the document is 'riddled with total falsehoods.'" Cohen "also said he was as close to President Trump as any one during the campaign and never witnessed any collusion with Russia." Reuters <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ce-491&t=c>> (9/19), the Wall Street Journal <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0cf-4ec&t=c>> (9/19, Ballhaus, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), and Politico <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d0-3c7&t=c>> (9/19, Wright, 3.6M) also report on the cancellation.

Trump Using RNC, 2020 Campaign Funds To Pay Lawyers. Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d1-9b9&t=c>> (9/19, Freifeld, Gibson) reports that President Trump is using money donated to the Republican National Committee and his re-election campaign to pay for his attorneys in the Russia probe, "according to two people familiar with the matter." The Federal Election Commission "allows the use of private campaign funds to pay legal bills arising from being a candidate or elected official." Trump attorney John Dowd "declined to say how the president's legal bills were being paid, adding: 'That's none of your business.'" The Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d2-6c2&t=c>> (9/19, Gold, 10.38M) reports that the RNC directed "more than \$230,000 to [the President's] attorneys in August alone, party officials confirmed Tuesday."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d3-88e&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) editorializes, "As the investigation apparently gathers steam, so does a debate over an Office of Government Ethics rule prohibiting anonymous donations to legal defense funds of government employees. While no such defense fund has yet been set up" for Trump's aides, "its creation would help staffers shoulder the costs of the high-quality legal representation needed to weather questioning. ... And the recent confusion over OGE rules shows that it's time for the office to make clear its position on requiring donor disclosures."

Stone Says His Legal Fees Could Top \$500,000. The Daily Caller

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d4-5db&t=c>> (9/19, 521K) reports, "Trump confidant" Roger Stone said Tuesday "that a lawsuit and congressional inquiries will likely cost him at least \$500,000 in legal fees." Stone has set up a legal defense fund.

Mueller's Office Interviewed Rosenstein About Comey Firing. The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d5-291&t=c>> (9/19, Viswanatha, Wilber, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Mueller's office has interviewed Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein about Trump's firing of FBI Director James Comey, according to sources familiar with the investigation. The interview took place in June or July.

Senate Judiciary Committee To Consider Bills To Protect Mueller. USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d6-b9d&t=c>> (9/19, Kelly, 8.62M) reports that the Senate Judiciary Committee will consider two bills to protect Mueller from being fired. Chairman Charles Grassley has scheduled a hearing for next Tuesday "to discuss 'special counsels and the separation of powers.'"

Burr Expects Facebook To Testify Publicly. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d7-9df&t=c>> (9/19, Schor, 3.6M) reports that Burr says that he "expects Facebook officials to appear at a public hearing examining its role in Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election." Burr "told reporters that he anticipates Facebook representatives testifying sometime this fall."

Huntsman: "No Question" That Russia Interfered In Election. The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d8-bfe&t=c>> (9/19, Lardner) reports that Jon Huntsman, President Trump's nominee to be ambassador to Russia, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Tuesday "that Moscow's meddling in the 2016 presidential election led directly to the lack of trust between

the two former Cold War foes.” Huntsman said, “There is no question that the Russian government interfered in the US election last year and Moscow continues to meddle in the democratic processes of our friends and allies. Right now we’re at a low point. It reminds me of 1986.”

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0d9-314&t=c>> (9/19, Zengerle) also reports on Huntsman’s remarks.

NYTimes’ Vogel Discusses “Accidental Scoop” About Cobb. Kenneth Vogel of the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0da-95f&t=c>> (9/19, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes about his “accidental scoop” when he overheard President Trump’s attorney Ty Cobb discussing the Russia probe at a Washington restaurant last week. Vogel writes, “I have always thought of overhearing conversations as an underappreciated journalistic tool...but I’ve never overheard a conversation quite like” that one.

Pruitt Questions Whether Climate Change Is An “Existential Threat.”

EPA Administrator Pruitt said on Fox News’ Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0db-efe&t=c>> (9/19, 1.24M), “With this climate change, we know certain things. We know the climate is always changing. We know that humans contribute to it in some way. To what degree to measure that with precision is very difficult. But what we don’t know is we are in a situation where it’s an existential threat. Is it unsustainable with respect to what we see presently. Let’s have a debate about that, bring scientists in, red team scientists, blue team scientists and have a discussion about the importance of this issue so the American people deserve that type of objective, transparent discussion.”

Brown: Trump’s Claims About Paris Agreement Are “Fake.”

California Gov. Jerry Brown was asked on CNN’s The Lead

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0dc-b86&t=c>> (9/19, 1.33M) about President Trump’s claim that China got a better deal than the US in the Paris agreement. Brown said, “China is doing more than the US right now. They are closing down coal plants. They are massively investing in solar and wind. They are mastering battery technology, which will help America. So this point that America got a bad deal is fake. It’s more fake than any fake news assertion by President Trump.”

Politico Analysis: Price’s Travel By Private Jet Breaks With His Obama-Era Predecessors.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0dd-071&t=c>> (9/19, Diamond, Pradhan, 3.6M) reported, "In a sharp departure from his predecessors," HHS Secretary Price "last week took private jets on five separate flights for official business, at a cost of tens of thousands of dollars more than commercial travel." Price's "travel by corporate-style jet comes at a time when other members of the Trump administration are under fire for travel expenditures, and breaks with the practices of Obama-era Secretaries Sylvia Matthews Burwell and Kathleen Sebelius, who flew commercially while in the continental" US. Politico added, "HHS spokespeople declined to confirm details of the flights, or respond to questions about who paid for them, with a spokesperson only saying that Price sometimes charters planes when commercial flights aren't feasible."

In Tweet, Trump Mocks Low Emmy Ratings.

The New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0de-1c6&t=c>> (9/19, Li, 4.31M) reports, "A sarcastic President Trump gloated Tuesday about low viewership of the Emmy Awards – implying that non-stop bashing of his White House led to dismal numbers." Trump is quoted as tweeting <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0df-6fb&t=c>> , "I was saddened to see how bad the ratings were on the Emmys last night – the worst ever. Smartest people of them all are the 'DEPLORABLES.'" The Post adds, "Sunday night's show on CBS drew 11.4 million viewers – a tiny bump up from the all-time low Emmy viewership, set in 2016, with 11.3 million viewers. With Stephen Colbert as host, the three-hour-long extravaganza barely spared a moment from ripping Trump's presidency."

Fed Set To Reduce \$4.2 Trillion Balance Sheet.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e0-3f3&t=c>> (9/19, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the Federal Reserve is expected to announce Wednesday that it will begin gradually reducing its \$4.2 trillion balance sheet of mortgage-backed securities and US Treasury debt, "a move that would amount to a vote of confidence that the economy's slow-but-steady growth is likely to continue." The Fed has not indicated how large it intends the portfolio to be, and there is a "good chance" the reduction will not be completed under current leadership, as Fed Chairwoman Janet Yellen's term expires in February and President Trump has not announced whether he intends to nominate her for a second term.

Economists Say Labor Shortage Gives Workers An Edge. The New

York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e1-5c0&t=c>> (9/19, Porter, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the labor shortage in parts of the US economy may provide workers with an advantage as labor demand increases along with wages, according to some economists. But although economists think the labor shortage could spell a “brighter future for the working class,” they also “worry that the new age of tight labor markets and rising wages” could constrain economic growth. Employers increasingly “must contend with the unflinching force of demography: a work force that is growing at its slowest pace in over a half-century,” as baby boomers retire. To offset the wave of retirement, policymakers are examining how to pull more able-bodied people into the work force.

Bloomberg Flummoxed By Rising Stock Market.

On the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e2-309&t=c>> (9/19, story 7, 2:50, Mason, 11.17M), Anthony Mason reported on a Tuesday interview he conducted with Michael Bloomberg, in which he asked the former New York City mayor, “One of the first things the President said in his speech today, which he often said, is the stock market is at a record high. ... What is that a reflection of?” Bloomberg replied, “I have absolutely no idea. I cannot for the life of me understand why the market keeps going up. Our economy has some real challenges. The infrastructure is falling apart, we’re destroying jobs with technology, we are keeping the best and the brightest from around the world coming to America to create new jobs and create new businesses. All of those things would give you pause to worry about the future.”

Bloomberg Fills Void In Wake Of End Of Clinton Global Initiative. The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e3-65f&t=c>> (9/19, Goldmacher, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, “For more than a decade, the Clinton Global Initiative was the star-studded marquee attraction during the annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.” However, “after Bill and Hillary Clinton announced the end of their signature conference during last year’s presidential” race, Bloomberg “has stepped unto the breach.” Today, Bloomberg “will host a reorganized and rebranded Bloomberg Global Business Forum at the Plaza Hotel, drawing a high-powered crowd and speakers from Tim Cook, the chief executive of Apple, to President Emmanuel Macron of France. In a symbolic passing of the guard, Mr. Clinton will be the first speaker on the day’s agenda.”

Three Constitutional Scholars Back Zervos Suit Against Trump.

The New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e4-cd8&t=c>> (9/19, Marsh, 4.31M) reports that three constitutional law scholars have submitted an amicus brief backing Summer Zervos' libel suit against President Trump, "after he called her a liar for claiming he groped her at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2007."

The three experts – Stephen B. Burbank of the University of Pennsylvania, Richard D. Parker at Harvard University, and Lucas A. Powe Jr. at the University of Texas – argue that "no one in our nation is above the law, not even the president," and that there is "no basis for concluding that subjecting President Trump to claims in state court will unduly distract him from the execution of his presidential duties."

Navy Pledges To Address Problems Stretching Sailors' Limits.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e5-025&t=c>> (9/19, Cooper, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Admiral John Richardson and other top Navy leaders acknowledged on Tuesday that the US fleet of warships and the sailors that operate them "are deeply stretched because of a combination of 100-hour workweeks, budget constraints, extended deployments and delays in training and maintenance." Addressing the Senate Armed Services Committee, Richardson, Navy Secretary Richard Spencer, and GAO Director John H. Pendleton said they were not ready to say definitively that those factors contributed to recent naval accidents, but Richardson pledged that "we will fix this."

One Poll Shows Northam Leading Gillespie By A Single Point, Another By 10.

The Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e6-7e5&t=c>> (9/19, 394K) reports that a Mason-Dixon poll of 625 likely Virginia voters, taken Sept. 10-15, shows Virginia Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D) leading ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie 44%-43% in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D); Libertarian candidate Cliff Hyra drew 2%, while 12% were undecided. Meanwhile, a Quinnipiac University survey of 850 likely Virginia voters, taken Sept. 14-18, shows Northam leading Gillespie 51%-41%, with Hyra at 3% and 5% undecided. Both polls were released on Tuesday. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e7-2e2&t=c>> (9/19, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports, "Both results come a day after Suffolk University released a poll that found the race in dead heat and the University of Mary Washington released its poll that gave Northam a slight edge but still within the margin of error."

Gillespie, Northam Face Off In "Genteel" Debate. The AP
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e8-5a1&t=c>> (9/19, Suderman) reports that Gillespie and Northam, during a debate, "argued in mostly cordial tones Tuesday over taxes, President Donald Trump and what Virginia should do with its numerous monuments to the Confederacy." The AP says, "The debate lacked the kind of sharp-elbowed jabs and name-calling often seen in last year's presidential debates." The Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0e9-efa&t=c>> (9/19, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports, "In their first televised debate, the two contenders debated issues in an aggressive but genteel manner, and refrained from the personal attacks that have recently begun to flavor their campaign commercials and social media posts."

The Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ea-5b5&t=c>> (9/19, Moomaw, 394K) reports that Northam cast his opponent "as a follower of...Trump," while Gillespie "sought to separate himself from Washington with a wall of state policy proposals." In response to a question about "what he'd say to Northern Virginia Republicans disillusioned by Trump's win," Gillespie "said voters should look at the plans he's put forward, specifically the proposed tax cut at the center of his economic message, and dinged Northam for failing to put up a tax plan of his own." Northam "said he's bothered by many of the things Trump has done so far: including the ban on travelers from some majority-Muslim countries, pulling out of the Paris climate change accord and talk of deporting the so-called Dreamers protected under the DACA program."

The Washington Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0eb-3cf&t=c>> (9/19, McLaughlin, 541K) reports that the candidates "split over what to do with Confederate monuments on display in Virginia." Gillespie "said he would stop state-controlled statues from being removed and would encourage cities and counties to follow suit." Northam said, "If these statues give individuals, white supremacists like that, an excuse to do what they did [in Charlottesville], then we need to have a discussion about the statues. Personally, I would think the statues would be better placed in museums with certainly historical context, but I am leaving it up to the localities." Politico
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ec-138&t=c>> (9/19, Robillard, 3.6M) reported that the candidates' "gentlemanly exchange contained few personal attacks and plenty of policy contrast on economic development, health care and immigration."

Charlottesville Council Votes To Observe Indigenous Peoples Day
On What's Traditionally Columbus Day. The Charlottesville (VA) Daily Progress

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ed-844&t=c>> (9/19, 83K) reports that the Charlottesville City Council on Monday “voted to commemorate the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day. The date traditionally has been celebrated as Columbus Day, though the city does not currently observe the holiday.” The Daily Progress adds that “the resolution says the city ‘shall continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of the Charlottesville American Indian and Indigenous community.’”

Potential 2020 Hopefuls Sanders, Warren Diverge In Efforts “To Expand Their Constituencies.”

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ee-91c&t=c>> (9/19, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Sens. Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren “work to expand their constituencies ahead of possible” 2020 presidential bids, “they are making very different wagers about the electorate.” Warren “has taken steps that reflect a traditional and practical course,” such as joining “the Senate Armed Services Committee to attain national security credentials” and courting religious African Americans by “invoking Scripture.” Sanders, meanwhile, “appears to believe that no such nods toward pragmatism or convention are necessary in today’s Democratic Party,” thinking “people will respond to his well-honed pleas to confront the billionaire class, provide health care for all and offer tuition-free access to college.” The Times says Sanders “has shown no willingness to veer from his social justice catechism to tell voters the personal details of his life’s journey, banking that an electorate that could elect Donald J. Trump to the White House no longer needs such political rituals.”

Menendez Judge Sides With Prosecutors In One Ruling On Evidence, With Defense In Another.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0ef-c61&t=c>> (9/19) reports that US District Judge William Walls, who is overseeing the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor, eye doctor Salomon Melgen, “refused a request from defense lawyers on Tuesday to show jurors parts of a TV interview and press release that references discredited rumors about the Democrat consorting with underage prostitutes in the Dominican Republic.” While the “rumors aren’t a part of the 2015 indictment of” the two defendants, Menendez lawyer Abbe Lowell “said they provide context for what Menendez was facing when he did the CNN interview in early 2013, when rumors first surfaced about the two men.” Prosecutors argued “that the interview, as well as other

evidence, shows" Menendez "trying to conceal the number of flights he took on a plane owned by Melgen." Of Lowell's request, Walls "said there was 'no way in God's green earth' he would allow the evidence in."

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f0-7db&t=c>> (9/19, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that Menendez on Tuesday "won a legal skirmish with prosecutors," as Walls "said he would allow Menendez's legal team to tell jurors about official actions the senator took to help people other than his co-defendant." Menendez's lawyers "plan to introduce evidence showing he has helped many constituents with visa and other issues during his 11 years in the Senate – the same types of acts he's alleged to have done for Melgen and his girlfriends from other countries, in exchange for Melgen providing lavish vacations, private jet flights and hundreds of thousands of dollars in" donations. Prosecutors "had sought to bar the defense from introducing that evidence."

Prosecutors: Menendez's Girlfriend Traveled Free Of Charge On Melgen's Private Jet. Meanwhile, the New York Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f1-1b4&t=c>> (9/19, Whitehouse, 4.31M) reports that prosecutors on Tuesday asserted that Menendez "didn't just accept flights on" Melgen's "private jet for himself – he also arranged for a gal pal to fly for free." The Post adds, "In May 2010, Menendez asked...Melgen to fly his girlfriend – financial advisor-turned-political candidate Gwendolyn Beck – to the Dominican Republic on the doctor's dime, prosecutors said." Menendez, "who was already on the Caribbean island at the time, made the request to" Melgen "by email, FBI agent Alan Mohl testified in Newark federal court." Asked by a prosecutor if Menendez paid for Beck's flight, Mohl replied, "No." The Post adds that Beck "also flew on Melgen's private jet with Menendez for an all-expense-paid weekend at the luxurious Tortuga Bay resort in Sept. 2010, records showed."

CNN: "At Least Four Jurors Appeared To Doze Off" During Testimony. On its website, CNN <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f2-8cd&t=c>> (9/19, Jarrett, Jorgensen, 33.59M) reported, "At least four jurors appeared to doze off as prosecutors guided...Mohl through dozens of records showing Menendez's travel to the Dominican Republic allegedly arranged by...Melgen. In the midst of a particularly drowsy stretch of testimony...Lowell interjected: 'If it would help save time – we'd stipulate that all of these flights occurred.' Prosecutors, however, were unrelenting, and DOJ attorney Monique Abrishami said that the jury deserves to 'see the evidence.'"

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f3-660&t=c>> (9/19, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "For a hotly anticipated case that was preceded by salacious tabloid coverage, the corruption trial has instead

been a methodical parsing of receipts, credit card reports, flight manifestos, travel vouchers, hotel and resort brochures and numerous other seemingly mundane details. Indeed, for most of the third week of testimony, the trial has become a travel seminar, taking a slight detour into a protracted presentation of the extravagant lifestyle that prosecutors say Mr. Menendez enjoyed courtesy of Dr. Melgen."

Newly Formed Support PAC Aims To Boost Ogles' Bid For Corker's Seat.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f4-7c5&t=c>> (9/19, Schelzig) reports that "conservative Tennessee auto dealer" Lee Beaman on Tuesday announced that he has formed a super PAC aimed at boosting Andy Ogles (R) in his 2018 run for the seat of Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN), who has yet to say whether he'll seek reelection next year. The AP says, "Two people familiar with a White House discussion between the senator and President Trump] last week told" the AP "that Trump urged Corker to run during the meeting." Ogles, who announced his bid last week, "is the former state director of Americans for Prosperity, the political arm of conservative billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch's network." Beaman "said he plans to raise \$4 million to support Ogles," adding "in a release that the goal is 'to provide President Trump with an ally in the US Senate that he will be able to depend upon.'" The Tennessean <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f5-5fa&t=c>> (9/19, Ebert, 499K) also reports on the story.

AP Analysis: RGA's Online Publication "Looks Like A Media Outlet."

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f6-f6e&t=c>> (9/19, Barrow) reports that the Republican Governors Association is "getting into the 'news' business," launching "an online publication that looks like a media outlet and is branded as such on social media. The Free Telegraph blares headlines about the virtues of GOP governors, while framing Democrats negatively," and "asks readers to sign up for breaking news alerts. It launched in the summer bearing no acknowledgment that it was a product of an official [GOP] committee. ... Only after [the AP] inquired about the site last week was a disclosure added to The Free Telegraph's pages identifying the publication's partisan source." The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f7-adf&t=c>> (9/19, Chokshi, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that GOP operative Rick Tyler told the AP "that the site amounted to 'propaganda.'" However, RGA spokesman Jon Thompson "dismissed that accusation, and argued that the website's links to the group were obvious. It's an outlet to share the positive results

Republican governors are getting in the states,' he said by email."

Obama To Host Event For New Jersey Gubernatorial Hopeful Murphy This Fall.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f8-77b&t=c>> (9/19, Parnes, 1.68M) reported that ex-President Obama "will host an event this fall for" ex-Goldman Sachs executive Phil Murphy (D), who is battling Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno (R-NJ) in the 2017 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Chris Christie (R-NJ). Murphy "served as US ambassador to Germany from 2009 to 2013 under Obama." Polls have shown Murphy with "a massive lead" in the race.

RGA Ad Hits Murphy On Taxes. Meanwhile, NJ News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0f9-6ac&t=c>> (9/19, Salant, 1.21M) reports that the Republican Governors Association on Tuesday launched a TV ad targeting Murphy on taxes. In the spot, a narrator says, "Phil Murphy believes taxes in Jersey aren't high enough. So, Murphy plans to raise them \$1.3 billion more." The narrator concludes, "Phil Murphy: He's really loaded, really liberal, and really doesn't get New Jersey." NJ News adds that Murphy "has detailed plans to raise taxes by \$1.3 billion to pay for his initiatives, including hiking taxes on wealthy residents and taxing legalized marijuana. But he says the tax hikes would spare the middle class, and he also plans to close corporate loopholes and grow the economy to help cover the costs."

Michelle Obama's Former Policy Director Enters Maryland Democratic Primary.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0fa-f9e&t=c>> (9/19, Hicks, 10.38M) reports that Krishanti Vignarajah (D), "a former policy director for then-first lady Michelle Obama," on Tuesday kicked off her 2018 campaign to oust Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R), saying that "as governor she would push for mandatory paid family leave for new mothers and fathers and for universal prekindergarten and make education her 'top priority.'" Vignarajah joins a crowded Democratic primary that includes Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III (D), ex-NAACP chief Ben Jealous (D), and Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz (D), among others.

The Baltimore Sun

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0fb-bd1&t=c>> (9/19, Cox, 706K) reports, "As the only woman in the crowded Democratic" primary, "Vignarajah put her

gender at the center of her candidacy. 'They say no man can beat Governor Hogan,' she said. 'Well, I'm no man.' She pointed out that Maryland currently has no women elected to any of its 14 federal and statewide offices" and "has never elected a woman for governor." Said Vignarajah, "Let me be clear: part of why I am running is because we need more women in public office."

Report: Liberal Groups Received \$765M "From Union Members' Paychecks" From 2012-2016.

The Washington Free Beacon

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0fc-11c&t=c>> (9/19, McMorris, 158K) said that a report from "labor watchdog group Center for Union Facts" shows that progressive "groups and election campaigns cashed in on about \$765 million from union members' paychecks" from 2012-2016. The Free Beacon added, "Unions nationwide shipped more than \$100 million each year to liberal advocacy groups and political groups backing Democratic candidates" during the period, according to the report. A number "of these groups are overtly political with more than \$300 million spent supporting campaigns and ballot initiatives. The AFL-CIO-backed Working America was the largest beneficiary of union resources, collecting more than \$50 million from national, state, and local unions."

Democrats Launch Initiative Aimed At Boosting Ranks Of Female State Attorneys General.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0fd-e32&t=c>> (9/19, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Democrats have a paucity "of female officeholders in state capitals. Only two governors and five state attorneys general are Democratic women, an acute problem for a party that counts women as a pillar of its base and trumpets the value of diverse representation. Moving to address the disparity, the Democratic Attorneys General Association" met "last week to announce a commitment to ensuring that in five years, at least half of the party's attorneys general will be women. The group is creating a committee of current and former attorneys general and other partners to recruit, train and raise money for female candidates as part of what they are calling the 1881 Initiative, named for the first year that a woman sought, unsuccessfully, the office of state attorney general."

In Book, Ex-Secret Service Agent Says Agency Lowered Standards In Quest For Diversity.

The Daily Caller

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=0fe-6e4&t=c>> (9/19, Hunter, 521K) reports, "As the US Secret Service sought greater diversity in its ranks, the agency lowered its standards, former agent Dan Bongino says in a new book on the inner workings of the government agency. ... The lowering of standards has been ongoing since at least 'the early 2000s,' according to the book, and continue to this day. 'Sadly, and for many years, the Secret Service has been sacrificing mission-readiness at the altar of political correctness,' Bongino writes in 'Protecting The President: An Inside Account of the Troubled Secret Service in an Era of Evolving Threats,' out Tuesday."

WSJournal A1: Antifa Is Dividing The Left.

On its front page, the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=Off-df0&t=c>> (9/19, A1, Lovett, Levitz, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) analyzes how antifa activists have created divisions among liberals over whether to denounce the group and its occasionally violent tactics. Some, such as House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, have spoken out against antifa violence, but others are uncomfortable with denouncing the loose affiliation of far-left groups and individuals – especially after the violence in Charlottesville sparked by far-right protests.

Largest Confederate Monument In Middle Of Georgia's Politics.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=100-a66&t=c>> (9/19, Hendrix, 10.38M) reports on the ongoing debate over whether to remove the Confederate Memorial Carving in Georgia's Stone Mountain Park – a carving that is reportedly the largest flat relief sculpture in the world and increasingly a fixture of Georgia politics. Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacy Abrams is calling for the carving's removal, calling it "a blight on our state," but others, including Republican gubernatorial candidate Casey Cagle, argue the state should work to add to its history, rather than remove monuments.

NYTimes A1: Murder Of Civil Rights Pioneer Again Under Investigation 52 Years Later.

In a front-page article, the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=101-a9e&t=c>> (9/19, A1, Gabriel, Subscription

Publication, 13.56M) reports on efforts by activists, police, and the Justice Department to re-examine the unsolved murder of Alberta Jones, a “civil rights pioneer” who was “brutally” murdered in 1965. Bellarmine University professor Lee Remington – who examined 1,600 pages of police files and “laid out what she believed were overlooked clues to the murder in a long letter last year to the Louisville police,” who agreed to reopen the case – says attempting to solve Jones’ murder is a “quest for justice.”

O'Reilly Says His Firing Was A “Political And Financial Hit Job.”

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=102-981&t=c>> (9/19) reports Bill O'Reilly said Tuesday on NBC's Today Show

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=103-420&t=c>> that he was fired from Fox News as a result of a “political and financial hit job” and that he “never mistreated anyone...in 42 years” of reporting. During the interview – his first on television since leaving Fox in April – he said his conscience was “clear” and that he was organizing a legal team “to get the truth to the American people.”

Hewitt: Overall, Trump Has Had “A Pretty Good Eight Months.”

In his Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=104-df5&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) column, Hugh Hewitt argues that overall, President Trump has had “a pretty good eight months” since entering the White House. Hewitt, among other things, praises Trump for “his ‘American carnage’ inaugural address, his speech to the assembled leaders of Sunni countries wherein he demanded that they demand of their religious authorities the preaching of a message that the terrorists would find their souls eternally damned, and his ‘West is best’ speech in Poland”; his appointing of Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch; his assembling of a national security “team of exceptional competence”; and his “regulatory rollbacks.”

WPost's Sullivan Sides With ESPN's Hill In Controversy Over Trump “A White Supremacist” Tweet.

In her Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=105-e30&t=c>> (9/19, 10.38M) column, Margaret Sullivan sides with ESPN's Jemele Hill, who in a recent tweet “described President Trump as a white supremacist,” a move that drew a rebuke from

ESPN and criticism from the Trump Administration. Sullivan says that "Hill doesn't cover the White House, nor does she work for a newspaper or political-news outlet. She also has a measure of truth on her side. Trump was elected in part because of his appeal to racism – yes, and sexism – in America." Sullivan adds, "At a time in America when authoritarian tendencies are rising, shutting down voices such as Jemele Hill's is worse than inappropriate. It's dangerous."

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

Trump Issues Dire Warning To North Korea In Address To UN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=106-813&t=c>>

Heavy Debt Crushed Owners Of Toys 'R' Us

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=107-3a2&t=c>>

CEO Catches Stranger After Hours, Prompting Espionage Charges

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=108-1d4&t=c>>

How Antifa Violence Has Split The Left

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=109-3e0&t=c>>

New York Times:

With Combative Style And Epithets, Trump Takes America First To The UN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10a-2ed&t=c>>

Trump Offers A Selective View Of Sovereignty In UN Speech

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10b-6e0&t=c>>

Powerful Earthquake Strikes Mexico, Killing Over 100

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10c-cda&t=c>>

Senate Republicans Embrace Plan For \$1.5 Trillion Tax Cut

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10d-7ce&t=c>>

Republican Leaders Defy Bipartisan Opposition To Health Law Repeal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10e-8a7&t=c>>

Aung San Suu Kyi, A Much-Changed Icon, Evades Rohingya Accusations

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10f-3b9&t=c>>

A 'Quest For Justice' For A Murdered Civil Rights Pioneer, 52 Years Later

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=10f-3b9&t=c>>

ation&r=email-1371&l=110-9f7&t=c>

Washington Post:

GOP Health Bill Hits Hurdle In Resistance From Governors

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=111-cfd&t=c>>

Trump Makes Defiant UN Debut

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=112-723&t=c>>

Robust Emphasis On Sovereignty Echoes President's Domestic Agenda

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=113-9d2&t=c>>

Puerto Rico Prepares For Direct Hit By Maria

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=114-7a2&t=c>>

Ugly Past, Unattractive Present For Biggest Confederate Monument

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=115-b64&t=c>>

Scores Dead After Powerful Quake Jolts Mexico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=116-f34&t=c>>

Financial Times:

Trump Threatens To 'Totally Destroy' North Korea

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=117-df7&t=c>>

Theresa May Prepares €20bn EU Budget Offer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=118-651&t=c>>

Russian-Built Nuclear Plant Revives Chernobyl Fears

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=119-828&t=c>>

Aung San Suu Kyi Defends Handling Of Rohingya Crisis

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=11a-ee2&t=c>>

Washington Times:

Trump Defines 'America First' To Wary World Leaders At U.N., Warns North Korea And Iran

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=11b-62b&t=c>>

Senate Republicans Close To Pushing Through Obamacare Repeal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=11c-086&t=c>>

National Mall Faces Space Crunch For Global War On Terror Memorial

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=11d-c12&t=c>>

In U.N. Address, Trump Replaces Obama's Soft Talk With Big Stick

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=11e-1c5&t=c>>

At Least 149 Dead In Mexico After Magnitude 7.1 Earthquake

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092001education&r=email-1371&l=11f-76d&t=c>>

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Wheaton College-Football Team Hazing; Florida-Hospital Outrage; Russia Military Training Accident; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Disabled Pilot.

CBS: Mexico City Earthquake; Mexico City Earthquake-Expert Comment; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Michael Bloomberg Interview; Guns In Classrooms; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Mexico City Earthquake-Situation Update.

NBC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes-Caribbean; Hurricane Tracking; Trump-UN Address; Iranian President Interview; Red Cross Controversy; Toys R Us-Bankruptcy; Florida Sinkhole; Dodge Trucks Recall; Wrong Baby Registry; Children Night Lights.

Network TV At A Glance:

Mexico City Earthquake – 10 minutes, 15 seconds

Hurricanes – 9 minutes, 30 seconds

Trump-UN Address – 7 minutes, 30 seconds

Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort – 4 minutes, 35 seconds

Toys R Us-Bankruptcy – 2 minutes, 20 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Louisiana-Racial Murders; Congress-Healthcare Reform.

CBS: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Trump-UN Address; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Sanctuary Cities; Wall Street News.

FOX: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricanes; Trump-UN Address.

NPR: Hurricanes; Mexico City Earthquake; Trump-UN Address; Congress-Healthcare Reform.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participates in an expanded meeting with the King of Jordan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of the Palestinian Authority; attends a working lunch with African leaders; participates in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Egypt.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Delivers remarks at a UN Security Council high-level debate on reform of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations; joins the President for an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; joins the President for an expanded meeting with the President of Egypt.



US Senate: 9:00 AM Senate Aging Committee hearing on disaster preparedness and response – Hearing on ‘Disaster Preparedness and Response: The Special Needs of Older Americans’, with testimony from former New Orleans Health Commissioner Karen DeSalvo; University of South Florida School of Aging Studies Professor / Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging Director Dr Kathryn Hyer; Portlight Inclusive Disaster Strategies CEO/President Paul Timmons Jr.; and Wilkes-Barre, PA, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator Jay Delaney Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 562, Washington, DC <http://aging.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Judiciary Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Allison Eid to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit; Annemarie Carney Axon to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama; Michael Lawrence Brown and William Ray II to be U.S. District Judges for the Northern District of Georgia; and Thomas Alvin Farr to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 226, Washington, DC <http://judiciary.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Environment and Public Works Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Michael Dourson, Matthew Leopold, David Ross, and William Wehrum to be Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrators; and Jeffery Baran to be a Nuclear Regulatory Commission member Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 406, Washington, DC <http://epw.senate.gov/public/>

10:30 AM Republican Sen. James Lankford meets with Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney Location: Washington, DC <http://www.lankford.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenatorLankford>

1:00 PM Dem Sen. Jack Reed and military consumer advocates hold briefing on the CFPB arbitration rule – Democratic Sen. Jack Reed and military consumer advocates hold briefing on ‘how the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s arbitration rule directly benefits the military community and helps protect service members from financial frauds and abuses’, and ‘how the CFPB rule directly impacts Equifax and Wells Fargo customers’. Other participants include Commissioned Officers Association Deputy Executive Director John McElligot, Public Justice Executive Director Paul Bland, and Wells Fargo fake account victim Tracey Kilgore Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 538, Washington, DC <http://reed.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenJackReed>

2:30 PM Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee hearing on end of the year spending – Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management Subcommittee hearing on ‘Prudent Planning or Wasteful Binge? Another Look at End of the Year Spending’, with testimony from Section 809 Panel Commissioner Dr Allan Burman; Mercatus Center at George Mason University Senior Research Fellow Dr Jason Fichtner; and Government Accountability Office Director of Strategic Issues Heather Krause Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 342, Washington, DC <http://hsgac.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenateHSGAC>

US House: 9:00 AM Dem Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee co-hosts event on ending all discrimination against all women and girls – ‘Target One: Ending All Forms of Discrimination Against All Women and Girls Everywhere’ – the inaugural event of a new breakfast series hosted by Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) exploring each element of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #5, ‘Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls’. Participants include University of Delaware Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies Dr Kara Ellerby, Smash Strategies partner Susan Markham, and IFES Director of Monitoring and Evaluation and Public Opinion Research Rakesh Sharma Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2045, Washington, DC www.ifes.org
[#SDG5](https://twitter.com/IFES1987)

10:30 AM Pelosi, others ahead of HBCU Roundtable – House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Congressman Bobby Scott, and Members of the Congressional Black Caucus will deliver brief remarks ahead of a roundtable with Historically Black Colleges And Universities (HBCU) Presidents and Chancellors to discuss legislative priorities. Remarks will be delivered at the top of the meeting. Location: Gabe Zimmerman Room, HVC-215 Capitol Visitor Center The Capitol. <http://www.democraticleader.gov/>
<https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

12:00 PM Pelosi Weekly briefing – Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi will hold her weekly press conference. Location: HVC Studio A (Enter through HVC-117), Capitol Visitor Center.
<http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

On recess until 25 September.

Other: 7:30 AM Air, Space & Cyber Conference continues with Defense Secretary Mattis keynote – Air Force Association Annual Air, Space & Cyber Conference and Technology Exposition continues, with final day keynote from U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis Location: Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, 201 Waterfront St, National Harbor, MD National Harbor www.afa.org [#ASC17](https://twitter.com/AirForceAssoc)

8:00 AM U.S. Black Chambers Policy Breakfast – U.S. Black Chambers Policy Breakfast, with panel discussions on ‘Doing Business with Corporate America’, and ‘Public Sector Contracting: Diverse Supply Chains on a Local Level’. Speakers include Democratic Rep. Cedric Richmond Location: NCTA – The Internet & Television Association, 25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC www.usblackchambers.org
<https://twitter.com/usblackchambers>

9:00 AM Department of Labor releases updated child labor report and apps – Department of Labor simultaneously releases an update to its annual child labor report, representing ‘the most comprehensive research product to date on the state of child labor in over 130 countries

worldwide'; a new app entitled 'Comply Chain', designed to help businesses root out child labor, forced labor, and modern slavery from global supply chains; and an updated version of the smartphone app 'Sweat & Toil', which contains information on goods produced by child labor or forced labor, and the latest findings on govts' efforts to address child labor (9:00 AM EDT) * Deputy Under Secretary of Labor for International Labor Affairs Martha Newton participates in briefing on the releases at the Washington Foreign Press Center, National Press Building, 529 14th St NW, Washington, DC (11:00 AM EDT) Location: TBD <http://www.dol.gov> <https://twitter.com/USDOL>

11:30 AM HUD Secretary Carson pen-and-pad on hurricane recovery efforts – Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson discusses HUD's role in the long-term recovery efforts for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Topics will include CDBG-DR funding, the timeline for recovery, and what people in the affected region can expect from HUD, via pen-and-pad with select reporters. Other participants include Associate General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Janet Golrick, General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research Todd Richardson, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs Stan Gimont Location: Robert C. Weaver Federal Building, 451 7th St, Washington, DC <http://www.hud.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HUDNews>

2:00 PM Brookings Institution discussion on Saudi Arabia and 'Vision 2030' – 'Saudi Arabia looks forward: Vision 2030 and Mohammed bin Salman' Brookings Institution Intelligence project discussion, with Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs Senior Fellow Karen Elliott House discussing the findings from her new paper 'Saudi Arabia in Transition', which analyzes the progress the Saudis have made and the challenges they face in implementing Vision 2030 – a plan to modernize its economy and society while allowing it to maintain its hold on power – amidst the recent changes in leadership Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.brookings.edu> <https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst>

8:00 PM Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Celebration of Leadership in the Fine Arts – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Celebration of Leadership in the Fine Arts, honoring Spike Lee, Yolanda Adams and Simone Paulwell * Organized in cooperation with the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Visual and Performance Arts Scholarship program Location: Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St NW, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org <https://twitter.com/CBCFInc>

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference, themed 'And Still I Rise'. Includes National Action Network panel discussion with NAN Founder and President Rev. Al Sharpton and Democratic Sen. Cory Booker on diversity in asset management (12:30 PM EDT) Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org/alc <https://twitter.com/CBCFInc> #CBCFALC17

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To: FSA ED Employees
Subject: The Department of Education News Briefing for September 21, 2017

Department of Education News Briefing



TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

ED000297

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Secretary and Department News

DeVos Attends Dedication Of Michigan State University Research Building.

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (9/20, 947K) reports Education Secretary Betsy DeVos attended the ribbon cutting of the Michigan State University Grand Rapids Research Center on Wednesday, noting that her "appearance was protested by about two dozen people who said they oppose her stance on school choice and what they described as efforts to 'defund' public schools." The building will house research on cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and Parkinson's disease. MSU President Lou Anna Simon "said the building will house researchers and students dedicated to 'pushing the frontiers of knowledge' and improving 'the quality of life by using the best technology, best science and best connections.'"

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that DeVos "joined Michigan State University officials and other dignitaries to mark the

official opening the school's Grand Rapids Research Center," which "is eventually expected to employ 44 research teams." The [Lansing \(MI\) State Journal](#) (9/20, 206K) and [WOOD-TV](#) Grand Rapids, MI (9/20, 170K) also cover this story.

Fordham Report: Traditional Public School Teachers Miss More School Than Charter Teachers.

[Education Week](#) (9/20, Loewus, 127K) reports that according to a new report from the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, "a right-leaning think tank," "teachers in traditional public schools are much more likely than teachers in charter schools to miss more than 10 days of work." The analysis found that while some 28% of traditional public school teachers missed over 10 days, only 10% of charter teachers were chronically absent. Education Week quotes lead author and Fordham researcher David Griffith saying, "I think the biggest takeaway is that teacher chronic absenteeism seems to be driven by state policy and local collective bargaining agreements—and possibly to a greater extent than is generally appreciated." However, National Education Association president Lily Eskelsen Garcia "said in a statement that 'Fordham is using corrupted assertions to draw misguided conclusions.'"

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/20, 3.55M) reports that the report, which is based on data from ED's Office for Civil Rights, "comes with remarkable caveats. For one, differences between how individual school districts and states report absenteeism can vary, and the data was not independently verified. The report also uses charter school unionization data from the 2009-2010 school year, and the Office of Civil Rights data is from the 2013-2014 school year."

State-Level Discord Over ESSA Plans Could Impact Implementation.

Daarel Burnette II writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) "State EdWatch" blog that the political rancor and wrangling within states over their ESSA plans could have lingering effects even though the plans have been submitted now. Burnette explains that as the law is implemented, state DOEs will "ask school districts to create their own ESSA plans. If local superintendents, principals, and teachers don't think much of the state's new accountability plan, they could drag their feet on implementation." Moreover, state legislatures and governors could withhold funding from programs they don't like, and the average turnover of state schools chiefs is shorter than the projected path to implementation for the initiatives in state ESSA plans.

Florida Submits Plan After Receiving Extension Due To Hurricane. The [Orlando \(FL\) Sentinel](#) (9/20, 603K) reports that Florida Gov. Rick Scott has signed his state's ESSA plan, sending it along to ED for evaluation. The piece notes that the state was granted an extension on the September 18 deadline because of Hurricane Irma.

Deadline Passes For Feedback On ED's Regulation Plans.

Alison Klein writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) "Politics K-12" blog that hundreds of respondents to a call for public feedback from ED have expressed concerns that "scrapping or rewriting federal regulations could mean a serious weakening of students' civil rights." The piece explains that after President Trump "tasked DeVos and her team with slimming down the Education Department and getting rid of 'burdensome' regulations and guidance," ED "asked the public for feedback." Klein writes that many of the respondents, including individuals and a coalition of 43 civil rights and education groups, "essentially told DeVos not to touch a single regulation, especially rules that help protect children's civil rights."

ED Audit Questions New Hampshire's Handling Of Federal Education Funds.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that an ED audit "of how New Hampshire manages federal education funds found the state has failed to independently monitor schools to ensure they are using the money appropriately." ED "reviewed 19 areas in a fiscal review of how the state education department administers federal grants last fall." The report "rated the state satisfactory on eight measures and said it is meeting requirements, but should make improvements in five other areas."

GAO Report Criticizes ED's Financial Oversight Of Colleges.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Douglas-Gabriel, 10.38M) reports that the Government Accountability Office has released a report saying that ED "could do more to guard against" the implosion of such schools as ITT Technical Institutes and Corinthian Colleges. The Post explains that ED assesses the financial stability of colleges participating in federal student aid programs every year, including "calculating what's known as a financial responsibility composite

score, a set of ratios derived from a school's audited financial statements." However, the GAO report "said the composite score has serious limitations" and "does not reflect updates in accounting practices or incorporate financial metrics, such as available cash, that would offer a broader indication of a school's health."

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/20, 3.55M) reports the GAO "is recommending in a report out today that the Education Department update the financial composite score used to measure a college or university's financial health — a recommendation rejected by the department." The report says that under the current system, "schools are able to manipulate it by taking out loans to avoid requirements to post letters of credit."

DeVos To Attend Washington State Fundraiser Next Month.

The [Everett \(WA\) Herald](#) (9/20, 135K) reports Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is scheduled to attend "a \$350-a-person fundraising dinner for the Washington Policy Center" on October 13 in Bellevue, Washington. The piece says DeVos is likely to "encounter a welcoming committee comprised of teachers, parents, students, Democratic politicians and other assorted defenders of public schools that will not be cheering her arrival but jeering her efforts to redesign the federal approach to education."

Additional Reading

Education Dept. Confirms Initial Approval Of Kaplan, EDMC Deals.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (9/20, 70K)

EDMC Sale Gets Initial Blessing From U.S. Department Of Education.

The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (9/20, Moore, 516K)

Democrats Grill Ed Dept. Nominee.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (9/20, 70K)

Napolitano Riffs On DeVos, Free Speech, And DACA.

The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (9/20, 43K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Connecticut Governor Malloy Criticizes Republican Education Budget.

The [Hartford \(CT\) Courant](#) (9/20, Megan, 463K) reports Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy "blasted" the education budget proposed by Republicans in the legislature as a "hot mess" and saying, "Their proposal shifts critical aid away from those that need it the most and directs it to those school systems that are in a far better position to handle their challenges." Sen. Len Fasano (R-North Haven) in reply said Malloy's statements were "purposely off base" and "self-serving." Fasano said that "funding from the other grant programs is all rolled into the education cost-sharing grants, distributed to districts according to a formula that takes into account relevant measures such as poverty and the number of students learning English in a district."

The [Connecticut Mirror](#) (9/20, Rabe Thomas) reports the budget caused "shockwaves" in that the Republicans were able to get their budget passed despite being in the minority in the state House and tied in the state Senate. The result is that although Gov. Malloy "has promised to veto that budget...Democratic legislative leaders and the governor now acknowledge they must negotiate a bipartisan one."

Wisconsin Governor Vetoes Schools Provision Championed By Public School Supporters And Republicans In Legislature.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Bauer) reports Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker "on Wednesday vetoed 99 parts of the state budget" including a plan to allow "low-spending school districts to raise more money from property taxes." The AP says Walker's "vetoes touched on nearly all parts of the" state budget, cutting "\$16.5 million over the next two years." The vetoed school provision "was championed by public school advocates and the Republican co-chair of the Legislature's budget-writing Joint Finance Committee."

Louisiana Association Of Educators Finds Residents Think There Is Too Much

Testing.

The [Lafayette \(LA\) Daily Advertiser](#) (9/20, McElfresh, 80K) reports the Louisiana Association of Educators took a poll of 837 Louisianans, finding that "hundreds of Louisiana citizens think there is too much of a focus on standardized testing in the state's schools." That was "65 percent of respondents." In reply, Sydni Dunn, spokeswoman for the Louisiana Department of Education, said the state limits state testing to "2 percent of the minimum time students spend in schools."

Eighth Grader Develops Device To Make Solar Panels More Efficient.

[Newsday \(NY\)](#) (9/20, Eidler, 1.64M) reports on the Broadcom MASTERS contest for STEM fields, in which Austin Crouchley, 13, is one of 30 finalists after having "researched a way to make solar energy more cost-effective." He said, "If we can make solar panels more economically sustainable and more efficient, we can actually use solar panels to satisfy basically all of our electric needs in our planet, and that's very promising." The contest had 2,500 applicants in "37 states, Puerto Rico and Department of Defense overseas sites." There were 300 semifinalists and now 30 finalists, who "will compete in Washington, D.C., from Oct. 19-25 for more than \$100,000 in prizes." Crouchley developed "a simple, low-cost solar tracking device that can be used to increase the efficiency of solar panels."

Learning Policy Institute Warns Of Growing Teacher Shortage.

Madeline Will writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) "Teaching Now" blog that the "California-based think tank" the Learning Policy Institute hosted a panel discussion on Tuesday about its new analysis titled "Teacher Turnover: Why It Matters and What We Can Do about It." Researchers and policymakers attending the meeting said that "states and districts must find ways to keep teachers in the profession—or they're staring down the barrel of a growing teacher shortage." The group found that around "8 percent of teachers leave the teaching profession each year, and another 8 percent move to a different school, making the overall turnover rate about 16 percent."

Green Schoolyards May Provide Health Benefits To Kids.

[HealthDay](#) (9/20, Preidt, 11K) reports that "green schoolyards provide benefits in areas such as heart health, weight control, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder...and stress relief" in children, researchers found after summarizing "the findings of prior published studies on the potential benefits of green schoolyards." The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

South Carolina District Moves To Lift Desegregation Order.

The [Myrtle Beach \(SC\) Online](#) (9/20, Boschult, 76K) reports the Georgetown County, South Carolina school board "unanimously voted Tuesday to file a motion with the U.S. District Court in Charleston to lift" parts of a desegregation order governing the district since 1997. According to the article, board members say the order has prevented the district from "hiring some new teachers in areas where there are teacher shortages" and has forced it "to spend extra time and money compiling information for the Department of Justice that they otherwise wouldn't have done, the superintendent said." Attorney David Duff, who represents the district in court, "said the DOJ had agreed after it's most recent visit that the schools had ended the effects of segregation in the areas of transportation, facilities and extracurricular activities and he was confident the court would lift those parts of the order."

Fairfax County Superintendent Wants To Diversify Workforce And Reduce Demands On Teachers.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Truong, 10.38M) reports on the new Fairfax County Schools superintendent Scott Braband. He worked in the district until he left "five years ago to lead Lynchburg City Schools." Now, he's back and "officials said they're optimistic he can navigate the intricacies of the district and state without needing to scale the steep learning curve commonly associated with the role." Braband said he hopes to be able to work on "diversifying the workforce and scaling back demands on teachers."

New Hampshire District To Hold Diversity Training After Racial Comments Reported.

The [Boston Globe](#) (9/21, Johnson, 969K) reports the Oyster River Cooperative School District in Durham, New Hampshire "is taking steps to educate faculty and staff about diversity after racially charged incidents were reported

on a school bus and at its middle school." Superintendent James Morse said that the state's Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator will conduct the training sessions, and Morse wants "100 percent of all district faculty, staff, and administrators participate." Morse said there would also be "a multicultural forum and...a review of...curriculum, policies and procedures regarding how members of the community treat each other." The action is in response to the reported use of "racial comments" and "racial jokes" in the elementary and middle schools.

Albuquerque Schools Member Denies Knowledge Of Embezzling By Daughter At Charter School.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports in response to a report by the state auditor finding that Julieanne Maestas, formerly assistant business manager at La Promesa Early Learning Center, a charter school, "had deposited over 500 checks worth more than \$475,000 into her personal bank account," her mother Analee Maestas, a member of the Albuquerque Public Schools education board, said through her lawyer that she "was not aware of any alleged criminal activity involving her daughter." She also "suggested that her daughter's substance abuse problems were directly related to issues outlined in the auditor's report." The AP adds, "No charges have been filed."

United Way Program Aimed At Reducing Dropouts Expands In Central Maryland.

The [Annapolis \(MD\) Capital Gazette](#) (9/19, Richman, 90K) reports on a program by United Way of Central Maryland "aimed at stemming school dropout rates" called On Track 4 Success. After apparent success at Maree G. Farring Elementary/Middle School it will be expanded to Benjamin Franklin High School and Meade Middle School. About 8 percent of students in central Maryland "did not graduate from high school last year" with higher numbers "in areas of Baltimore." The program works by spotting "early signs that a student is struggling...and intervenes."

Denver Changes Choice System To Ease Participation By Low-income Parents And Undocumented.

The [Denver Post](#) (9/20, Asmar, 817K) reports Denver Public Schools "is making changes to its nationally recognized school choice system," in order "to make it easier for low-income parents to navigate and to assuage fears of undocumented families." Part of the change is "a new, mobile-friendly school information website," another is to "eliminate a requirement that families show 'proof papers.'"

California Kindergartner Suspended For Saying Backpack Might Explode.

The [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (9/20, 349K) reports that the parents of a five-year-old student at Great Valley Academy in Modesto, California are "upset" that the school suspended him "for making terroristic threats" after he "refused to remove his backpack, telling a teacher there was a bomb in it that would explode if he took it off." The [Huffington Post](#) (9/20, Golgowski, 5.74M) reports that the parents are "speaking out" and are calling for the incident to be removed from his permanent record.

Additional Reading

Student Shot At Mattoon High School In Central Illinois; Another Student In Custody.

The [Chicago Tribune](#) (9/20, Press, 1.98M)

Harford Schools Implementing New Accountability Program.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/20, 706K)

Here's What Carmen Fariña's Top Deputies Have On Their Plates This School Year.

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/20)

Three Things We Learned About The State Of School Segregation In Memphis.

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/20)

Petition Calls For Charleston Schools Superintendent's Firing.

Maryland Education Department Will Specially Train Principals At Failing Baltimore Schools.

[WBFF-TV](#) Baltimore (9/20)

Post-Secondary Education

California State University Faculty Oppose Changes In Remedial, Math Instruction.

[EdSource](#) (9/19) reports that faculty members at California State University are "rebellious" against plans to change remedial education and math requirements, calling for a delay of at least a year. Though school officials show "no indication of slowing down," if the CSU governing board "agrees with the faculty, one of the most ambitious education reform efforts in California higher education in decades could be delayed or overhauled."

Report: California College Students Borrow Less Than Nearly All Other States.

[EdSource](#) (9/19) reports that according to a new report from The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS), California college graduates "finish school with some of the lowest average debt in the nation." The report "shows that 53 percent of students who started at a four-year, not-for-profit college in California and graduated there in 2016 had incurred any student debt and that their average loan total was \$22,744." The piece says this data reinforces "a long trend of relatively modest student debt in California." Researchers cite "a strong tradition of public university attendance, relatively low tuition at the CSU system and generous state financial aid."

Michigan Borrowing Mainly Steady. The [Detroit Free Press](#) (9/20, 1.07M) reports that the report indicates that "the average Michigan graduate with loans owes \$30,852 in student loans," saying this is "almost the same as the class of 2015, which owed \$30,045."

UC President: Security For "Free Speech Week" Will Be Costly.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Wermund, 3.6M) reports that University of California President Janet Napolitano says that the "Free Speech Week" event planned at UC Berkeley this month "will be an expensive test for the school that has become the center of debate over free speech on college campuses." The event is being planned by "far right provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos" and will feature former White House adviser Steve Bannon. Napolitano said Wednesday that the UC system "will take the unprecedented step of helping Berkeley cover the 'substantial' security costs" which she said are "necessary to ensure free speech on campus."

Additional Reading

UT's Four-year Graduation Rate Reaches A Record.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (9/20, Ellis, 1.97M)

Other Washington News

Sources: Trump "Leaning Against" Re-Certifying Iran Deal.

[NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/20, story 8, 0:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported, "President Trump says he's made up his mind about the Iran nuclear deal, but he's not saying if the US will stay in the agreement." However, four sources tell NBC News that Trump is "leaning against re-certifying Iran's compliance with the deal." On its website, [NBC News](#) (9/20, 3.46M) reports such a move would put "the decision of whether the US will withdraw from the accord in the hands of Congress, according to four sources – including one senior administration official." NBC says that "such a move would come prior to an Oct. 15 deadline and would trigger a 60-day window for lawmakers to determine whether to reimpose sanctions." Still, "several of the sources caution the president could change his mind over the next three weeks."

On Wednesday, the [New York Times](#) (9/20, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports President Trump said that he has made a decision on the future of the Iran deal, "but declined to tell reporters what

it was." Speaking to reporters, Trump said, "I have decided," repeating the phrase "three times." Pressed by reporters, he added: "I'll let you know. I'll let you know." The Times notes that while Trump has already certified Iran's compliance twice, he "has made clear that he is reluctant to certify compliance a third time, citing destabilizing activities by Iran that are not directly covered by the agreement."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Boyer, 541K) and [Politico](#) (9/20, Nelson, 3.6M) also report briefly on Trump's remarks, while [USA Today](#) (9/20, Jackson, 8.62M) says Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, in his remarks to the UN General Assembly on Wednesday, "said Trump is the one threatening to violate the agreement – and that the former New York businessman is making unfounded accusations." Said Rouhani, "It will be a great pity if this agreement were to be destroyed by 'rogue' newcomers to the world of politics: the world will have lost a great opportunity."

Another [USA Today](#) (9/20, Michaels, Dorell, 8.62M) report notes that Rouhani "did not mention Trump by name...but his remarks were clearly directed at the US president," and the [AP](#) (9/20, Peltz, Lederer) too says the remarks were "clearly directed" at Trump. [Bloomberg News](#) (9/20, Foroohar, Nasser, 4.52M) says the Iranian leader "rejected any US-led effort to alter the 2015 nuclear agreement," and the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Morello, 10.38M) reports Rouhani "blasted" Trump for his "ignorant, absurd and hateful" speech before the General Assembly a day earlier.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Lee) says the "jabbing" between Trump and Rouhani "set the stage for a contentious meeting of the nuclear accord's parties" on Wednesday on the sidelines of the General Assembly, including Secretary of State Tillerson and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. The AP says that "a year ago, such a get-together would have been considered routine," but "in the current environment, it is anything but ordinary."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Stokols, Schwartz, Peker, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports Tillerson said late Tuesday that the US would remain a part of the agreement only if it is modified to tighten restrictions on Iran's nuclear program that loosen after the year 2025 under the deal. [Reuters](#) (9/20, Hafezi, Holland) reports that a "source familiar with the US discussions" said the Administration is "also considering ways to leave the agreement intact, sanction Iran for its missile tests and support for extremist groups, and then seek to strengthen the pact."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Persons, 541K) reports White House press secretary Sarah Sanders "hinted" Wednesday that Trump "might make changes to the Iran nuclear deal soon." When asked what type of announcement Trump may be planning, Sanders told Fox News that "plans may change" for the current deal, and that Trump will take "actions" to "fix the mistakes of being part of that deal on the front end." She did not, however, say when an announcement with his plans could be expected.

"Sources" To Free Beacon: Tillerson, Haley "At Odds" Over Deal. In what the [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/20, Kredo, 158K) calls a "sign of the ongoing internal dissent over ending" the agreement, "multiple sources" told the Free Beacon that Tillerson and Ambassador Haley "have been at odds over the deal," with Haley "privately expressing dismay with Tillerson over his continued efforts to preserve the nuclear agreement." Tillerson and Haley "held a private powwow Wednesday with international leaders regarding the future of the nuclear deal, a sign of Haley's vital role" in the issue.

After Wednesday's meeting, the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Morrongiello, 465K) reports Tillerson told reporters, "We had a very open and candid exchange with all of the parties to the agreement. We clearly have significant issues with the agreement." He also confirmed that Trump has reached a decision on recertifying Iran's compliance with the agreement, but "declined to disclose the details of it."

Paul Wants US To Stay In Agreement. In an interview with [Politico](#) (9/20, Kim, 3.6M) Wednesday, Sen. Rand Paul, who opposed the nuclear deal with Iran two years ago, said he wants the US to stay in the agreement because he believes evidence shows that Iran has been complying with its terms. "Most of the complaints about Iran don't have anything to do with the agreement. They complain about ballistic missiles and other things, but that's not part of the agreement," Paul told Politico. "I think while the agreement's not perfect, my main concern has always been compliance. But if they're complying with it, I think we should stay in it."

Panetta Defends Deal, Rice Blasts Trump. Former CIA Director Leon Panetta said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/20, 1.02M) the concerns about the Iran nuclear deal are "understandable," but "the fact is we do have an agreement" that has "been effective at preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapon," and "we have evidence that Iran has abided by that agreement." Panetta said that if Trump withdraws, "he has to think seriously about the fact that at some point down the road he will bear responsibility for Iran getting a nuclear weapon."

The [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, 521K) reports former national security advisor Susan Rice "didn't mince words" Wednesday when criticizing Trump's speech at the UN. Rice was "especially unhappy" with Trump's insistence that the Iran nuclear deal is a "one-sided deal" and "an embarrassment" to the US. Said Rice, "We could begin a process of dialogue on what comes next after the deal. But we can't do that when hurling threats, when threatening to walk

out, when acting like a spoiled child at the dinner table."

EU Official: Iran Deal "Working." The [AP](#) (9/20) reports EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said Wednesday that all parties to the Iran nuclear deal "agree that the accord is being implemented as planned and US complaints about other Iranian behavior should be discussed outside the context of the agreement." Speaking to reporters in New York, Mogherini said the deal "is working and is delivering for its purpose."

Macron: If US Scraps Deal, World Could Face Another North Korea Crisis. [USA Today](#) (9/20, Ullmann, 8.62M) reports French President Emmanuel Macron urged President Trump Wednesday "to stick with the Iran nuclear deal" because "what else do we have? We would be put in the North Korea situation." Macron told a group of editors and reporters in New York that without the current agreement, Tehran "would be able to rush ahead with a nuclear weapons program the way North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un is, creating a new international crisis."

Media Analyses: Trump's Criticism Of Iran Deal Poses Problems For North Korea Strategy. An [AP](#) (9/20, Pennington) analysis says Trump's threat "to obliterate North Korea left no doubt about his determination to stop the communist country's nuclear weapons buildup," and "his disparagement of the Iran nuclear deal in the same speech offered Pyongyang little hope of a negotiated solution." While Trump said, "It is time for North Korea to realize that the denuclearization is its only acceptable future," the AP says he "offered no path toward making that future a reality."

David Sanger similarly writes in a [New York Times](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis that the "dynamics" of the two cases "are entirely different, but they are also oddly interdependent. If Mr. Trump makes good on his threat to pull out of the 2015 nuclear agreement with Iran, how will he then convince the North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un, that America will honor the commitment to integrate North Korea into the world community if only it disarms – the demand Mr. Trump made from the podium of the United Nations."

Security Firm: US Aviation, Energy Companies Targeted By Iranian Hackers. [USA Today](#) (9/20, Weise, 8.62M) reports that a "suspected Iranian hacking group has been targeting aviation and energy companies in the United States, Saudi Arabia and South Korea since 2013," computer security company FireEye said in a report released Wednesday. The group "seems largely to have engaged in stealth spying to give Iranian military and corporate interests information about possible enemies and competition." However, the researchers also found "signs of links to malicious software called SHAPESHIFT capable of destroying data within a company's network." FireEye cautioned that it had "not directly observed the hackers carry out any destructive operations, but the capability appears to be present."

Carson: Harvey, Irma Recoveries Will Take "Years."

HUD Secretary Carson told reporters Wednesday that federal aid to communities impacted by hurricanes Harvey and Irma is weeks or months away "from starting to flow as the painstaking process of assessing damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure is far from finished," [USA Today](#) (9/20, King, 8.62M) reports. Carson said, "What I've seen has really been a catastrophe, an unprecedented amount of damage from natural disasters which means we need an unprecedented response. ... Funding allocations are an overriding priority. We want to move the compensation into people's hands as quickly as possible. But despite our best efforts, that of course will take some time." Carson added, "HUD is in this for the long haul. ... We know that this is a recovery that's going to take years – could be many years – and we're prepared to be here for the long run."

Ryan Expects More Hurricane Aid To Be Approved In October.

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Marcos, 1.68M) reports in its "Floor Action" blog that House Speaker Ryan said Wednesday that Congress "will approve more emergency aid in October to help communities affected by recent hurricanes." Speaking at a news conference in Florida during a tour of areas hit by Hurricane Irma, Ryan "said lawmakers are still waiting for official estimates of how much money will be needed before crafting another funding package." Ryan said, "As we assess and we get more information from the administration, I'm sure that we're going to do another what we call a 'supplemental' sometime in October once we have a full assessment of what is needed." The [Miami Herald](#) (9/20, Smiley, 701K) quotes Ryan as saying, "What matters most is the Disaster [Relief] Fund at FEMA is full and it can respond. That's why just a few weeks ago we made sure that the FEMA funds were there because the spend-down rate was accelerating very quickly as opposed to other hurricanes."

All Of Puerto Rico Without Power As Hurricane Maria Makes Landfall.

Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico Wednesday causing extensive damage. All three network news

broadcasts led with the story Wednesday evening and it garners heavy print coverage this morning. Much of the coverage focuses on the devastation in Puerto Rico, but damage to Dominica and the storm's path towards the Dominican Republic and Turks and Caicos also garner coverage.

[NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/20, lead story, 3:15, Holt, 16.61M) reported in its lead story that in Puerto Rico "hundreds of homes are damaged or destroyed, streets are flooded, and 100 percent of that US island is without power after Hurricane Maria slammed ashore with 155-mile-an-hour winds." In its lead story, the [CBS Evening News](#)

 (9/20, lead story, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Maria made landfall "as a Category 4 and touched off catastrophic flooding. The storm is moving away from Puerto Rico tonight, toward the Dominican Republic, and tomorrow, the Bahamas." CBS (Begnaud) added that "despite the devastation, no deaths or injuries have been reported, so far." Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello "is telling people to stay calm, but he's warning that the island is on the verge of losing communication." Rossello "is asking for generators to be shipped from the mainland here to the island to help restore power as a dusk-to-dawn curfew has just gone into effect."

[ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/20, lead story, 2:55, Oquendo, 14.63M) reported in its lead story that Puerto Rico's emergency management director says "the entire island is destroyed." Many homes on the island were "not built to withstand any hurricane, let alone a Category 4." According to officials, "many areas will be uninhabitable for weeks, maybe even months." Rossello said on [CNN's Anderson Cooper 360](#)  (9/20, 1.44M), "The damage is very extensive. It is nothing short of a major disaster. We have a lot of flooding, a lot of infrastructure damage. Our tell communications system is partially down. Our energy infrastructure is completely down."

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that while Rossello said "more than 500 shelters had been opened...he could not vouch for the storm-worthiness of all of those structures." In what the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, De Córdoba, De Avila, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) calls an apparent effort to prevent looting, Rossello announced via tweet that he is imposing a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew from Wednesday to Saturday. Rossello wrote, "I am making a call for calm, understanding and prudence during these difficult days for Puerto Rico."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/20, Hennessy-Fiske, Lee, 4.49M) reports that a statement from the White House said "that President Trump is continuing to monitor the situation and that he and First Lady Melania Trump 'send their thoughts and prayers to all those in harm's way.'" White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/20, 1.76M), "FEMA Director Brock Long has been working alongside all the state and local officials really trying to make sure we put as many resources in place as possible. Thanks to technology we have a lot more leeway on the front end of a lot of these storms that are allowing us to preposition resources. The federal government is doing all we can to help people in both, you know, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and other surrounding islands as these storms are moving in."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Schmidt, 10.38M) says recovery efforts "could be hampered by long-standing financial problems that led the territorial government to file for a form of bankruptcy in May." Puerto Rican Rep. Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon expressed a similar concern on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/20, 1.13M), saying, "I spoke last night with Vice President Mike Pence and FEMA Director Brock Long and other members of cabinet regarding how are we going to put Puerto Rico back on track considering the financial situation Puerto Rico got in the recent years. And, thank God, Vice President Pence conveyed the message of the President of the United States and the whole government is going to be helping out the island. As a matter of fact, there are more than 400 rescue teams and federal employees from all over the nation waiting until it is safe to go outside and begin the search and rescue already on the island."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Faiola, 10.38M) reports that a "direct hit" by Maria "caused massive damage to homes and buildings, washed out roads, upended water pipelines and left at least seven people dead" in Dominica. According to official estimates, "70 to 80 percent of Dominica's structures sustained storm damage, ranging from ripped-off roofs to near-total destruction." The Post adds that "intact public buildings were being converted into emergency shelters for scores of homeless residents."

[ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/20, story 2, 0:55, Muir, 14.63M) reported that Maria's center is currently about 75 miles east of the Dominican Republic. While it's a category two storm, it "may very well strengthen" as it heads to Turks and Caicos. Al Roker said on [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/20, story 3, 1:00, Holt, 16.61M) that the Dominican Republic will get "four to six feet of surge, 8 to 16 inches of rain." Turks and Caicos, meanwhile, "may be the next really big devastated area with 125 mph winds, a storm surge of nine to 12 feet and nine to 16 inches."

Sewer Systems Unable To Handle Hurricanes' Rain, Flooding.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, King, Bauerlein, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports on the impact hurricanes Harvey and Irma had on aging sewer systems that were unable to handle the heavy rainfall and flooding. In Texas alone, Harvey destroyed two wastewater treatment facilities in Harris County and eight such facilities are still not operational in five counties including Harris .

Hundreds Seek Aid At East Naples Recovery Assistance Center.

The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (9/20, Riley, 142K) reports that Sen. Marco Rubio's office hosted a recovery assistance center in East Naples, Florida Wednesday to which "hundreds affected by Hurricane Irma's winds and storm surge flocked to...seek help from federal authorities, browse insurance options and load up on supplies." According to a FEMA spokeswoman, the center "functioned as a 'one-stop shop' for residents looking for financial assistance."

Agency: Florida Nursing Home "A Danger To Every Person On Its Premises."

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Yee, Fink, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration has found that the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills, where eight residents died following Hurricane Irma, "presents a danger to every person on its premises' and must close after staff at the facility failed to call 911 for its overheated patients." The nursing home was also "rebuked" for "entering normal vital signs, or mildly elevated temperatures, into the medical records of several residents after they had already been evacuated or, in one case, had already died." The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (9/20, Sarkissian, 142K) reports that "the nursing home filed a complaint in Leon County Circuit Court arguing it had followed an emergency plan overseen by Broward County as it prepared for Irma." According to the lawsuit, nursing home staff "did everything possible to seek help from Florida Power & Light to restore power to its air conditioning system knocked out by the storm," and "called 911 as patients' conditions deteriorated due to the heat, according to the lawsuit."

The [Miami Herald](#) (9/20, Klas, 701K) highlights a psychiatric hospital's efforts to seek assistance in advance of the storm. The facility sent an email "to a Broward County commissioner, whose office was closed" and who "didn't get the message until days later." The Herald says the email "raises doubts about the state's strategy for helping elder-care operators brace for a looming catastrophe." Gov. Rick Scott "gave out a private cell phone number to the caregivers," and "said give us a call if you have a problem." Many did so, "including the Hollywood Hills nursing home," which "made multiple calls to the cell phone and to a separate state information hotline set up to deal with storm-related emergencies." The nursing home "reported the electrical breakdown and indicated the situation was becoming increasingly urgent," the calls "fail[ed] to yield any substantive help," and have resulted in sharp criticism from the governor's office, which said the nursing home never reported that lives were in jeopardy."

Brown Calls For National System Of First Responder Caches.

In an op-ed for [The Hill](#) (9/20, 1.68M), former FEMA Director Michael Brown writes that FEMA should expand its Task Force Equipment caches, which "are designed to provide first responders with medical, rescue, communications, technical support and logistics for teams to be self-sufficient up to 72 hours in a disaster zone." Expanding the "strategic thinking" behind the caches, he argues, "would not only speed up FEMA response (and as fast as FEMA is currently responding, every first responder wants to be able to respond even faster) but would reduce last-minute ramp ups from the private sector - which always cost a premium." Brown calls on Congress and FEMA to "outline a plan to create a nationwide system of first responder caches," which "should be fully funded, separate and apart from the Disaster Relief Fund."

Trump: Graham-Cassidy "At 47 Or 48" Senate Votes Right Now.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Werner) reports that President Trump said Wednesday that "the Republicans' last-resort 'Obamacare' repeal effort remains two or three votes short, forecasting days of furious lobbying ahead with a crucial deadline looming next week." Trump told reporters that "by his reckoning, 'we're at 47 or 48 already, senators, and a lot of others are looking at it very positively.'" [Reuters](#) (9/20, Mason) reports that Trump also said, "I thought that when I won, I would go to the Oval Office, sit down at my desk, and there would be a healthcare bill on my desk, to be honest. And it hasn't worked out that way. And I think a lot of Republicans are embarrassed by it."

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/20, 1.76M) that "we have to have a program that actually works and we know that that's not Obamacare. It's simply not sustainable. It's collapsing. There's many markets where they don't even have providers anymore. We have got to get a system in place that actually works for all Americans."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Howell, 541K) reports that a vote will take place next week, according to a

spokesman for Senate Majority Leader McConnell. [Politico](#) (9/20, Everett, 3.6M) reports, "The bill does not yet have the public support of 50 senators, but GOP insiders are growing more confident it will pass." Sen. John Thune said on [Fox News Special Report](#)  (9/20, 1.99M), "We are a handful of votes short of having the 50 that we need. ... I think we're going to be working very hard over the course of the next few days to try and get to 50 so we can get this across the finish line." Karl Rove writes in his [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) column that the bill could reach 50 votes, making GOP repeal promises a reality.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Peterson, Radnofsky, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Trump urged Republicans to back the measure, [tweeting](#), "I hope Republican Senators will vote for Graham-Cassidy and fulfill their promise to Repeal & Replace ObamaCare. Money direct to States!" He also criticized Sen. Rand Paul, an opponent of the bill, [tweeting](#), "Rand Paul is a friend of mine but he is such a negative force when it comes to fixing healthcare. Graham-Cassidy Bill is GREAT! Ends Ocare!"

Trump also [tweeted](#), "I would not sign Graham-Cassidy if it did not include coverage of pre-existing conditions. It does! A great Bill. Repeal & Replace." However, [Axios](#) (9/20, Owens, 303K) reports that the bill "does allow states to waive the ACA's ban on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums than healthy people."

On the [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/20, story 4, 2:05, Mason, 11.17M), Nancy Cordes reported, "Republicans Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham sprinted from meeting to meeting today...trying to close the sale on the party's last, best shot at replacing Obamacare." The Graham-Cassidy bill "would keep Obamacare's taxes in place, but turn most of the revenues over to the states to come up with their own healthcare systems." The [AP](#) (9/20, Woodward) reports that Graham called the bill he co-authored "a 'historic opportunity' and asserted: 'We're going to vote. Everyone will be held accountable.'" [Roll Call](#) (9/20, McIntire, 134K) says the measure "would dramatically restructure the individual health insurance market by giving states block grants to fund health insurance coverage," and would "transition traditional Medicaid, which is an entitlement, to a system that gives states a capped amount of funding based on their Medicaid population."

[Roll Call](#) (9/20, Williams, 134K) reports, "Republican senators face the prospect of retreating from their previous public stances in order to support [the] fast-moving legislation." [The Hill](#) (9/20, Carney, 1.68M), the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Weaver, 465K), and [Breitbart](#) (9/20, Moran, 2.42M) briefly report on the announcement of the upcoming vote.

Murkowski Again In Spotlight As Vote Approaches. The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, A1, Sullivan, 10.38M) reports that Sen. Lisa Murkowski is again the spotlight as "one of at least four Republicans who remain unsure whether to support" the bill. Murkowski "regularly breaks with her party – yet she is also willing to play ball. 'The problem last time was process and substance,' Murkowski said Tuesday...explaining why she might be willing to support the current measure despite voting against the last one in July. 'Nobody knew what we were really looking to in voting on.'"

Congressional correspondent Phil Mattingly said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/20, 1.02M) that GOP leaders are "gathering information and specific asks from specific senators that will change this bill in an effort to try and get them on board. Most notably though they're targeting Lisa Murkowski." Murkowski met Wednesday with Graham and Cassidy "to figure out exactly what this bill would do to Alaska and what Republican leaders and Administration officials can do to make sure the state is not disproportionately affected by this massive change in the US healthcare system."

Johnson: Bill Would Shift Power To States. Sen. Ron Johnson writes in [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M), "Obamacare was never designed to be patient-friendly. In fact, one of the key tenets of Obamacare is taking power away from patients and local officials. Obamacare gives this decision-making power to the federal government." Graham-Cassidy "would change that by block-granting Obamacare spending to states, empowering those closest to their communities to provide effective solutions."

Lanhee Chen of the Hoover Institution writes in the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) that the bill's federalism is its most appealing component. However, Avik Roy of the Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity, a former policy adviser to several GOP presidential candidates, writes in the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M), "Cassidy-Graham, in its current form, would put a heavy Washington hand on the federalism steering wheel. The bill would make it relatively easy for blue states to expand the role of single-payer health care, while making it rather difficult for red states to achieve market-oriented reforms."

Schumer, Pelosi Working To Defeat Measure. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) looks at how Senate Minority Leader Schumer and House Minority Leader Pelosi, who "have forged what may be the most surprisingly potent partnership in Mr. Trump's Washington," are now attempting to kill Graham-Cassidy. But both said Trump "was noncommittal."

Christie Opposes Bill. [Politico](#) (9/20, Jennings, 3.6M) reports that Gov. Chris Christie said Wednesday, "I oppose Graham-Cassidy because it is too injurious to the people of New Jersey. I'm certainly not going to support a bill that takes nearly \$4 billion from people in the state."

BCBS Association, AHIP Announce Opposition. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Pear, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that "the two major trade groups for insurers," the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and America's Health Insurance Plans, "came out forcefully" against the bill on Wednesday, "suggesting that its state-by-state block grants could create health care chaos in the short term and a Balkanized, uncertain insurance market."

Avalere Health Analysis: 34 States Would Lose Federal Funding. The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Goldstein, Eilperin, 10.38M) reports that an analysis by Avalere Health concludes that Graham-Cassidy "would sharply reduce federal spending on health insurance and cause 34 states to lose such funding. ... States with relatively low medical costs, skimpy Medicaid benefits and no program expansion would win out. Texas would gain more than any state – \$35 billion from 2020 through 2026."

Cassidy Says Kimmel "Does Not Fully Grasp The Bill." The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Rogers, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "Hours after Jimmy Kimmel unleashed a monologue attacking" Graham-Cassidy, the two senators "spent Wednesday morning defending the legislation against the late-night host, who in recent months has become an unlikely – and increasingly impassioned – critic." Kimmel "delivered an earnest monologue on Tuesday evening," accusing Cassidy "of failing to deliver on several key issues, including lowering premiums, expanding coverage, banning lifetime caps and not discriminating based on pre-existing conditions." Cassidy told Fox News that "Kimmel did not fully grasp the bill." Graham said on the same network, "I understand the emotional nature of having a sick child. ... I bet he looked at some liberal talking point, bought it hook, line and sinker, and went after Bill Cassidy without talking to him." Cassidy said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#)  (9/20, 1.08M), "There will be more people covered...than are under status quo and we protect those with pre-existing conditions." Graham said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/20, 2.02M), "Our bill requires preexisting illnesses to be covered in the block grant."

On [ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/20, story 5, 2:05, Muir, 14.63M), Mary Bruce reported, "Cassidy promised he would defend protections for people with preexisting conditions. But now, Kimmel says he's not living up to his word." [Politico](#) (9/20, Diamond, 3.6M) writes, "In the war of words between Jimmy Kimmel and Sen. Bill Cassidy, the late-night host has the better grasp of health policy, health care analysts say." Experts say "that Kimmel's assessment was basically accurate because of the flexibility the bill gives states to set up their own health care systems." [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/20, story 7, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M) and [Bloomberg News](#) (9/20, Dennis, Tracer, 4.52M) also report on Kimmel's remarks and Cassidy's response.

Obama: "50th Or 60th" ACA Repeal Effort Is "Aggravating." [USA Today](#) (9/20, Estepa, 8.62M) reports that former President Obama, addressing the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on Wednesday, said, "When I see people trying to undo that progress for the 50th or 60th time, with bills that would raise costs or reduce coverage, or rollback protections for older Americans or pre-existing conditions – the cancer survivor, the expecting mom or the child with autism or asthma, for whom coverage would once again be almost unattainable – it is aggravating. And all of this being done without any economic or actuarial or plain common sense rationale." [The Hill](#) (9/20, Carney, 1.68M) reports that Graham replied, "It's no surprise President Obama opposes sending money and power back to the states and closer to where the patients live. Obamacare was designed with the exact opposite goal in mind – which is to consolidate healthcare power and decision-making in Washington."

USA Today: Graham-Cassidy "Would Be Poison." [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M) runs an editorial headlined "Last-Ditch Obamacare Repeal Would Be Poison," writing, "This measure would strip tens of millions of people of their health coverage. It would gut Medicaid," and would "allow insurers in some states to deny coverage based on a previous medical condition. And it would allow insurers to skip coverage of essential services, including maternity care. That's all bad enough, but the Graham-Cassidy measure adds a new level of cynicism...with states that vote largely Republican faring far better than Democratic ones."

Illinois Submits Big ACA Rate Increases.

The [Chicago Tribune](#) (9/20, Schencker, 1.98M) reports that a new analysis from the Illinois Department of Insurance found that hundreds of thousands of Illinois consumers "who buy health insurance on the state's Obamacare exchange will likely see average rates increase by 16 percent to 37 percent next year for the lowest-priced plans." According to the analysis of expected rates submitted by the department, Illinois consumers "will also see less

competition among insurance providers on the exchange.”

Poll: 49 Percent Of Voters Support Single-Payer.

The Hill (9/20, Savransky, 1.68M) reports that a new Politico/Morning Consult poll of 1,994 registered voters found that 49 percent of respondents “support a single-payer health care system in which ‘Americans would get their health insurance from one government plan.’” Thirty-five percent of respondents opposed single-payer.

Report: States Short \$645 Billion On Healthcare Costs.

The Wall Street Journal (9/20, A1, Gillers, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that states have promised to pay \$645 billion more in retiree health benefits than states have been able to save, according to a new report from The Pew Charitable Trusts based on 2015 data. These shortfalls will be made more evident as states and cities around the country will be required to follow new Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines that urge officials to record all healthcare liabilities on their balance sheets.

VA Fires Former District Of Columbia Medical Center Director.

The Washington Times (9/20, Boyer, 541K) reports the Department of Veterans Affairs fired former District of Columbia VA Medical Center Director Brian Hawkins Wednesday for “failure to provide effective leadership” at the center. The department “said it took this action using authorities provided by the VA Accountability Act, which President Trump signed into law in June. Mr. Hawkins was notified in late August that he was facing removal.”

Number Of DACA Denials Has Doubled Under Trump.

The Washington Times (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports that numbers released Wednesday show that DHS “has doubled the rate of denials of Dreamers’ amnesty applications,” suggesting that “the administration had been taking a harder line even before President Trump’s announcement this month that he would phase out the DACA program altogether.” From April to June, “32 percent applications for DACA status that were decided...were rejected,” which is “twice the 16 percent rate of the last months of the Obama administration.”

Pelosi: Dreamers’ Parents “Did A Great Thing” For The Country. The Washington Times (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports that in comments that “strike a dissonant note from many analysts, who while saying the Dreamers are sympathetic since they had no say in the decision, say the parents do deserve blame for creating the problem,” House Minority Leader Pelosi said Wednesday that “parents who brought their children to the US in defiance of the law ‘did a great thing,’ giving the country an infusion of successful young people.”

Administration Weighs Deporting Unaccompanied Central American Teenagers.

The Miami Herald (9/20, Ordoñez, 701K) reports that “two sources with knowledge of the developing policy proposal” say the Trump Administration “is weighing a new policy that would fast-track the deportation of thousands of Central American teenagers who arrived at the southern border, unaccompanied by adults.” According to the sources, the Justice Department “wants to avoid creating a new protected class of undocumented immigrants, given how politically difficult it has been for the administration to unwind another program – DACA, which protected young people brought by adults to the country illegally when they were children.” The new policy would call for “expedited deportation” of the “more than 150,000 children who arrived at the southern border alone, escaping violence and poverty in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.” The plan would send teens in this group “back to their countries when they turn 18 under a fast-track deportation, which means they would not see an immigration judge first.”

Trump Considers Further Reducing Refugee Limits.

The AP (9/20, Colvin) cites “Trump administration officials” who said Wednesday that the President “is considering a further reduction in the number of refugees allowed into the United States as the administration works to re-shape American immigration policy.” However, “Cabinet officials are divided as they weigh the costs and potential security risks associated with the program.” While DHS “has been pushing for a reduction beyond the 50,000 mark set by Trump earlier this year as part of his travel ban executive orders,” the State Department, “which oversees the program, has formally recommended that the number be kept at 50,000.”

A pair of opinion pieces this morning argue against reducing the number of refugees. A Washington Post (9/20, 10.38M) editorial says that “xenophobes seeking an upper hand in the Trump administration have covered” a report showing refugees’ revenue contributions to federal, state, and local governments. A report ordered by the President

in March "concluded that refugees had delivered \$63 billion more in federal, state and local tax revenue than they had cost in federal benefits through the decade ending in 2014." However, according to the New York Times, the fact that refugees "pay more in taxes than they draw in benefits...was suppressed by Stephen Miller, Mr. Trump's nativist senior policy adviser." The Post argues that "it would be not just callous for Washington to turn its back on" refugees, it would be "an act of national redefinition and an abdication of leadership."

In an op-ed for [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M), Sasha Chanoff, executive director of RefugePoint, argues that while it is "not true that refugees are a security threat and therefore need to be kept out of America," this "fiction may influence President Trump to slash the resettlement admissions number to the lowest in decades." Chanoff writes that the President "should set next year's ceiling at a minimum of 75,000, a number in line with admissions over the past few years, and the very least we can do in the face of an unprecedented global refugee crisis with more than 22.5 million refugees."

US To Accept 54 Refugees From Australia's Offshore Detention Centers. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Williams, Baidawi, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull announced Wednesday that "the first group of refugees from Australia's offshore detention centers is expected to leave for the United States 'in the coming weeks.'" In a video posted on social media, Turnbull "thanked President Trump for honoring a deal reached by the Obama administration, which Mr. Trump had criticized, in which the United States agreed to accept hundreds of refugees from the centers." A State Department official "confirmed that 54 approved refugees would be notified in the coming days and travel to the United States in the coming weeks."

In Videotaped Message, Trump Welcomes New Citizens.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Taxin) reports that 4,000 immigrants taking their citizenship oath in Los Angeles Wednesday "let out a collective moan when they learned they were going to watch a videotaped message from President Donald Trump." In the message, Trump "welcomes citizens and tells them they should teach American values to others and 'help newcomers assimilate to our way of life.'" The AP says for the immigrants, Trump's remarks "felt insincere after he previously ordered a travel ban, moved to end a program shielding nearly 800,000 young immigrants from deportation, and referred to Mexican immigrants as rapists." However, others "appreciated Trump's message of unity – especially at a time of political division."

Zinke: Statue Of Liberty "Beacon Of Light" For Immigrants Coming To America.

[Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (9/20, 1.26M) traveled with Interior Secretary Zinke on his first visit to the Statue of Liberty. Zinke told Fox that the statue represents "freedom, opportunity, and why people want to be a part of America." Asked about the poem inscribed on the statue, Zinke said, "Give me your tired and your poor. What a beacon of light for those immigrants that come to the country and want to be a part of the American experience. ... You see the tensions in our country, the strains. I think we should all take a deep breath and remember this and remember what has made America great." Fox's Brian Kilmeade added, "And maybe coming here the right way," to which Zinke replied, "Coming here the right way, absolutely."

California AG Files Suit To Block Border Wall.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/20, McGreevy, Ulloa, 4.49M) reports that California Attorney General Xavier Becerra has filed a lawsuit claiming "that President Trump's proposal to expedite construction of a wall at the US-Mexico border violates laws aimed at protecting the environment." Announcing the lawsuit Wednesday, Becerra said that "the federal government failed to comply with federal environmental laws and relied on federal statutes that don't authorize border wall projects in San Diego and Imperial counties." Said Becerra, "No one gets to ignore the laws. Not even the President of the United States. ... The border between the US and Mexico spans some 2,000 miles. The list of laws violated by the President's administration in order to build his campaign wall is almost as long."

USA Today Explores "Challenges And Consequences" Of Trump's Border Wall. In an online report titled, "The Wall," [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M) reports on "the challenges and consequences of President Donald Trump's border wall plan in unprecedented detail." The report enables users to "watch aerial video of every foot of the border, explore every piece of fence, even stand at the border in virtual reality."

Coulter: If Border Wall Not Happening, US Should Have An "Attractive, Dignified" GOP President. The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Mayfield, 465K) reports that in an [interview](#) with Newsmax TV on Wednesday, Ann Coulter said "that she would prefer Vice President Mike Pence over President Trump because Trump is failing to build his promised wall on the US-Mexico border." Coulter said, "If we are not getting a wall, we might as well have a, you know, attractive, dignified Republican there." Coulter said "that Pence

would pick 'better' Supreme Court justices and that people wouldn't have to worry about Nikki Haley becoming a justice if he were president."

Gillespie Ad Links Virginia Democrat Northam To MS-13 Street Gang.

In a report on the Virginia gubernatorial race, the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Vozzella, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports that Republican Ed Gillespie, "who for years pressed fellow Republicans to make their party more welcoming to minorities, on Wednesday unveiled a hard-hitting TV ad that blames his" opponent, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, "for the resurgence of the MS-13 street gang. As the MS-13 motto 'Kill, Rape, Control' flashes across the screen, the ad" blasts Northam over his vote "against a bill that would have prohibited the establishment of 'sanctuary cities' in the state." In the spot, a narrator says, "MS-13 is a menace, yet Ralph Northam voted in favor of sanctuary cities that let dangerous illegal immigrants back on the street, increasing the threat of MS-13." The ad "intersperses photos of Northam with the tattooed faces of men who, as it turns out, were photographed in a prison in El Salvador."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, McLaughlin, 541K) reports, "The ad underscores the messy politics of immigration, which President Trump thrust to the forefront during his own 2016 campaign, and has kept their in the months since, demanding an end to sanctuary cities he says protect dangerous illegal immigrants." The Times adds that Northam's campaign "said Mr. Gillespie was 'fear-mongering' and misleading the public. 'Ralph Northam doesn't care what your immigration status is, if you commit a violent crime, you're going to prison,' the campaign said."

Politico Analysis: Senate GOP Will Not "Fall In Line Behind" Trump's Tax Plan.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Faler, 3.6M) reports that while House leaders and Trump Administration officials have worked for months to ensure "a smooth rollout" of tax reform legislation, Senate Republicans "are making it clear they're not going to fall in line behind" Trump's plan. Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch "warned" that the "Big Six" proposal "will only be advisory," and Senate Republicans "are following that up with plans to seek a \$1.5 trillion tax cut, putting them at odds with the House, where Speaker Paul Ryan, another Big Six member, wants permanent changes that don't add to the deficit."

WSJournal: Corker-Toomey Deal Creates More Room For Tax Cuts. A [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorial says the budget deal struck between Sens. Bob Corker and Pat Toomey creates additional space for cutting taxes and calls on Republicans to follow their lead and make good on their promise to pass tax reform.

Tim Ryan Says Corporate Tax Reform Must Be "Revenue Positive."

Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH) said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#)  (9/20, 1.08M), "If they stay away from the traditional supply side economics, I think there will be a lot of Democrats that will sit down and say hey, is this going to benefit working class people in Akron, Ohio, Youngstown, Ohio? I think they'll be willing partners. But, again, we've got to make sure that some of these things, like any corporate tax reform, for example, that is revenue positive. You have 100 of the top Fortune 500 companies not paying any corporate tax at all. So that's not a progressive tax. If you want to lower the rate you have to make sure that you're closing the loopholes and getting some money. And the President is saying we're not going to hurt the middle class on this. So, we'll see."

Tillis: North Carolina Shows The Impact Tax Reform Can Have.

In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), Sen. Thom Tillis cites his home state of North Carolina as an example of what successful tax reform can accomplish. Tillis writes that the state has seen the creation of more than 350,000 jobs since passing tax reform, and its economy has become one of the fastest growing in the nation.

Sources: Mattis' "Agreeable Demeanor" Keeps Trump From "Feeling Threatened" By Him.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Cooper, Schmitt, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that while "nearly all of President Trump's top national security officials have been the target of his ire," Defense Secretary Mattis is the exception. Mattis, the Times says, has "exhibited a political deftness that has eluded other members of Mr. Trump's cabinet," and "none has managed to steer a path so different from the president's without incurring his wrath and while deflecting attention over apparent or genuine splits." Mattis, it suggests, has "stayed out of the chaos that has characterized the Trump administration in part because of his ability, friends and associates say, to present an agreeable demeanor," which keeps Trump "from feeling threatened even when his defense secretary contradicts him

or slow-walks his pet policies.”

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Nominee “Almost Certainly Voted Illegally” In November.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, “As President Trump’s voter integrity commission looks under rocks for possible voter malfeasance, its members might want to examine a presidential nominee awaiting confirmation by the Senate Finance Committee. Documents indicate that Jeffrey Gerrish,” Trump’s deputy US trade representative nominee, “moved from Virginia to Maryland last year, but opted in November to vote in the more competitive state of Virginia.” The Times says that the Senate Finance Committee, “which has been considering Mr. Gerrish’s nomination, was briefed on the matter on Tuesday, including the fact that” he “had almost certainly voted illegally, according to three Democratic congressional aides.” The Times adds, “Given Mr. Trump’s intense focus on alleged widespread voter fraud in last year’s election – the president has claimed that millions of people voted illegally, without evidence – Democrats are likely to pounce on the misstep to try to sink Mr. Gerrish’s nomination.”

Media Analyses: Mueller’s Latest Steps Indicate Trump Himself Under Scrutiny.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/20, story 4, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) reported on “new steps” by special counsel Robert Mueller “suggesting President Trump’s own actions are now under scrutiny, including his firing of FBI Director James Comey and the meeting with Russian officials in the Oval Office the very next day.” ABC’s Jonathan Karl: “Tonight, the clearest indication yet [that] Mueller is looking at the actions of President Trump himself.” The [CBS Evening News](#)

 (9/20, story 3, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported, “Mueller has been bombarding the White House with requests for documents.”

The [AP](#) (9/20, Tucker) reports that Mueller’s office “has requested a large batch of documents from the White House and is expected to interview at least a half dozen current and former aides in the coming weeks.” A person familiar with the investigation said investigators “want information on, among other topics, a June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower that Donald Trump Jr. attended with a Russian lawyer and the administration’s response to it,” as well as “what White House officials including Trump knew about the Justice Department’s investigation” into ex-National Security Adviser Michael Flynn.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Leonnig, Helderman, 10.38M) reports, “White House lawyers are now working to turn over internal documents that span 13 categories investigators for the special counsel have identified as critical to their probe.” [USA Today](#) (9/20, Jackson, Johnson, Heath, 8.62M) reports that officials speaking under condition of anonymity said that the White House “has been cooperating with Mueller’s requests for the past several weeks, in part to avoid subpoenas for individual testimony. The officials said they were not sure when the White House would finish turning over documents.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Schmidt, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says that the “document requests provide the most details to date about the breadth of Mr. Mueller’s investigation, and show that several aspects of his inquiry are focused squarely on Mr. Trump’s behavior in the White House.” However, the [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/20, Bierman, 4.49M) reports that John Dowd, an attorney for the President, said, “There’s nothing remarkable or unusual about his requests. ... It’s not like something’s about to happen. It’s just a routine inquiry by Bob [Mueller].”

David Gergen said on [CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360](#)  (9/20, 1.38M), “As soon as I heard there were 13 different categories in which Mueller was asking for information or demanding information from the White House, you immediately thought this probe has widened way beyond what we or understood and it has clearly deepened.” Gergen added, “I think this deepens the sense that they’re doing everything they can to see what evidence there is of obstruction of justice.”

Grassley: Senate Preparing Subpoenas For Two Top FBI Officials. [CNN](#) (9/20, Herb, Raju, 33.59M) reports on its website that Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley said Tuesday that the Senate legal counsel “is preparing subpoenas for two senior FBI officials the Justice Department is preventing the committee from interviewing.” Grassley and ranking member Sen. Dianne Feinstein “have repeatedly asked the two senior FBI officials – Carl Ghattas and James Rybicki – to sit down for a transcribed interview to discuss the Comey firing.”

Manafort Offered “Private Briefings” On Campaign To Russian Billionaire. The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Hamburger, Helderman, Leonnig, Entous, 10.38M) reports that “less than two weeks before Donald Trump accepted the Republican presidential nomination,” then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort “offered to provide briefings on the race” to Oleg Deripaska, “a Russian billionaire closely aligned with the Kremlin.” In a July 7, 2016 email, Manafort wrote, “If he needs private briefings we can accommodate.” The emails “are among tens of

thousands of documents that have been turned over" to Mueller and to congressional investigators. The Post says that the documents show no evidence "that Deripaska received Manafort's offer or that any briefings took place."

Leon Panetta said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/20, 1.02M) that the fact Manafort "would offer a briefing on a political campaign to a Russian billionaire, someone obviously related to an adversary of the United States, raises some serious questions about just how much effort was made to try to get the Russians to participate in this last election campaign." But on the [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/20, story 3, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M), Jeff Pegues reported, "Manafort's attorney did not deny the authenticity of the email but called the message 'innocuous,' and said, 'It's no secret Mr. Manafort was owed money by past clients,' implying it was an attempt to collect."

Ben Domenech of [The Federalist](#) (9/20, 88K) offers "13 Questions About The Wiretapping Of Paul Manafort," dealing with why Manafort was wiretapped, when the surveillance took place, and if the wiretap covered Trump Tower. Former CIA case officer Phil Giraldi asks at the [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, 521K), "Will anyone running for high office in the future want to be confronted by executive power acting secretly through the law enforcement and intelligence services to discredit him or her as well as a large and widening group of family and associates? ... Manafort, who has fully cooperated with the multiple investigations being conducted around Russiagate, is innocent until proven guilty."

Manafort Used Trump Campaign Email To Contact "Ukrainian Political Operative." [Politico](#) (9/20, Dawsey, 3.6M) reports that Manafort "used his presidential campaign email account to correspond with a Ukrainian political operative with suspected Russian ties, according to people familiar with the correspondence." In emails to Konstantin Kilimnik, Manafort sought "repayment for previous work he did in Ukraine" and proposed discussing "potential new opportunities in the country."

Clapper: "It's Possible" That Wiretap Picked Up Trump. The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Chaitin, 465K) reports, "Former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper suggested on Wednesday that 'it's possible' that President Trump's voice was picked up in a wiretap" as he spoke with Manafort. Clapper said on CNN, "It's certainly conceivable. ... I wouldn't want to go there, but I will say it's possible."

Facebook Facing Increasing Scrutiny Over Russia's Attempts At Influence. [Bloomberg News](#) (9/20, Litvan, 4.52M) reports that Facebook "is facing growing pressure from Congress over Russia's use of social media" to influence the 2016 election. In a Wednesday letter to the Federal Election Commission, Sens. Martin Heinrich and Ron Wyden, and Reps. John Conyers (D-MI), Elijah Cummings (D-MD), and John Sarbanes (D-MD) wrote, "We must address the threat posed by foreign citizens, companies, or organizations who aim to interfere with our political process." Sarbanes is seeking "new rules requiring disclosure for political ads on social media outlets...so they are as transparent as broadcast ads."

Senate Intelligence Vice Chairman Mark Warner said on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/20, 1.13M) that "the level of some of the sophistication on the social media side and the level of targeting really leaves me with a lot of questions we are going to want Facebook to answer in public."

Media Matters: Drudge Report Has Become "Pipeline For Russian Propaganda." Matt Gertz of [Media Matters](#) (9/20, 61K) writes about "How Matt Drudge Became The Pipeline For Russian Propaganda," stating that Drudge "has for years used his site as a web traffic pipeline for Russian propaganda sites, directing his massive audience to nearly 400 stories from RT.com and fellow Russian-government-run English-language news sites SputnikNews.com and TASS.com since the beginning of 2012." The [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, 521K) covers the Media Matters piece under the headline "Pro-Clinton Group Tries To Link Drudge Report," writing, "Despite the...bombastic claims," the Media Matters study "lacks context about how The Drudge Report operates. ... Drudge typically removes and adds links throughout the day, linking to hundreds of websites on any given day."

Dershowitz Says It Is Hard To Say If President Can Expect AG's Loyalty. Alan Dershowitz writes in the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, 465K) that it is hard to say whether a president can expect loyalty from an attorney general, since under the US system, the AG serves both as "an advisor to the chief executive" and as "chief prosecutor." Dershowitz says "the system should be changed," but that there is "no perfect cure for the mistake made by our founders in merging the two incompatible goals of the current attorney general: that of political advisor to the president; and that of independent chief prosecutor."

Judge Moves Toward Granting US Request For Information On Inaugural Protest Website.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Gerstein, 3.6M) reported that District of Columbia Superior Court Chief Judge Robert Morin "is pressing forward with plans to allow enforcement of a search warrant against a website used to organize protests against President Donald Trump's inauguration," but insists "that prosecutors won't be able to see messages and other information that demonstrators exchanged on the Disruptj20 site until he determines that every such

communication is related to the ongoing investigation and prosecution of alleged rioting in downtown Washington on the same day Trump was sworn in. "You have the right to have the warrant executed," Morin told Assistant US Attorney John Borchert during a hearing Wednesday afternoon on the dispute between the government and DreamHost – the internet firm that hosted the site." Morin added, however, "Until the court has ruled...the court is not allowing the government to inspect either [email senders'] identity or their communications."

Bharara Says Trump Would Have Asked Him To Do "Something Inappropriate."

[USA Today](#) (9/20, McCoy, 8.62M) reports former federal prosecutor Preet Bharara said Wednesday he believes President Trump "eventually would have asked him to do 'something inappropriate'" if Trump hadn't fired him. During his weekly "Stay Tuned with Preet" podcast, Bharara "described a series of unusual interactions with Trump" during his time as US attorney, and said the interactions "were so unprecedented he considered but decided against recording a conversation with the president that ultimately never took place."

Bharara To Join CNN. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Grynbaum, Kelly, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports CNN announced Tuesday that Bharara will join the network as a senior legal analyst, "meaning he will be a frequent presence on the network's programming." The Times observes the arrangement "will offer a national forum for" Bharara's "at-times blistering critiques of the Trump administration."

Trump To Award Medal Of Honor To Army Medic For Valor In Laos.

The White House said Wednesday that President Trump will recognize former Army medic Gary Rose, who "dol[ed] out doses of morphine to keep the walking wounded moving to avoid capture" behind enemy lines in the jungles of Laos, in 1970, with the Medal of Honor, [USA Today](#) (9/20, Brook, Korte, 8.62M) reports. Noting that Laos was "officially off limits for combat," USA Today says the White House, "in announcing the medal, said the award was 'for conspicuous gallantry during the Vietnam War,' obscuring the location of that gallantry as somewhere 'deep in enemy-controlled territory.'" USA Today describes the battle and the controversy surrounding it, highlighting reports from CNN and Time in 1988 that "Rose and the soldiers involved in Operation Tailwind had been sent to Laos to capture American defectors, had used deadly Sarin nerve gas in their attack and had killed innocent civilians." CNN ultimately "retracted the story, acknowledging that its account was fundamentally wrong."

Spokesperson: "Demanding Schedule" Behind Price's Use Of Private Jets.

The [New York Times](#) (9/21, A18, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that HHS Secretary Price "spent tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars to fly on private jets to attend routine public events instead of taking cheaper commercial airliners because he has an 'incredibly demanding schedule,' his spokeswoman said Wednesday." The Times quotes HHS assistant secretary for public affairs Charmaine Yost as saying in a statement, "With an incredibly demanding schedule full of 13-plus-hour days, every effort is being made to maximize Secretary Price's ability to travel outside of Washington to meet with the American people." The Times cites a Politico [story](#) that reported "the private flights cost the federal government as much as \$60,000."

Kayla Tausche reported on [CNBC's Closing Bell](#)  (9/20, 177K) that HHS "is on the defensive" after Politico's report saying Price "chartered private jets to travel to events in Maine, New Hampshire, and Philadelphia last week. The decision bucks the trend of Secretary Price's predecessors, who all flew commercial at a much lower expense. It also diverges from Price's cost-cutting efforts at HHS and also his previously held views on private travel." Tausche added that an HHS spokesperson told CNBC, "When [Price] was in Congress, he did not take private or chartered jets at all. Now he does when his scheduling team decides on a case by case basis what is the most effective way to get him from place to place."

Democrat Pallone "Will Be Looking Into" Price's Travel. [Reuters](#) (9/20, Abutaleb) reports that Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ), ranking Democrat on the House Energy Committee, on Wednesday said "he is looking into [the Politico] report that...Price used private jets to travel on government business." Reuters highlighted Politico's report that "Price took private jets on five occasions for official business, which cost tens of thousands of dollars more than commercial flights. Politico documented one chartered trip from Washington to Philadelphia that cost about \$25,000." In a Wednesday statement, Pallone said, "I would remind Secretary Price that taxpayer funds are not meant to be used as a jet-setting slush fund. My colleagues and I will be looking into this further and we will be asking the HHS Office of the Inspector General for a full accounting of Secretary Price's travel." Renee Marsh said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/20, 1.02M) that "Democratic members of Congress are preparing to call for an inspector general investigation into Price's travel."

EPA Pulls Agents Off Investigations To Provide Security For Pruitt.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Eilperin, Dennis, 10.38M) reports that EPA Administrator Pruitt's "round-the-clock personal security detail...demands triple the manpower of his predecessors" and "has prompted officials to rotate in special agents from around the country who otherwise would be investigating environmental crimes." The situation "has rankled some employees and outside critics, who note that the EPA's criminal enforcement efforts already are understaffed and that the Trump administration has proposed further cuts to the division."

Fourteen States Say They Will Meet Paris Agreement Goals Without Trump.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Richardson, 541K) reports that an alliance of 14 states known as the US Climate Alliance "said Wednesday they are on track to meet their share of the Paris climate agreement despite President Trump's decision to withdraw." The 14 governors – 13 Democrats and one Republican – "released a report showing that their states will be able to reduce emissions by 24 to 29 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, which would 'fulfill their contribution to the Paris Agreement targets.'" The Times says the 14 states "represent 41 percent of the US gross domestic product, which would make them the third-largest economy in the world if they broke off and formed a separate nation."

NYTimes Analysis: De Blasio Not Following His Own Advice On Climate Policy.

In an analysis, the [New York Times](#) (9/20, Neuman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Mayor Bill de Blasio may not be "following his own advice" on energy efficiency standards in buildings, according to city records that show de Blasio seemingly failed to meet such standards in two small buildings he owns in Brooklyn. New York's Buildings Department database showed one building had a natural gas-fueled boiler and hot water heater, neither appearing to have Energy Star certification, and the other building had "no permits...issued for a boiler replacement, so it is likely the building has an older and potentially less energy-efficient unit."

Fed Leaves Rates Unchanged, Says It Will Reduce Its Bond Holdings.

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday said the US economy is "finally sturdy enough...to withdraw the extraordinary support it has provided it since the depths of the recession and financial crisis," [USA Today](#) (9/20, Davidson, 8.62M) reports. In a move USA Today said could "nudge consumer borrowing costs higher," the Fed agreed "to begin gradually shedding much of the roughly \$3.5 trillion in bonds it snapped up during and after the downturn to lower long-term interest rates." Fed Chair Yellen told a news conference, "We're working down our balance sheet because we think in some sense it's no longer needed. ... We feel the US economy is performing well." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Timiraos, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says the Fed has been signaling the move for months. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says it supports the Fed's decision to reduce its bond holdings, but adds that it should have begun sooner and should be happening faster.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says the Fed "left its benchmark interest rate unchanged." While "most Fed officials predicted in a new round of economic forecasts that the Fed would increase rates later this year," officials "once again reduced their expectations for future rate hikes." The median prediction now holds that "the benchmark rate will stabilize at 2.8 percent, down from a median estimate of 3 percent in June."

Economists Blame "Start-Up Slump" For Slow Economic Expansion. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Casselman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that economists say the "tame" economic expansion since the recession is due, in part, to "a start-up slump – a decline in the creation of new businesses – and a growing understanding of what's behind it." According to the Census Bureau, "414,000 businesses were formed in 2015." While that is "a slight increase from the previous year," it is "well below the 558,000 companies given birth in 2006, the year before the recession set in." Many economists attribute the slump to "the rising power of the biggest corporations, which they argue is stifling entrepreneurship by making it easier for incumbent businesses to swat away challengers – or else to swallow them before they become a serious threat."

Government Workers To Appeal Judge's Ruling On OPM Data Breach Lawsuit.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Swoyer, 541K) reports that government employees say they will appeal Tuesday's ruling from US District Judge Amy Berman Jackson that "they can't sue for damages from the 2015 Office of Personnel Management data breach." Berman ruled that they "couldn't show the data stolen – including financial, health and other very personal data from some 22 million personnel files – has been used by the hackers." The National Treasury Employees Union filed notice Tuesday that it will appeal the ruling and the American Federation of Government Employees National "said it's considering its next steps."

SEC Says Its Computer System Was Hacked Last Year.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Tejada, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a statement Wednesday "that its computer system had been hacked last year, giving the attackers private information that could have been exploited for trading." The SEC said it was investigating the breach and said the security vulnerability the hackers exploited had been patched shortly after it was discovered. The commission "said it did not believe that the breach had involved personal information or that it would jeopardize the commission's activities."

NYTimes Analysis: Facebook, Google Facing Increased Resistance From Washington.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Kang, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Facebook and Google "were hoping to reach a compromise" this week with Congress over a new bill that would hold companies accountable for hosting sex trafficking on their websites – "an acknowledgment," the Times observes, "that they could not stop the bill entirely because of strong political headwinds." Both companies had argued that although they worked hard to combat sex trafficking, they also argued that the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act "jeopardizes bedrock principles of a free and open internet." The Times adds the companies' shifting position from opposition to compromise "illustrates the changing political reality in Washington" in which technology companies face increased criticism from both Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

In Wake Of "Fail" Over Ads Directed At Racists, Facebook Making Changes. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Maheshwari, Isaac, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that in response "to evidence that its tools had allowed ads to be directed at users who used racist comments or hate speech in their profiles," Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg "said Wednesday that it would change how ads can be targeted. That its ad-targeting tools could be used in such a way was 'a fail' for the company," she "said in a post," adding "that Facebook would add 'more human review and oversight' to its automated systems to prevent further misuse." In addition, Sandberg "said the company would do more to ensure that offensive content – including that which attacks people for their race or religion – could not be used to target ads." Her post "came after a report from ProPublica last week revealed that Facebook's online ad tools had allowed advertisers to target self-described 'Jew haters' or people who had used terms like 'how to burn Jews.'"

Poll: Moore Leads Strange 53%-47% In GOP Primary Runoff.

On its website, [WBRC-TV](#) Birmingham, AL (9/19, Joumey, 23K) reports that a Raycom News Network-Strategy Research Poll of 2,930 likely Alabama Republican voters, taken Sept. 18, shows ex-Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore leading appointed Sen. Luther Strange 53%-47% in the Sept. 26 GOP primary runoff in the special election for the former seat of Attorney General Sessions.

White House, GOP Establishment Mounting Full Court Press To Boost Strange In Runoff. [USA Today](#) (9/20, Berry, 8.62M) reports that national Republicans are "sending money and even manpower to" Alabama for the GOP contest, which "is dividing the party between the conservatives and the even-more-conservatives." USA Today says President Trump is slated to stump for Strange "in Huntsville on Friday, and Vice President Pence is" scheduled to campaign for the incumbent "in Birmingham on Monday. 'I am supporting 'Big' Luther Strange because he was so loyal & helpful to me!' Trump [tweeted](#) Wednesday." Senate Majority Leader McConnell and a super PAC run by his allies are also backing Strange. Meanwhile Sarah Palin "is expected to stump Thursday in Montgomery for...Moore."

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Shelbourne, 1.68M) reported that in a later [tweet](#) on Wednesday, Trump said, "Alabama is sooo lucky to have a candidate like 'Big' Luther Strange. Smart, tough on crime, borders & trade, loves Vets & Military. Tuesday!" In an earlier report, [The Hill](#) (9/20, Bowden, 1.68M) highlighted the President's first Wednesday tweet expressing support for Strange, and added, "In backing Strange, Trump finds himself on the opposite side of former White House strategist Steve Bannon and other conservatives who have thrown their weight behind Moore."

Indeed, in a piece titled "Alabama's Senate Runoff Is The First Battle In The Trump-Bannon Cold War," David Catanese writes for [US News & World Report](#) (9/20, 1.73M), "It just so happens that the Strange-Moore" contest "is now set up to be the first proxy battle in the cold war between Trump and the ousted Bannon." Catanese says that Breitbart, now back under Bannon's guidance, has been posting a number of stories about the runoff – pieces approving of Moore and critical of Strange. Catanese quotes a Bannon "confidante" as saying, "Alabama sent Donald Trump to the White House. It all started in Alabama when Jeff Sessions joined Donald Trump at a rally in Mobile in 2015 and said, 'Welcome to my hometown.' Now Alabama has a chance to send a wake-up call back to Washington

and say to President Trump, 'It's time to right the ship.'"

Breitbart Highlights Strange's "Flip Flop" On Filibuster Rules. Under the headline "Donald Trump Praises 'Loyal' Luther Strange Despite Filibuster Flip Flop," [Breitbart](#) (9/20, Spierling, 2.42M) reported on Trump's first Wednesday tweet praising Strange, then added that "despite Strange's support for most of Trump's agenda, he struggled with the president's desire to kill the 60-vote threshold for the Senate filibuster. In April, Strange signed a letter with senators" urging McConnell and Senate Minority Leader Schumer "to keep the existing Senate tradition of a 60-vote threshold. After struggling in the first round of primary voting, Strange flipped his position, sending a letter to change the filibuster rule."

Moore In New Ad: "The Republican Establishment Has Failed Us." [The Hill](#) (9/20, Greenwood, 1.68M) reported that Moore is launching a statewide ad, in which he "pushes back on 'false negative ads' targeting him and vows to work to repeal the Affordable Care Act, support construction of...Trump's proposed border wall and abolish the Internal Revenue Service." In the spot, Moore says, "The Republican establishment has failed us," adding, "I've fought for this country in Vietnam, I fought against liberal judges in the courtroom and I'll fight for you in the United States Senate, so help me God." The ad also highlights Moore's "endorsements from former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, actor Chuck Norris and 'Duck Dynasty' star Phil Robertson."

Strange's Stake In Firm That Profits From EB-5 Program Draws Scrutiny. [Breitbart](#) (9/20, Mason, 2.42M) reported on "reports Strange is a major stakeholder in a firm that profits from the issuance of visas to rich, mostly Chinese, foreign investors. Reports rolled in Tuesday of Strange's one-sixth ownership in Sunbelt EB-5 Regional Center, LLC, a firm that solicits big money foreign investors to put \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars into projects in the American Southeast in exchange for 'golden visas.'" In a statement to a local TV station, the Strange camp said, "Luther agrees with the Trump administration that there are serious concerns over the EB-5 visa program, which is not being used as originally intended. It's time for Congress to get to work on these issues." Breitbart added, "Despite these 'serious concerns,' Strange has made no indication he is seeking to sell his ownership of the Sunbelt EB-5 firm."

Under the headline "Luther Strange Owns Stake In Company Brokering Green Cards For Wealthy Foreigners," the [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, Racke, 521K) reported that "Strange has touted his credentials as an immigration hawk, enthusiastically backing...Trump's tough immigration enforcement policies." Even so, Strange's "involvement with a company that brokers applications for a controversial visa program opens the door for opponents to question his intentions for immigration policy in Congress."

Austin Barbour Offers Advice To Moore, Strange Camps. In a piece for [Politico Magazine](#) (9/20, Barbour, 3.55M), Austin Barbour, a partner in Strategic Partners & Media, a GOP media firm, says that both Moore and Strange "have plausible paths to victory" and goes on to outline "what they need to do to win." For example, Barbour says that the Strange camp "has to find new voters," and suggests that the candidate "look for people who might be swayed by...Trump's endorsement but who didn't vote in the primary's first round." Barbour's advice for Moore's camp is: "Keep your base motivated, turn them out in the most organized way you can muster, stay hungry and keep working hard."

Biden To Stump For Jones In Birmingham On Oct 3. Meanwhile, the [AP](#) (9/20) reports that ex-Vice President Joe Biden "will come to Alabama next month to campaign for" the Democratic nominee in the special election, former US Attorney Doug Jones. Biden "will headline an Oct. 3 rally in Birmingham." Jones "is perhaps best known for prosecuting Ku Klux Klansmen responsible for killing four young girls in the 1963 bombing of a Birmingham church."

Pence Slated To Hold Fundraising Event In Milwaukee On September 28.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that Vice President Pence is slated to hold a fundraising "event on Sept. 28 at an undisclosed location in Milwaukee. An invitation for the event" says it will "benefit the Trump Victory fund, a joint fundraising committee for President Donald Trump's campaign and the Republican National Committee. It costs \$2,700 per person to attend and \$10,000 to get a photo with Pence. A private dinner with Pence costs \$35,000 per couple and it's \$70,000 to be a part of the host committee."

CHC PAC "Spending Big On Resorts, Restaurants, And Nightclubs" In Las Vegas.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/20, Schoffstall, 158K) reported that the Congressional Hispanic Caucus BOLD PAC, the fundraising arm of the CHC, "is spending big on resorts, restaurants, and nightclubs this year, mainly in Las Vegas, Federal Election Commission filings show." This year, the PAC "has pulled in \$4.4 million in contributions - including more than \$2 million in the first" quarter - "and spent \$2.2 million. As the CHC PAC was in the midst of its

massive fundraising haul, they were spending extravagantly on luxury hotels in Las Vegas while paying hundreds of thousands to consultants." As one of several example, the Free Beacon said the group "reported spending \$6,000 at Aria Resort and Casino while making two separate payments totaling \$19,649.12 for catering at Caesar's Palace in February."

Prosecutors Allege Menendez "Concealed Gifts" He Received From Melgen.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Porter) reports that on Wednesday at the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor Salomon Melgen, jurors heard testimony that Menendez "didn't report free flights and a luxury hotel stay paid for by" Melgen "on Senate disclosure forms over a span of several years." The jury was shown "a clip of a CNN interview Menendez gave in early 2013," in which he discussed "his reimbursement of about \$58,000 to Melgen for some of the flights he took a few years earlier. The delay in reimbursement was because the flights 'unfortunately fell through the cracks' during a time when he was busy with travel on behalf of Senate Democrats and for his own campaign, he" said.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that prosecutors "zeroed in on the charge legal experts say...Menendez may be most vulnerable: He concealed gifts he received from...Melgen." Along with the CNN interview, prosecutors "also showed a January 2013 press release from Menendez's office that said the Democratic senator 'has traveled on Dr. Melgen's plane on three occasions, all of which have been paid for and reported appropriately.'" However, "prosecutors showed a chart with many more flights Menendez had taken on Melgen's private jet, and other travel Menendez undertook that was paid for by Melgen." Politico added, "Legal experts have said the charge that Menendez concealed his gifts from Melgen – just one of 14 charges in the indictment – is the easiest for prosecutors to prove."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Maimon, 10.38M) reports, "With FBI agent Alan Mohl on the stand on Wednesday, prosecutor Monique Abrishami discussed Senate financial disclosure forms showing that Menendez didn't list a single gift from Melgen. Menendez attorney Abbe Lowell countered by asking Mohl to read portions of the forms related to knowingly falsifying information and disclosure exemption rules." Lowell "said prosecutors and the FBI had an extensive amount of time and resources to reconstruct Menendez's travels over the years and questioned why the government wasn't talking about Menendez's trips to Melgen's home in the Dominican Republic in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Mohl said the FBI didn't look at travel records going back that far because Melgen didn't own a private jet until later in the 2000s."

Prosecution, Defense Wrangle Over Definition Of "Constituent." The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the US "Constitution does not specifically designate whom Mr. Menendez can legally count as a constituent, nor has the Supreme Court or any court for that matter offered a ruling defining who, exactly, is a constituent of a United States senator. That ambiguity has injected some intrigue into the" trial, "with both the defense and prosecution debating the meaning of constituent." Prosecutors "argued in a brief filed on Tuesday that 'the straightforward answer is that Senator Menendez's constituents are the New Jerseyans that he was elected to represent in the United States Senate.'" The defense, however, claims "the term was significantly amorphous and that wrestling with its meaning was 'not a legal question for the court to answer' but rather one for the jury to determine, 'because the word potentially bears on defendants' state of mind.'"

Newsbusters: After Describing Menendez Trial As "A Big Deal," CNN Offering Little Coverage. Meanwhile, the [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, Athey, 521K) reported, "On September 6, CNN anchor Poppy Harlow said the [Menendez] trial 'is a big deal...because this is the first bribery case involving a sitting US Senator in over three decades' and her co-anchor John Berman asserted, 'we will follow this case very, very closely.' However, Newsbusters [discovered](#) that CNN has only given the trial 14 minutes and 11 seconds of coverage since the trial began two weeks ago, and they have only mentioned it one time since September 7." The Daily Caller added, "ABC, CBS, and NBC have given even less time to the trial since September 5, combining for a total of less than two and a half minutes."

Majority Of Californians Have Considered Moving Because Of Costly Housing.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, McPhate, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that a new UC Berkeley poll of 1,200 California residents found that 56 percent of respondents and a majority of respondents in every major region of the state have considered moving as a result of rising housing costs. About a third of the state's residents "spend most of their income on housing costs."

FiveThirtyEight Analysis: Trump Looms Over Flake-Ward Primary Clash.

Writing at [FiveThirtyEight](#) (9/20, Malone, 384K), Clare Malone discussed ex-state Sen. Kelli Ward's 2018 primary

challenge to Sen. Jeff Flake, saying that "the Washington Post called it a 'proxy war' between [President Trump] and the GOP establishment." Some contend a Ward victory "would be an assertion of Trump's power against the establishment, another notch in the belt for the Trumpification of the party – more economic nationalism and an anti-immigrant bent." However, members of "the Arizona Republican establishment scoff at this notion, noting that primaries in the state have often entertained an antiestablishment element – the state has a long tradition of populism and libertarianism."

Poll Shows Stabenow Leading Kid Rock 52%-34% In Hypothetical Matchup.

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (9/20, Spangler, 1.07M) reports that a Marketing Resource Group poll of 600 Michigan likely voters, taken Sept. 13-18, shows Sen. Debbie Stabenow leading musician Kid Rock 52%-34% in a hypothetical 2018 matchup. Kid Rock, whose given name is Robert Ritchie, has been teasing a potential challenge to Stabenow. If he enters the contest, it's widely expected he'd run as a Republican. The Free Press says that the results of the MRG survey are "a far cry from a Trafalgar Group poll in July that had Kid Rock" leading 49%-46%. Another poll, "done by Target Insyght in July, had Stabenow ahead of Kid Rock 50%-42%."

"Inside Sources" Say Upton "90 Percent" Decided On A Challenge To

Stabenow. On its website, [WLNS-TV](#) Lansing, MI (9/20, Skubick) reported that Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI) "is very close to" challenging Stabenow in next year's election. According to "inside sources," Upton "is already 90 percent there but he's still crossing the t's and dotting the i's." WLNS-TV added that Upton "is in no hurry and might make the decision in October."

Corker Will Face Primary Challenge If He Seeks Reelection.

[Roll Call](#) (9/20, Pathé, 134K) reported that Sen. Bob Corker on Tuesday said he's yet to decide if he'll seek reelection next year, "and he wouldn't comment on reports that [President] Trump asked him to run for re-election at their meeting last week. He's already facing at least one declared primary challenger," Andy Ogles, the former state director of Americans for Prosperity, the political arm of the Koch brothers. However, if Corker seeks reelection, he "can find solace in the fact that there are at least two more Republicans interested in taking him on, which would split the anti-incumbent vote." Roll Call said that ex-state Rep. Joe Carr and ex-state Sen. Mark Green – the latter of whom was nominated by Trump to be secretary of the Army, but withdrew "his name from consideration in May because of past controversial statements" – are possible Senate candidates.

Fox Sports Radio Host Says He May Mount Independent Bid. Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (9/20, Easley, 1.68M) reported that Fox Sports radio host Clay Travis "said Wednesday he will consider running for Senate in Tennessee as an independent," should Corker opt against seeking another term next year. Speaking on his "Outkick the Coverage" program, Travis said, "I think I could get elected," and added, "There has to be no incumbent and Peyton Manning has to not run. Other than that I think I could beat anyone in the state." In mentioning Manning, Travis was "referring to the NFL legend, who won a football national championship at the University of Tennessee."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Giaritelli, 465K) reported that last week, Travis "told CNN he only has faith in the First Amendment and 'boobs.'" The Examiner added that Travis, "who has previously referenced his support for the First Amendment and women's breasts, made it into the national spotlight last week when he told CNN host Brooke Baldwin about his two passions. Baldwin was visibly disturbed by the remark, but others took to Twitter and tweeted support for his unexpected statement."

Justice Indicates He'll Support Manchin's Reelection Bid.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Correll, 465K) reported that Gov. Jim Justice, who was elected as a Democrat but switched to the GOP last month, on Wednesday indicated he's backing Sen. Joe Manchin's 2018 bid for reelection. Asked about the Senate race during a meeting with state GOP lawmakers, Justice replied that Manchin "may be a terrible person to y'all, but Joe has been a friend of mine and I'm going to tell you this as straight up as I can be: Joe Manchin is becoming a very key, integral part with Donald Trump. And I'm going to take my read off of Donald Trump." Justice added, "Joe Manchin is – and I know this – Joe Manchin is Donald Trump's liaison with the Democrats. And you want, and I want, what Donald Trump is trying to get done."

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Bowden, 1.68M) reported that the comments "shocked Republicans in the state and came just hours after West Virginia's GOP chairman told BuzzFeed News that he was confident Justice would be supporting conservative candidates in 2018." The Hill added that Manchin "is one of a number of Senate Democrats up for reelection next year hailing from a state that Trump won in the 2016 presidential election. Trump took West Virginia by a whopping 42 points and many Republicans see Manchin's seat as a prime target for a GOP win."

Poll: Kaine Leads Stewart 53%-36% In Virginia Senate Race.

The [Fauquier \(VA\) Times](#) (9/20, 50K) reported that a University of Mary Washington poll of 1,000 Virginia voters shows Sen. Tim Kaine holding big leads over his potential 2018 GOP rivals. In hypothetical general election matchups, Kaine leads Rep. Scott Taylor (R-VA) 52%-37%; Prince William Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart 53%-36%; and Rep. Dave Brat (R-VA) 54%-36%. Stewart is currently the only announced GOP candidate in the race. In a hypothetical GOP primary matchup, Taylor leads with 20%, followed by Stewart at 12%, and Brat at 9%; the majority of those surveyed were undecided.

Christie Labels Murphy A "Coward" Over Arbitration Cap Issue.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who is term-limited this year, on Wednesday took aim at the frontrunner in the race to succeed him, calling Democrat Phil Murphy "a 'coward' for failing to clarify his position on an expiring provision that affects property tax rates." Christie pressed "Murphy to take a position on the 2 percent interest arbitration cap expiring in December. The cap limits what police and fire officials can get in contract disputes. Property taxes are levied by local governments, which run police and fire departments, and school boards." Polls have shown Murphy leading by wide margins over Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno.

Lummis' Decision Not To Run Throws Wyoming Governor's Race "Wide Open."

The [Casper \(WY\) Star-Tribune](#) (9/20, Rosenfeld, 96K) reports that the 2018 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Matt Mead "has been thrown wide open" in the wake of ex-Rep. Cynthia Lummis' announcement "that she will not enter next year's Republican primary. With strong name recognition across the state and financial resources, Lummis was the heavy favorite to win both the primary and general election if she ran. 'I thought when I returned home that I would run for governor,' Lummis acknowledged in an interview with the Wyoming Tribune Eagle Tuesday." However, Loomis, "who decided not to run for reelection to Congress last year, said that she was enjoying time off from public office." Of Lummis' announcement GOP strategist Bill Novotny told the Star-Tribune, "This is going to open the floodgates. Most of the serious candidates I've spoken to were waiting for her to officially declare her plans."

Los Angeles Officials Prepare For Potential Big Earthquake.

[NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/20, story 6, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M) reported that a study from the US Geological Survey found that the chance of an earthquake magnitude eight or larger near Los Angeles in the next 30 years "has doubled since 2008" – bolstering the city's concern for and desire to prepare for the next large earthquake. Experts "say a major quake along the San Andreas in Southern California fault could kill 1,800 people, injure 53,000, destroy 1,500 buildings, and damage 300,000 more," and a serious quake "could also cripple the city's water supply and take as long as six months to repair." City officials have spent \$14 billion on seismic upgrades to transportation infrastructure, and Mayor Eric Garcetti has received a new "preparedness plan."

"Hundreds Of Non-Citizens" Registered To Vote In Philadelphia Over Past 10 Years.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports, "Hundreds of non-citizens were registered to vote in Philadelphia over the last decade, and at least 90 of them actually ended up casting ballots that should never have been allowed, City Commissioner Al Schmidt said Wednesday, adding more fuel to complaints of bogus voting in US elections. The voters are all self-admitted non-citizens who went back and canceled their registrations later – but not before casting illegal ballots a total of 227 times in elections spanning 2006 to 2007, Mr. Schmidt said." The Times adds, "The data offers a boost to President Trump, who has claimed voters are tainted by non-citizens casting illegal ballots."

Prosecutors: Weiner Deserves Jail Time.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Weiser, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Federal prosecutors said Wednesday that former congressman Anthony Weiner's request for probation and no prison time "for his conviction in a sexting case," is "simply inadequate," and that "his crime deserves time in prison." A sentencing memo from prosecutors seeks "a prison term of 21 to 27 months." The Times adds that when he is sentenced Monday, the "disgraced former Democratic congressman" could receive "up to 10 years in prison on one count of transferring obscene material to a minor, a 15-year-old girl with whom he exchanged lewd texts over several months in early 2016."

Poll: Greater "2016 Election Buyers' Remorse" Among Clinton Voters Than Trump Voters.

Under the headline "Poll: More Hillary Voters Regret Their 2016 Vote Than Trump Voters," Guy Benson wrote at [Townhall](#) (9/20, 523K), "According to a new national Politico/Morning Consult [survey](#), 2016 election buyers' remorse is more prevalent among Hillary Clinton's voters than those who cast ballots for President Trump. 'Among Clinton voters, 13 percent say they would either vote for a different candidate or not vote at all,' the survey finds, while that number among Trump backers is four points lower." Benson provided a link to the poll results, but the data about the Clinton/Trump voters doesn't appear in that version of the survey.

Court To Hear Appeal In Request For Clinton Draft Whitewater Indictment Records.

[McClatchy](#) (9/20, Welsh, 67K) reports, "A federal appeals court will hear a case brought by Judicial Watch on Friday to make public draft indictments of Hillary Clinton from the Whitewater scandal in the 1990s." Judicial Watch is seeking "copies of the documents that the National Archives and Records Administration has declined to release. It filed a FOIA request for the documents in March 2015 and in October 2015 the group sued for the 238 pages of responsive records." McClatchy adds, "The documents in question are alleged drafts of indictments written by Hickman Ewing, the chief deputy of Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel appointed to investigate Bill and Hillary Clinton's alleged involvement in fraudulent real estate dealings."

Leaked Footage Shows MSNBC's O'Donnell Screaming At Staff.

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Delk, 1.68M) reports in its "Blog Briefing Room" blog that outtakes of MSNBC host Lawrence O'Donnell berating staff surfaced online Wednesday, with Mediaite publishing an eight-minute video showing a series of clips in which the host "screams at the crew about malfunctions in his earpiece and distracting noises coming from inside the control room." The clip compilation were apparently taken from the August 29 episode of "The Last Word With Lawrence O'Donnell."

Daines: Allow Forest Management Needed To Stop Forest Fires.

In a [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) op-ed, Sen. Steve Daines writes that environmental lawsuits and excessive regulations "have become barriers to responsible forest management" in the western United States, costing states millions of acres of land lost to forest fires that could have been better contained. Daines argues that forest management reforms should be passed, certain environmental rules should be cut, and the Forest Service budget should be maintained.

Will: National Conversation Empowering "Demagogues."

In his [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) column, George Will writes that the United States has undergone what one UCLA professor described as the "demassification of the mass media" – meaning technology has radically reduced intermediaries and barriers to entry into societal conversation and thus has caused "ignorance, incompetence and intellectual sociopathy" to enter mainstream discussion. Will argues such "cheap speech" is decreasing the relevance of political parties and newspapers, empowering "demagogues," and spurring calls to limit First Amendment protections.

WPost: DC Making Progress Toward Better Youth Rehabilitation.

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) applauds the District of Columbia Council for offering a "comprehensive" and "thoughtful" overhaul of the city's Youth Rehabilitation Act. The new legislation "preserves the worthwhile goal of rehabilitation for defendants 21 or younger" but also tempers "this leniency with common-sense protections for public safety," such as making offensive actions like sexual assault ineligible for the act.

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[Fed Unveils Plan To Pare Holdings, Hints At Another Rate Rise](#)

[Hackers Entered Equifax Systems In March](#)
[States Need \\$645 Billion To Pay Full Health-Care Costs](#)
[The Secret Of Angela Merkel's Longevity: Strategic Flip-Flops](#)

New York Times:

[Mueller Seeks White House Documents Related To Trump's Actions As President](#)
[Hurricane Maria Strikes, And Puerto Rico Goes Dark](#)
[At Mexican School Hit By Quake, Heartbreak And Dwindling Hope](#)
[Trump Pushes To Revisit Iran Nuclear Deal, And Asks Allies To Help](#)
[Insurers Come Out Swinging Against New Republican Health Care Bill](#)
[Confident Fed Sets Stage For December Rate Increase](#)

Washington Post:

[Death Toll In Mexico Rises Amid Search For Missing](#)
[Murkowski Finds Herself In Healthcare Hot Seat Again](#)
[Manafort Email Draws Interest](#)
[Probe Casts Wide Net Toward White House](#)
[No Power In Pummeled Puerto Rico](#)

Financial Times:

[Spanish National Police Raid Catalan Government Headquarters](#)
[Fed Calls Historic End To Quantitative Easing](#)
[Lawmakers Fear Russia's Facebook Meddling Continues](#)
[Toshiba Seals \\$18bn Memory Chip Sale To Bain-Led Group](#)

Washington Times:

[McConnell Pressures Senate Republican Holdouts To Support Last-Ditch Obamacare Repeal Bill](#)
[Iranian President Warns "Ignorant" Trump Not To Withdraw From Nuclear Deal](#)
[Islamic State Changes Battlefield Tactics To Guerrilla Warfare After Losing Territory To Coalition](#)
[Afghanistan Welcomes Trump Plan For Long-Term US Occupation](#)
[DACA Denial Rate Doubles Under Trump Administration](#)
[Clashes Intensify As Spain Tries To Block Catalonia's Secession Referendum](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Mexico City Earthquake; Russia Meddling Investigation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; North Korea Threats; Myanmar-Rohingya Genocide; Yankee Stadium Foul Ball Injury; Family Struck By Lightning; California-Drug Bust; Jake LaMotta Dies; Bone Marrow Donor.

CBS: Hurricane-Caribbean; Mexico City Earthquake; Russia Meddling Investigation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Amazon-Bomb Materials; Yankee Stadium Foul Ball Injury; High School Football-Dangers; Jake LaMotta Dies; San Diego-Hepatitis A Outbreak; New York City-Global Citizen Festival.

NBC: Hurricane-Caribbean; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Mexico City Earthquake 1; Mexico City Earthquake 2; Los Angeles Earthquake Preparation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Trump-Iran Nuclear Deal; Jake LaMotta Dies; Airlines-Extra Fees; Mexico City Earthquake 3.

Network TV At A Glance:

Hurricane – 12 minutes, 25 seconds
Mexico City Earthquake – 11 minutes, 55 seconds
Congress-Healthcare Reform – 6 minutes, 20 seconds
Russia Meddling Investigation – 4 minutes, 30 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricane-Puerto Rico.

CBS: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Mexico City Earthquake; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Fed Reserve-Interest Rate; Jake LaMotta Dies.

FOX: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Trump-Iran Nuclear Deal.

NPR: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Mexico City Earthquake; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Wall Street News.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participates in a meeting with the President of Afghanistan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Ukraine; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of the Republic of Korea; participates in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Turkey.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Participates in an interview with CBS This Morning; participates in an interview with Fox and Friends; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of Afghanistan; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of Ukraine; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of the Republic of Korea; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan.

US Senate: 8:30 AM Senate convenes for pro forma session – Senate convenes for a pro forma session * No votes scheduled in the chamber today or tomorrow Location: Washington, DC <http://www.senate.gov/>

No votes scheduled in the Senate.

US House: 11:00 AM House of Representatives convenes for pro forma session Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

On recess until 25 September.

Other: 10:30 AM Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference continues, themed 'And Still I Rise'. Agenda today includes the Inaugural Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Braintrust hosted by Democratic Rep. Alma Adams (10:30 AM EDT), and National Association of Real Estate Brokers 'State of Housing in Black America' forum, with Democratic Rep. Gregory Meeks (2:00 PM EDT) Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org/alc [#CBCFALC17](https://twitter.com/CBCFInc)

2:00 PM Rwandan President Kagame speaks at Brookings – 'Flagship reforms for a more effective African Union: A conversation with Rwandan President Paul Kagame' Brookings Institution discussion Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.brookings.edu> [#AUREform](https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst)

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

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Secretary and Department News

DeVos Attends Dedication Of Michigan State University Research Building.

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (9/20, 947K) reports Education Secretary Betsy DeVos attended the ribbon cutting of the Michigan State University Grand Rapids Research Center on Wednesday, noting that her "appearance was protested by about two dozen people who said they oppose her stance on school choice and what they described as efforts to 'defund' public schools." The building will house research on cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and Parkinson's disease. MSU President Lou Anna Simon "said the building will house researchers and students dedicated to 'pushing the frontiers of knowledge' and improving 'the quality of life by using the best technology, best science and best connections.'"

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that DeVos "joined Michigan State University officials and other dignitaries to mark the official opening the school's Grand Rapids Research Center," which "is eventually expected to employ 44 research teams." The [Lansing \(MI\) State Journal](#) (9/20, 206K) and [WOOD-TV](#) Grand Rapids, MI (9/20, 170K) also cover this story.

Fordham Report: Traditional Public School Teachers Miss More School Than Charter Teachers.

[Education Week](#) (9/20, Loewus, 127K) reports that according to a new report from the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, “a right-leaning think tank,” “teachers in traditional public schools are much more likely than teachers in charter schools to miss more than 10 days of work.” The analysis found that while some 28% of traditional public school teachers missed over 10 days, only 10% of charter teachers were chronically absent. Education Week quotes lead author and Fordham researcher David Griffith saying, “I think the biggest takeaway is that teacher chronic absenteeism seems to be driven by state policy and local collective bargaining agreements—and possibly to a greater extent than is generally appreciated.” However, National Education Association president Lily Eskelsen Garcia “said in a statement that ‘Fordham is using corrupted assertions to draw misguided conclusions.’”

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/20, 3.55M) reports that the report, which is based on data from ED’s Office for Civil Rights, “comes with remarkable caveats. For one, differences between how individual school districts and states report absenteeism can vary, and the data was not independently verified. The report also uses charter school unionization data from the 2009-2010 school year, and the Office of Civil Rights data is from the 2013-2014 school year.”

State-Level Discord Over ESSA Plans Could Impact Implementation.

Daarel Burnette II writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) “State EdWatch” blog that the political rancor and wrangling within states over their ESSA plans could have lingering effects even though the plans have been submitted now. Burnette explains that as the law is implemented, state DOEs will “ask school districts to create their own ESSA plans. If local superintendents, principals, and teachers don’t think much of the state’s new accountability plan, they could drag their feet on implementation.” Moreover, state legislatures and governors could withhold funding from programs they don’t like, and the average turnover of state schools chiefs is shorter than the projected path to implementation for the initiatives in state ESSA plans.

Florida Submits Plan After Receiving Extension Due To Hurricane. The [Orlando \(FL\) Sentinel](#) (9/20, 603K) reports that Florida Gov. Rick Scott has signed his state’s ESSA plan, sending it along to ED for evaluation. The piece notes that the state was granted an extension on the September 18 deadline because of Hurricane Irma.

Deadline Passes For Feedback On ED’s Regulation Plans.

Alison Klein writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that hundreds of respondents to a call for public feedback from ED have expressed concerns that “scrapping or rewriting federal regulations could mean a serious weakening of students’ civil rights.” The piece explains that after President Trump “tasked DeVos and her team with slimming down the Education Department and getting rid of ‘burdensome’ regulations and guidance,” ED “asked the public for feedback.” Klein writes that many of the respondents, including individuals and a coalition of 43 civil

rights and education groups, “essentially told DeVos not to touch a single regulation, especially rules that help protect children’s civil rights.”

ED Audit Questions New Hampshire’s Handling Of Federal Education Funds.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that an ED audit “of how New Hampshire manages federal education funds found the state has failed to independently monitor schools to ensure they are using the money appropriately.” ED “reviewed 19 areas in a fiscal review of how the state education department administers federal grants last fall.” The report “rated the state satisfactory on eight measures and said it is meeting requirements, but should make improvements in five other areas.”

GAO Report Criticizes ED’s Financial Oversight Of Colleges.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Douglas-Gabriel, 10.38M) reports that the Government Accountability Office has released a report saying that ED “could do more to guard against” the implosion of such schools as ITT Technical Institutes and Corinthian Colleges. The Post explains that ED assesses the financial stability of colleges participating in federal student aid programs every year, including “calculating what’s known as a financial responsibility composite score, a set of ratios derived from a school’s audited financial statements.” However, the GAO report “said the composite score has serious limitations” and “does not reflect updates in accounting practices or incorporate financial metrics, such as available cash, that would offer a broader indication of a school’s health.”

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/20, 3.55M) reports the GAO “is recommending in a report out today that the Education Department update the financial composite score used to measure a college or university’s financial health — a recommendation rejected by the department.” The report says that under the current system, “schools are able to manipulate it by taking out loans to avoid requirements to post letters of credit.”

DeVos To Attend Washington State Fundraiser Next Month.

The [Everett \(WA\) Herald](#) (9/20, 135K) reports Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is scheduled to attend “a \$350-a-person fundraising dinner for the Washington Policy Center” on October 13 in Bellevue, Washington. The piece says DeVos is likely to “encounter a welcoming committee comprised of teachers, parents, students, Democratic politicians and other assorted defenders of public schools that will not be cheering her arrival but jeering her efforts to redesign the federal approach to education.”

Additional Reading

Education Dept. Confirms Initial Approval Of Kaplan, EDMC Deals.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (9/20, 70K)

EDMC Sale Gets Initial Blessing From U.S. Department Of Education.

The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (9/20, Moore, 516K)

Democrats Grill Ed Dept. Nominee.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) (9/20, 70K)

Napolitano Riffs On DeVos, Free Speech, And DACA.

The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (9/20, 43K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Connecticut Governor Malloy Criticizes Republican Education Budget.

The [Hartford \(CT\) Courant](#) (9/20, Megan, 463K) reports Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy “blasted” the education budget proposed by Republicans in the legislature as a “hot mess” and saying, “Their proposal shifts critical aid away from those that need it the most and directs it to those school systems that are in a far better position to handle their challenges.” Sen. Len Fasano (R-North Haven) in reply said Malloy’s statements were “purposely off base” and “self-serving.” Fasano said that “funding from the other grant programs is all rolled into the education cost-sharing grants, distributed to districts according to a formula that takes into account relevant measures such as poverty and the number of students learning English in a district.”

The [Connecticut Mirror](#) (9/20, Rabe Thomas) reports the budget caused “shockwaves” in that the Republicans were able to get their budget passed despite being in the minority in the state House and tied in the state Senate. The result is that although Gov. Malloy “has promised to veto that budget...Democratic legislative leaders and the governor now acknowledge they must negotiate a bipartisan one.”

Wisconsin Governor Vetoes Schools Provision Championed By Public School Supporters And Republicans In Legislature.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Bauer) reports Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker “on Wednesday vetoed 99 parts of the state budget” including a plan to allow “low-spending school districts to raise more money from property taxes.” The AP says Walker’s “vetoes touched on nearly all parts of the” state budget, cutting “\$16.5 million over the next two years.” The vetoed school provision “was championed by public school advocates and the Republican co-chair of the Legislature’s budget-writing Joint Finance Committee.”

Louisiana Association Of Educators Finds Residents Think There Is Too Much Testing.

The [Lafayette \(LA\) Daily Advertiser](#) (9/20, McElfresh, 80K) reports the Louisiana Association of Educators took a poll of 837 Louisianans, finding that “hundreds of Louisiana citizens think there is too much of a focus on standardized testing in the state’s schools.” That was “65 percent of respondents.” In reply, Sydni Dunn, spokeswoman for the Louisiana Department of Education, said the state limits state testing to “2 percent of the minimum time students spend in schools.”

Eighth Grader Develops Device To Make Solar Panels More Efficient.

[Newsday \(NY\)](#) (9/20, Eidler, 1.64M) reports on the Broadcom MASTERS contest for STEM fields, in which Austin Crouchley, 13, is one of 30 finalists after having “researched a way to make solar energy more cost-effective.” He said, “If we can make solar panels more economically sustainable and more efficient, we can actually use solar panels to satisfy basically all of our electric needs in our planet, and that’s very promising.” The contest had 2,500 applicants in “37 states, Puerto Rico and Department of Defense overseas sites.” There were 300 semifinalists and now 30 finalists, who “will compete in Washington, D.C., from Oct. 19-25 for more than \$100,000 in prizes.” Crouchley developed “a simple, low-cost solar tracking device that can be used to increase the efficiency of solar panels.”

Learning Policy Institute Warns Of Growing Teacher Shortage.

Madeline Will writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/20, 127K) “Teaching Now” blog that the “California-based think tank” the Learning Policy Institute hosted a panel discussion on Tuesday about its new analysis titled “Teacher Turnover: Why It Matters and What We Can Do about It.” Researchers and policymakers attending the meeting said that “states and districts must find ways to keep teachers in the profession—or they’re staring down the barrel of a growing teacher shortage.” The group found that around “8 percent of teachers leave the teaching profession each year, and another 8 percent move to a different school, making the overall turnover rate about 16 percent.”

Green Schoolyards May Provide Health Benefits To Kids.

[HealthDay](#) (9/20, Preidt, 11K) reports that “green schoolyards provide benefits in areas such as heart health, weight control, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder...and stress relief” in children, researchers found after summarizing “the findings of prior published studies on the potential benefits of green schoolyards.” The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

South Carolina District Moves To Lift Desegregation Order.

The [Myrtle Beach \(SC\) Online](#) (9/20, Boschult, 76K) reports the Georgetown County, South Carolina school board “unanimously voted Tuesday to file a motion with the U.S. District Court in Charleston to lift” parts of a desegregation order governing the district since 1997. According to the article, board members say the order has prevented the district from “hiring some new teachers in areas where there are teacher shortages” and has forced it “to spend extra time and money compiling information for the Department of Justice that they otherwise wouldn’t have done, the superintendent said.” Attorney David Duff, who represents the district in court, “said the DOJ had agreed after it’s most recent visit that the schools had ended the effects of segregation in the areas of transportation, facilities and extracurricular activities and he was confident the court would lift those parts of the order.”

Fairfax County Superintendent Wants To Diversify Workforce And Reduce Demands On Teachers.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Truong, 10.38M) reports on the new Fairfax County Schools superintendent Scott Braband. He worked in the district until he left “five years ago to lead Lynchburg City Schools.” Now, he’s back and “officials said they’re optimistic he can navigate the intricacies of the district and state without needing to scale the steep learning curve commonly associated with the role.” Braband said he hopes to be able to work on “diversifying the workforce and scaling back demands on teachers.”

New Hampshire District To Hold Diversity Training After Racial Comments Reported.

The [Boston Globe](#) (9/21, Johnson, 969K) reports the Oyster River Cooperative School District in Durham, New Hampshire “is taking steps to educate faculty and staff about diversity after racially charged incidents were reported on a school bus and at its middle school.” Superintendent James Morse said that the state’s Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator will conduct the training sessions, and Morse wants “100 percent of all district faculty, staff, and administrators participate.” Morse said there would also be “a multicultural forum and...a review of...curriculum, policies and procedures regarding how members of the community treat each other.” The action is in response to the reported use of “racial comments” and “racial jokes” in the elementary and middle schools.

Albuquerque Schools Member Denies Knowledge Of Embezzling By Daughter At Charter School.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports in response to a report by the state auditor finding that Julieanne Maestas, formerly assistant business manager at La Promesa Early Learning Center, a charter school, “had deposited over 500 checks worth more than \$475,000 into her personal bank account,” her mother Analee Maestas, a member of the Albuquerque Public Schools education board, said through her lawyer that she “was not aware of any alleged criminal activity involving her daughter.” She also “suggested that her daughter’s substance abuse problems were directly related to issues outlined in the auditor’s report.” The AP adds, “No charges have been filed.”

United Way Program Aimed At Reducing Dropouts Expands In Central Maryland.

The [Annapolis \(MD\) Capital Gazette](#) (9/19, Richman, 90K) reports on a program by United Way of Central Maryland “aimed at stemming school dropout rates” called On Track 4 Success. After apparent success at Maree G. Farring Elementary/Middle School it will be expanded to Benjamin Franklin High School and Meade Middle School. About 8 percent of students in central Maryland “did not graduate from high school last year” with higher numbers “in areas of Baltimore.” The program works by spotting “early signs that a student is struggling...and intervenes.”

Denver Changes Choice System To Ease Participation By Low-income Parents And Undocumented.

The [Denver Post](#) (9/20, Asmar, 817K) reports Denver Public Schools “is making changes to its nationally recognized school choice system,” in order “to make it easier for low-income parents to navigate and to assuage fears of undocumented families.” Part of the change is “a new, mobile-friendly school information website,” another is to “eliminate a requirement that families show ‘proof papers.’”

California Kindergartner Suspended For Saying Backpack Might Explode.

The [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (9/20, 349K) reports that the parents of a five-year-old student at Great Valley Academy in Modesto, California are “upset” that the school suspended him “for making terroristic threats” after he “refused to remove his backpack, telling a teacher there was a bomb in it that would explode if he took it off.” The [Huffington Post](#) (9/20, Golgowski, 5.74M) reports that the parents are “speaking out” and are calling for the incident to be removed from his permanent record.

Additional Reading

Student Shot At Mattoon High School In Central Illinois; Another Student In Custody.

The [Chicago Tribune](#) (9/20, Press, 1.98M)

Harford Schools Implementing New Accountability Program.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (9/20, 706K)

Here's What Carmen Fariña's Top Deputies Have On Their Plates This School Year.

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/20)

Three Things We Learned About The State Of School Segregation In Memphis.

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/20)

Petition Calls For Charleston Schools Superintendent's Firing.

The [Charleston \(SC\) Post and Courier](#) (9/20, 269K)

Maryland Education Department Will Specially Train Principals At Failing Baltimore Schools.

[WBFF-TV](#) Baltimore (9/20)

Post-Secondary Education

California State University Faculty Oppose Changes In Remedial, Math Instruction.

[EdSource](#) (9/19) reports that faculty members at California State University are “rebellious” against plans to change remedial education and math requirements, calling for a delay of at least a year. Though school officials show “no indication of slowing down,” if the CSU governing board “agrees with the faculty, one of the most ambitious education reform efforts in California higher education in decades could be delayed or overhauled.”

Report: California College Students Borrow Less Than Nearly All Other States.

[EdSource](#) (9/19) reports that according to a new report from The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS), California college graduates “finish school with some of the lowest average debt in the nation.” The report “shows that 53 percent of students who started at a four-year, not-for-profit college in California and graduated there in 2016 had incurred any student debt and that their average loan total was \$22,744.” The piece says this data reinforces “a long trend of relatively modest student debt in California.” Researchers cite “a strong tradition of public university attendance, relatively low tuition at the CSU system and generous state financial aid.”

Michigan Borrowing Mainly Steady. The [Detroit Free Press](#) (9/20, 1.07M) reports that the report indicates that “the average Michigan graduate with loans owes \$30,852 in student loans,” saying this is “almost the same as the class of 2015, which owed \$30,045.”

UC President: Security For “Free Speech Week” Will Be Costly.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Wermund, 3.6M) reports that University of California President Janet Napolitano says that the “Free Speech Week” event planned at UC Berkeley this month “will be an expensive test for the school that has become the center of debate over free speech on college campuses.” The event is being planned by “far right provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos” and will feature former White House adviser Steve Bannon. Napolitano said Wednesday that the UC system “will take the unprecedented step of helping Berkeley cover the ‘substantial’ security costs” which she said are “necessary to ensure free speech on campus.”

Additional Reading

UT’s Four-year Graduation Rate Reaches A Record.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (9/20, Ellis, 1.97M)

Other Washington News

Sources: Trump “Leaning Against” Re-Certifying Iran Deal.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/20, story 8, 0:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported, “President Trump says he’s made up his mind about the Iran nuclear deal, but he’s not saying if the US will stay in the agreement.” However, four sources tell NBC News that Trump is “leaning against re-certifying Iran’s compliance with the deal.” On its website, [NBC News](#) (9/20, 3.46M) reports such a move would put “the decision of whether the US will withdraw from the accord in the hands of Congress, according to four sources – including one senior administration official.” NBC says that “such a move would come prior to an Oct. 15 deadline and would trigger a 60-day window for lawmakers to determine whether to reimpose sanctions.” Still, “several of the sources caution the president could change his mind over the next three weeks.”

On Wednesday, the [New York Times](#) (9/20, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports President Trump said that he has made a decision on the future of the Iran deal, “but declined to tell reporters what it was.” Speaking to reporters, Trump said, “I have decided,” repeating the phrase “three times.” Pressed by reporters, he added: “I’ll let you know. I’ll let you know.” The Times notes that while Trump has already certified Iran’s compliance twice, he “has made clear that he is reluctant to certify compliance a third time, citing destabilizing activities by Iran that are not directly covered by the agreement.”

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Boyer, 541K) and [Politico](#) (9/20, Nelson, 3.6M) also report briefly on Trump’s remarks, while [USA Today](#) (9/20, Jackson, 8.62M) says Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, in his remarks to the UN General Assembly on Wednesday, “said Trump is the one threatening to violate the agreement – and that the former New York businessman is making unfounded accusations.” Said Rouhani, “It will be a great pity if this agreement were to be destroyed by ‘rogue’ newcomers to the world of politics: the world will have lost a great opportunity.”

Another [USA Today](#) (9/20, Michaels, Dorell, 8.62M) report notes that Rouhani “did not mention Trump by name...but his remarks were clearly directed at the US president,” and the [AP](#) (9/20, Peltz, Lederer) too says the remarks were “clearly directed” at Trump. [Bloomberg News](#) (9/20, Foroohar, Nasser, 4.52M) says the Iranian leader “rejected any US-led effort to alter the 2015 nuclear agreement,” and the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Morello, 10.38M) reports Rouhani “blasted” Trump for his “ignorant, absurd and hateful” speech before the General Assembly a day earlier.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Lee) says the “jabbing” between Trump and Rouhani “set the stage for a contentious meeting of the nuclear accord’s parties” on Wednesday on the sidelines of the General Assembly, including Secretary of State Tillerson and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. The AP says that “a year ago, such a get-together would have been considered routine,” but “in the current environment, it is anything but ordinary.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Stokols, Schwartz, Peker, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports Tillerson said late Tuesday that the US would remain a part of the agreement only if it is modified to tighten restrictions on Iran’s nuclear program that loosen after the year 2025 under the deal. [Reuters](#) (9/20, Hafezi, Holland) reports that a “source familiar with the US discussions” said the Administration is “also considering ways to leave the agreement intact, sanction Iran for its missile tests and support for extremist groups, and then seek to strengthen the pact.”

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Persons, 541K) reports White House press secretary Sarah Sanders “hinted” Wednesday that Trump “might make changes to the Iran nuclear deal soon.” When asked what type of announcement Trump may be planning, Sanders told Fox News that “plans may change” for the current deal, and that Trump will take “actions” to “fix the mistakes of being part of that deal on the front end.” She did not, however, say when an announcement with his plans could be expected.

“Sources” To Free Beacon: Tillerson, Haley “At Odds” Over Deal. In what the [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/20, Kredo, 158K) calls a “sign of the ongoing internal dissent over ending” the agreement, “multiple sources” told the Free Beacon that Tillerson and Ambassador Haley “have been at odds over the deal,” with Haley “privately expressing dismay with Tillerson over his continued efforts to preserve the nuclear agreement.” Tillerson and Haley “held a private powwow Wednesday with international leaders regarding the future of the nuclear deal, a sign of Haley’s vital role” in the issue.

After Wednesday’s meeting, the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Morrongiello, 465K) reports Tillerson told reporters, “We had a very open and candid exchange with all of the parties to the agreement. We clearly have significant issues with the agreement.” He also confirmed that Trump has reached a decision on recertifying Iran’s compliance with the agreement, but “declined to disclose the details of it.”

Paul Wants US To Stay In Agreement. In an interview with [Politico](#) (9/20, Kim, 3.6M) Wednesday, Sen. Rand Paul, who opposed the nuclear deal with Iran two years ago, said he wants the US to stay in the agreement because he believes evidence shows that Iran has been complying with its terms. “Most of the complaints about Iran don’t have anything to do with the agreement. They complain about ballistic missiles and other things, but that’s not part of the agreement,” Paul told Politico. “I think while the agreement’s not perfect, my main concern has always been compliance. But if they’re complying with it, I think we should stay in it.”

Panetta Defends Deal, Rice Blasts Trump. Former CIA Director Leon Panetta said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/20, 1.02M) the concerns about the Iran nuclear deal are “understandable,” but “the fact is we do have an agreement” that has “been effective at preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapon,” and “we have evidence that Iran has abided by that agreement.” Panetta said that if Trump withdraws, “he has to think seriously about the fact that at some point down the road he will bear responsibility for Iran getting a nuclear weapon.”

The [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, 521K) reports former national security advisor Susan Rice “didn’t mince words” Wednesday when criticizing Trump’s speech at the UN. Rice was “especially unhappy” with Trump’s insistence that the Iran nuclear deal is a “one-sided deal” and “an embarrassment” to the US. Said Rice, “We could begin a process of dialogue on what comes next after the deal. But we can’t do that when hurling threats, when threatening to walk out, when acting like a spoiled child at the dinner table.”

EU Official: Iran Deal “Working.” The [AP](#) (9/20) reports EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said Wednesday that all parties to the Iran nuclear deal “agree that the accord is being implemented as planned and US complaints about other Iranian behavior should be discussed outside the context of the agreement.” Speaking to reporters in New York, Mogherini said the deal “is working and is delivering for its purpose.”

Macron: If US Scraps Deal, World Could Face Another North Korea Crisis. [USA Today](#) (9/20, Ullmann, 8.62M) reports French President Emmanuel Macron urged President Trump

Wednesday “to stick with the Iran nuclear deal” because “what else do we have? We would be put in the North Korea situation.” Macron told a group of editors and reporters in New York that without the current agreement, Tehran “would be able to rush ahead with a nuclear weapons program the way North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un is, creating a new international crisis.”

Media Analyses: Trump’s Criticism Of Iran Deal Poses Problems For North Korea

Strategy. An [AP](#) (9/20, Pennington) analysis says Trump’s threat “to obliterate North Korea left no doubt about his determination to stop the communist country’s nuclear weapons buildup,” and “his disparagement of the Iran nuclear deal in the same speech offered Pyongyang little hope of a negotiated solution.” While Trump said, “It is time for North Korea to realize that the denuclearization is its only acceptable future,” the AP says he “offered no path toward making that future a reality.”

David Sanger similarly writes in a [New York Times](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis that the “dynamics” of the two cases “are entirely different, but they are also oddly interdependent. If Mr. Trump makes good on his threat to pull out of the 2015 nuclear agreement with Iran, how will he then convince the North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un, that America will honor the commitment to integrate North Korea into the world community if only it disarms – the demand Mr. Trump made from the podium of the United Nations.”

Security Firm: US Aviation, Energy Companies Targeted By Iranian Hackers. [USA Today](#) (9/20, Weise, 8.62M) reports that a “suspected Iranian hacking group has been targeting aviation and energy companies in the United States, Saudi Arabia and South Korea since 2013,” computer security company FireEye said in a report released Wednesday. The group “seems largely to have engaged in stealth spying to give Iranian military and corporate interests information about possible enemies and competition.” However, the researchers also found “signs of links to malicious software called SHAPESHIFT capable of destroying data within a company’s network.” FireEye cautioned that it had “not directly observed the hackers carry out any destructive operations, but the capability appears to be present.”

Carson: Harvey, Irma Recoveries Will Take “Years.”

HUD Secretary Carson told reporters Wednesday that federal aid to communities impacted by hurricanes Harvey and Irma is weeks or months away “from starting to flow as the painstaking process of assessing damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure is far from finished,” [USA Today](#) (9/20, King, 8.62M) reports. Carson said, “What I’ve seen has really been a catastrophe, an unprecedented amount of damage from natural disasters which means we need an unprecedented response. ... Funding allocations are an overriding priority. We want to move the compensation into people’s hands as quickly as possible. But despite our best efforts, that of course will take some time.” Carson added, “HUD is in this for the long haul. ... We know that this is a recovery that’s going to take years – could be many years – and we’re prepared to be here for the long run.”

Ryan Expects More Hurricane Aid To Be Approved In October.

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Marcos, 1.68M) reports in its “Floor Action” blog that House Speaker Ryan said Wednesday that Congress “will approve more emergency aid in October to help communities affected by recent hurricanes.” Speaking at a news conference in Florida during a tour of areas hit by

Hurricane Irma, Ryan “said lawmakers are still waiting for official estimates of how much money will be needed before crafting another funding package.” Ryan said, “As we assess and we get more information from the administration, I’m sure that we’re going to do another what we call a ‘supplemental’ sometime in October once we have a full assessment of what is needed.” The [Miami Herald](#) (9/20, Smiley, 701K) quotes Ryan as saying, “What matters most is the Disaster [Relief] Fund at FEMA is full and it can respond. That’s why just a few weeks ago we made sure that the FEMA funds were there because the spend-down rate was accelerating very quickly as opposed to other hurricanes.”

All Of Puerto Rico Without Power As Hurricane Maria Makes Landfall.

Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico Wednesday causing extensive damage. All three network news broadcasts led with the story Wednesday evening and it garners heavy print coverage this morning. Much of the coverage focuses on the devastation in Puerto Rico, but damage to Dominica and the storm’s path towards the Dominican Republic and Turks and Caicos also garner coverage.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/20, lead story, 3:15, Holt, 16.61M) reported in its lead story that in Puerto Rico “hundreds of homes are damaged or destroyed, streets are flooded, and 100 percent of that US island is without power after Hurricane Maria slammed ashore with 155-mile-an-hour winds.” In its lead story, the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/20, lead story, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Maria made landfall “as a Category 4 and touched off catastrophic flooding. The storm is moving away from Puerto Rico tonight, toward the Dominican Republic, and tomorrow, the Bahamas.” CBS (Begnaud) added that “despite the devastation, no deaths or injuries have been reported, so far.” Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello “is telling people to stay calm, but he’s warning that the island is on the verge of losing communication.” Rossello “is asking for generators to be shipped from the mainland here to the island to help restore power as a dusk-to-dawn curfew has just gone into effect.”

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/20, lead story, 2:55, Oquendo, 14.63M) reported in its lead story that Puerto Rico’s emergency management director says “the entire island is destroyed.” Many homes on the island were “not built to withstand any hurricane, let alone a Category 4.” According to officials, “many areas will be uninhabitable for weeks, maybe even months.” Rossello said on [CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360](#) (9/20, 1.44M), “The damage is very extensive. It is nothing short of a major disaster. We have a lot of flooding, a lot of infrastructure damage. Our tell communications system is partially down. Our energy infrastructure is completely down.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that while Rossello said “more than 500 shelters had been opened...he could not vouch for the storm-worthiness of all of those structures.” In what the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, De Córdoba, De Avila, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) calls an apparent effort to prevent looting, Rossello announced via tweet that he is imposing a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew from Wednesday to Saturday. Rossello wrote, “I am making a call for calm, understanding and prudence during these difficult days for Puerto Rico.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/20, Hennessy-Fiske, Lee, 4.49M) reports that a statement from the White House said “that President Trump is continuing to monitor the situation and that he and First Lady Melania Trump ‘send their thoughts and prayers to all those in harm’s way.’” White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said on [Fox News’ Fox & Friends](#) (9/20, 1.76M), “FEMA Director Brock Long has been working alongside all the state and local officials really trying to make sure we put as

many resources in place as possible. Thanks to technology we have a lot more leeway on the front end of a lot of these storms that are allowing us to preposition resources. The federal government is doing all we can to help people in both, you know, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and other surrounding islands as these storms are moving in.”

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Schmidt, 10.38M) says recovery efforts “could be hampered by long-standing financial problems that led the territorial government to file for a form of bankruptcy in May.” Puerto Rican Rep. Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon expressed a similar concern on [CNN's The Lead](#) (9/20, 1.13M), saying, “I spoke last night with Vice President Mike Pence and FEMA Director Brock Long and other members of cabinet regarding how are we going to put Puerto Rico back on track considering the financial situation Puerto Rico got in the recent years. And, thank God, Vice President Pence conveyed the message of the President of the United States and the whole government is going to be helping out the island. As a matter of fact, there are more than 400 rescue teams and federal employees from all over the nation waiting until it is safe to go outside and begin the search and rescue already on the island.”

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Faiola, 10.38M) reports that a “direct hit” by Maria “caused massive damage to homes and buildings, washed out roads, upended water pipelines and left at least seven people dead” in Dominica. According to official estimates, “70 to 80 percent of Dominica’s structures sustained storm damage, ranging from ripped-off roofs to near-total destruction.” The Post adds that “intact public buildings were being converted into emergency shelters for scores of homeless residents.”

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/20, story 2, 0:55, Muir, 14.63M) reported that Maria’s center is currently about 75 miles east of the Dominican Republic. While it’s a category two storm, it “may very well strengthen” as it heads to Turks and Caicos. Al Roker said on [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/20, story 3, 1:00, Holt, 16.61M) that the Dominican Republic will get “four to six feet of surge, 8 to 16 inches of rain.” Turks and Caicos, meanwhile, “may be the next really big devastated area with 125 mph winds, a storm surge of nine to 12 feet and nine to 16 inches.”

Sewer Systems Unable To Handle Hurricanes’ Rain, Flooding.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, King, Bauerlein, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports on the impact hurricanes Harvey and Irma had on aging sewer systems that were unable to handle the heavy rainfall and flooding. In Texas alone, Harvey destroyed two wastewater treatment facilities in Harris County and eight such facilities are still not operational in five counties including Harris .

Hundreds Seek Aid At East Naples Recovery Assistance Center.

The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (9/20, Riley, 142K) reports that Sen. Marco Rubio's office hosted a recovery assistance center in East Naples, Florida Wednesday to which “hundreds affected by Hurricane Irma’s winds and storm surge flocked to...seek help from federal authorities, browse insurance options and load up on supplies.” According to a FEMA spokeswoman, the center “functioned as a ‘one-stop shop’ for residents looking for financial assistance.”

Agency: Florida Nursing Home “A Danger To Every Person On Its Premises.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Yee, Fink, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration has found that the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills, where eight residents died following Hurricane Irma, “presents a danger to every person on its premises’ and must close after staff at the facility failed to call 911 for its overheated patients.” The nursing home was also “rebuked” for “entering normal vital signs, or mildly elevated temperatures, into the medical records of several residents after they had already been evacuated or, in one case, had already died.” The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (9/20, Sarkissian, 142K) reports that “the nursing home filed a complaint in Leon County Circuit Court arguing it had followed an emergency plan overseen by Broward County as it prepared for Irma.” According to the lawsuit, nursing home staff “did everything possible to seek help from Florida Power & Light to restore power to its air conditioning system knocked out by the storm,” and “called 911 as patients’ conditions deteriorated due to the heat, according to the lawsuit.”

The [Miami Herald](#) (9/20, Klas, 701K) highlights a psychiatric hospital's efforts to seek assistance in advance of the storm. The facility sent an email “to a Broward County commissioner, whose office was closed” and who “didn’t get the message until days later.” The Herald says the email “raises doubts about the state’s strategy for helping elder-care operators brace for a looming catastrophe.” Gov. Rick Scott “gave out a private cell phone number to the caregivers,” and “said give us a call if you have a problem.” Many did so, “including the Hollywood Hills nursing home,” which “made multiple calls to the cell phone and to a separate state information hotline set up to deal with storm-related emergencies.” The nursing home “reported the electrical breakdown and indicated the situation was becoming increasingly urgent,” the calls “fail[ed] to yield any substantive help,” and have resulted in sharp criticism from the governor’s office, which said the nursing home never reported that lives were in jeopardy.”

Brown Calls For National System Of First Responder Caches.

In an op-ed for [The Hill](#) (9/20, 1.68M), former FEMA Director Michael Brown writes that FEMA should expand its Task Force Equipment caches, which “are designed to provide first responders with medical, rescue, communications, technical support and logistics for teams to be self-sufficient up to 72 hours in a disaster zone.” Expanding the “strategic thinking” behind the caches, he argues, “would not only speed up FEMA response (and as fast as FEMA is currently responding, every first responder wants to be able to respond even faster) but would reduce last-minute ramp ups from the private sector – which always cost a premium.” Brown calls on Congress and FEMA to “outline a plan to create a nationwide system of first responder caches,” which “should be fully funded, separate and apart from the Disaster Relief Fund.”

Trump: Graham-Cassidy “At 47 Or 48” Senate Votes Right Now.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Werner) reports that President Trump said Wednesday that “the Republicans’ last-resort ‘Obamacare’ repeal effort remains two or three votes short, forecasting days of furious lobbying ahead with a crucial deadline looming next week.” Trump told reporters that “by his reckoning, ‘we’re at 47 or 48 already, senators, and a lot of others are looking at it very positively.’” [Reuters](#) (9/20,

Mason) reports that Trump also said, "I thought that when I won, I would go to the Oval Office, sit down at my desk, and there would be a healthcare bill on my desk, to be honest. And it hasn't worked out that way. And I think a lot of Republicans are embarrassed by it."

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (9/20, 1.76M) that "we have to have a program that actually works and we know that that's not Obamacare. It's simply not sustainable. It's collapsing. There's many markets where they don't even have providers anymore. We have got to get a system in place that actually works for all Americans."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Howell, 541K) reports that a vote will take place next week, according to a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader McConnell. [Politico](#) (9/20, Everett, 3.6M) reports, "The bill does not yet have the public support of 50 senators, but GOP insiders are growing more confident it will pass." Sen. John Thune said on [Fox News Special Report](#) (9/20, 1.99M), "We are a handful of votes short of having the 50 that we need. ... I think we're going to be working very hard over the course of the next few days to try and get to 50 so we can get this across the finish line." Karl Rove writes in his [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) column that the bill could reach 50 votes, making GOP repeal promises a reality.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Peterson, Radnofsky, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Trump urged Republicans to back the measure, [tweeting](#), "I hope Republican Senators will vote for Graham-Cassidy and fulfill their promise to Repeal & Replace ObamaCare. Money direct to States!" He also criticized Sen. Rand Paul, an opponent of the bill, [tweeting](#), "Rand Paul is a friend of mine but he is such a negative force when it comes to fixing healthcare. Graham-Cassidy Bill is GREAT! Ends Ocare!"

Trump also [tweeted](#), "I would not sign Graham-Cassidy if it did not include coverage of pre-existing conditions. It does! A great Bill. Repeal & Replace." However, [Axios](#) (9/20, Owens, 303K) reports that the bill "does allow states to waive the ACA's ban on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums than healthy people."

On the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/20, story 4, 2:05, Mason, 11.17M), Nancy Cordes reported, "Republicans Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham sprinted from meeting to meeting today...trying to close the sale on the party's last, best shot at replacing Obamacare." The Graham-Cassidy bill "would keep Obamacare's taxes in place, but turn most of the revenues over to the states to come up with their own healthcare systems." The [AP](#) (9/20, Woodward) reports that Graham called the bill he co-authored "a 'historic opportunity' and asserted: 'We're going to vote. Everyone will be held accountable.'" [Roll Call](#) (9/20, McIntire, 134K) says the measure "would dramatically restructure the individual health insurance market by giving states block grants to fund health insurance coverage," and would "transition traditional Medicaid, which is an entitlement, to a system that gives states a capped amount of funding based on their Medicaid population."

[Roll Call](#) (9/20, Williams, 134K) reports, "Republican senators face the prospect of retreating from their previous public stances in order to support [the] fast-moving legislation." [The Hill](#) (9/20, Carney, 1.68M), the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Weaver, 465K), and [Breitbart](#) (9/20, Moran, 2.42M) briefly report on the announcement of the upcoming vote.

Murkowski Again In Spotlight As Vote Approaches. The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, A1, Sullivan, 10.38M) reports that Sen. Lisa Murkowski is again the spotlight as "one of at least four Republicans who remain unsure whether to support" the bill. Murkowski "regularly breaks with her party – yet she is also willing to play ball. 'The problem last time was process and substance,'

Murkowski said Tuesday...explaining why she might be willing to support the current measure despite voting against the last one in July. 'Nobody knew what we were really looking to in voting on.'

Congressional correspondent Phil Mattingly said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/20, 1.02M) that GOP leaders are "gathering information and specific asks from specific senators that will change this bill in an effort to try and get them on board. Most notably though they're targeting Lisa Murkowski." Murkowski met Wednesday with Graham and Cassidy "to figure out exactly what this bill would do to Alaska and what Republican leaders and Administration officials can do to make sure the state is not disproportionately affected by this massive change in the US healthcare system."

Johnson: Bill Would Shift Power To States. Sen. Ron Johnson writes in [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M), "Obamacare was never designed to be patient-friendly. In fact, one of the key tenets of Obamacare is taking power away from patients and local officials. Obamacare gives this decision-making power to the federal government." Graham-Cassidy "would change that by block-granting Obamacare spending to states, empowering those closest to their communities to provide effective solutions."

Lanhee Chen of the Hoover Institution writes in the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) that the bill's federalism is its most appealing component. However, Avik Roy of the Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity, a former policy adviser to several GOP presidential candidates, writes in the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M), "Cassidy-Graham, in its current form, would put a heavy Washington hand on the federalism steering wheel. The bill would make it relatively easy for blue states to expand the role of single-payer health care, while making it rather difficult for red states to achieve market-oriented reforms."

Schumer, Pelosi Working To Defeat Measure. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) looks at how Senate Minority Leader Schumer and House Minority Leader Pelosi, who "have forged what may be the most surprisingly potent partnership in Mr. Trump's Washington," are now attempting to kill Graham-Cassidy. But both said Trump "was noncommittal."

Christie Opposes Bill. [Politico](#) (9/20, Jennings, 3.6M) reports that Gov. Chris Christie said Wednesday, "I oppose Graham-Cassidy because it is too injurious to the people of New Jersey. I'm certainly not going to support a bill that takes nearly \$4 billion from people in the state."

BCBS Association, AHIP Announce Opposition. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Pear, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that "the two major trade groups for insurers," the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and America's Health Insurance Plans, "came out forcefully" against the bill on Wednesday, "suggesting that its state-by-state block grants could create health care chaos in the short term and a Balkanized, uncertain insurance market."

Avalere Health Analysis: 34 States Would Lose Federal Funding. The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Goldstein, Eilperin, 10.38M) reports that an analysis by Avalere Health concludes that Graham-Cassidy "would sharply reduce federal spending on health insurance and cause 34 states to lose such funding. ... States with relatively low medical costs, skimpy Medicaid benefits and no program expansion would win out. Texas would gain more than any state – \$35 billion from 2020 through 2026."

Cassidy Says Kimmel "Does Not Fully Grasp The Bill." The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Rogers, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "Hours after Jimmy Kimmel unleashed a monologue attacking" Graham-Cassidy, the two senators "spent Wednesday morning defending the legislation against the late-night host, who in recent months has become an unlikely – and increasingly

impassioned – critic.” Kimmel “delivered an earnest monologue on Tuesday evening,” accusing Cassidy “of failing to deliver on several key issues, including lowering premiums, expanding coverage, banning lifetime caps and not discriminating based on pre-existing conditions.” Cassidy told Fox News that “Kimmel did not fully grasp the bill.” Graham said on the same network, “I understand the emotional nature of having a sick child. ... I bet he looked at some liberal talking point, bought it hook, line and sinker, and went after Bill Cassidy without talking to him.” Cassidy said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (9/20, 1.08M), “There will be more people covered...than are under status quo and we protect those with pre-existing conditions.” Graham said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (9/20, 2.02M), “Our bill requires preexisting illnesses to be covered in the block grant.”

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/20, story 5, 2:05, Muir, 14.63M), Mary Bruce reported, “Cassidy promised he would defend protections for people with preexisting conditions. But now, Kimmel says he’s not living up to his word.” [Politico](#) (9/20, Diamond, 3.6M) writes, “In the war of words between Jimmy Kimmel and Sen. Bill Cassidy, the late-night host has the better grasp of health policy, health care analysts say.” Experts say “that Kimmel’s assessment was basically accurate because of the flexibility the bill gives states to set up their own health care systems.” [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/20, story 7, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M) and [Bloomberg News](#) (9/20, Dennis, Tracer, 4.52M) also report on Kimmel’s remarks and Cassidy’s response.

Obama: “50th Or 60th” ACA Repeal Effort Is “Aggravating.” [USA Today](#) (9/20, Estepa, 8.62M) reports that former President Obama, addressing the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on Wednesday, said, “When I see people trying to undo that progress for the 50th or 60th time, with bills that would raise costs or reduce coverage, or rollback protections for older Americans or pre-existing conditions – the cancer survivor, the expecting mom or the child with autism or asthma, for whom coverage would once again be almost unattainable – it is aggravating. And all of this being done without any economic or actuarial or plain common sense rationale.” [The Hill](#) (9/20, Carney, 1.68M) reports that Graham replied, “It’s no surprise President Obama opposes sending money and power back to the states and closer to where the patients live. Obamacare was designed with the exact opposite goal in mind – which is to consolidate healthcare power and decision-making in Washington.”

USA Today: Graham-Cassidy “Would Be Poison.” [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M) runs an editorial headlined “Last-Ditch Obamacare Repeal Would Be Poison,” writing, “This measure would strip tens of millions of people of their health coverage. It would gut Medicaid,” and would “allow insurers in some states to deny coverage based on a previous medical condition. And it would allow insurers to skip coverage of essential services, including maternity care. That’s all bad enough, but the Graham-Cassidy measure adds a new level of cynicism...with states that vote largely Republican faring far better than Democratic ones.”

Illinois Submits Big ACA Rate Increases.

The [Chicago Tribune](#) (9/20, Schencker, 1.98M) reports that a new analysis from the Illinois Department of Insurance found that hundreds of thousands of Illinois consumers “who buy health insurance on the state’s Obamacare exchange will likely see average rates increase by 16 percent to 37 percent next year for the lowest-priced plans.” According to the analysis of expected rates submitted by the department, Illinois consumers “will also see less competition among insurance providers on the exchange.”

Poll: 49 Percent Of Voters Support Single-Payer.

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Savransky, 1.68M) reports that a new Politico/Morning Consult poll of 1,994 registered voters found that 49 percent of respondents “support a single-payer health care system in which ‘Americans would get their health insurance from one government plan.’” Thirty-five percent of respondents opposed single-payer.

Report: States Short \$645 Billion On Healthcare Costs.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, A1, Gillers, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that states have promised to pay \$645 billion more in retiree health benefits than states have been able to save, according to a new report from The Pew Charitable Trusts based on 2015 data. These shortfalls will be made more evident as states and cities around the country will be required to follow new Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines that urge officials to record all healthcare liabilities on their balance sheets.

VA Fires Former District Of Columbia Medical Center Director.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Boyer, 541K) reports the Department of Veterans Affairs fired former District of Columbia VA Medical Center Director Brian Hawkins Wednesday for “failure to provide effective leadership” at the center. The department “said it took this action using authorities provided by the VA Accountability Act, which President Trump signed into law in June. Mr. Hawkins was notified in late August that he was facing removal.”

Number Of DACA Denials Has Doubled Under Trump.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports that numbers released Wednesday show that DHS “has doubled the rate of denials of Dreamers’ amnesty applications,” suggesting that “the administration had been taking a harder line even before President Trump’s announcement this month that he would phase out the DACA program altogether.” From April to June, “32 percent applications for DACA status that were decided...were rejected,” which is “twice the 16 percent rate of the last months of the Obama administration.”

Pelosi: Dreamers’ Parents “Did A Great Thing” For The Country. The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports that in comments that “strike a dissonant note from many analysts, who while saying the Dreamers are sympathetic since they had no say in the decision, say the parents do deserve blame for creating the problem,” House Minority Leader Pelosi said Wednesday that “parents who brought their children to the US in defiance of the law ‘did a great thing,’ giving the country an infusion of successful young people.”

Administration Weighs Deporting Unaccompanied Central American Teenagers.

The [Miami Herald](#) (9/20, Ordoñez, 701K) reports that “two sources with knowledge of the developing policy proposal” say the Trump Administration “is weighing a new policy that would fast-track the deportation of thousands of Central American teenagers who arrived at the southern border, unaccompanied by adults.” According to the sources, the Justice Department “wants to avoid creating a new protected class of undocumented immigrants, given how politically difficult it has been for the administration to unwind another program – DACA, which protected young people brought by adults to the country illegally when they were children.” The new policy would call for “expedited deportation” of the “more than 150,000 children who arrived at the southern border alone, escaping violence and poverty in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.” The plan would send teens in this group “back to their countries when they turn 18 under a fast-track deportation, which means they would not see an immigration judge first.”

Trump Considers Further Reducing Refugee Limits.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Colvin) cites “Trump administration officials” who said Wednesday that the President “is considering a further reduction in the number of refugees allowed into the United States as the administration works to re-shape American immigration policy.” However, “Cabinet officials are divided as they weigh the costs and potential security risks associated with the program.” While DHS “has been pushing for a reduction beyond the 50,000 mark set by Trump earlier this year as part of his travel ban executive orders,” the State Department, “which oversees the program, has formally recommended that the number be kept at 50,000.”

A pair of opinion pieces this morning argue against reducing the number of refugees. A [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) editorial says that “xenophobes seeking an upper hand in the Trump administration have covered” a report showing refugees’ revenue contributions to federal, state, and local governments. A report ordered by the President in March “concluded that refugees had delivered \$63 billion more in federal, state and local tax revenue than they had cost in federal benefits through the decade ending in 2014.” However, according to the New York Times, the fact that refugees “pay more in taxes than they draw in benefits...was suppressed by Stephen Miller, Mr. Trump’s nativist senior policy adviser.” The Post argues that “it would be not just callous for Washington to turn its back on” refugees, it would be “an act of national redefinition and an abdication of leadership.”

In an op-ed for [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M), Sasha Chanoff, executive director of RefugePoint, argues that while it is “not true that refugees are a security threat and therefore need to be kept out of America,” this “fiction may influence President Trump to slash the resettlement admissions number to the lowest in decades.” Chanoff writes that the President “should set next year’s ceiling at a minimum of 75,000, a number in line with admissions over the past few years, and the very least we can do in the face of an unprecedented global refugee crisis with more than 22.5 million refugees.”

US To Accept 54 Refugees From Australia’s Offshore Detention Centers. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Williams, Baidawi, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull announced Wednesday that “the first group of refugees from Australia’s offshore detention centers is expected to leave for the United States ‘in the coming weeks.’” In a video posted on social media, Turnbull “thanked President Trump for honoring a deal reached by the

Obama administration, which Mr. Trump had criticized, in which the United States agreed to accept hundreds of refugees from the centers." A State Department official "confirmed that 54 approved refugees would be notified in the coming days and travel to the United States in the coming weeks."

In Videotaped Message, Trump Welcomes New Citizens.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Taxin) reports that 4,000 immigrants taking their citizenship oath in Los Angeles Wednesday "let out a collective moan when they learned they were going to watch a videotaped message from President Donald Trump." In the message, Trump "welcomes citizens and tells them they should teach American values to others and 'help newcomers assimilate to our way of life.'" The AP says for the immigrants, Trump's remarks "felt insincere after he previously ordered a travel ban, moved to end a program shielding nearly 800,000 young immigrants from deportation, and referred to Mexican immigrants as rapists." However, others "appreciated Trump's message of unity – especially at a time of political division."

Zinke: Statue Of Liberty "Beacon Of Light" For Immigrants Coming To America. [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (9/20, 1.26M) traveled with Interior Secretary Zinke on his first visit to the Statue of Liberty. Zinke told Fox that the statue represents "freedom, opportunity, and why people want to be a part of America." Asked about the poem inscribed on the statue, Zinke said, "Give me your tired and your poor. What a beacon of light for those immigrants that come to the country and want to be a part of the American experience. ... You see the tensions in our country, the strains. I think we should all take a deep breath and remember this and remember what has made America great." Fox's Brian Kilmeade added, "And maybe coming here the right way," to which Zinke replied, "Coming here the right way, absolutely."

California AG Files Suit To Block Border Wall.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/20, McGreevy, Ulloa, 4.49M) reports that California Attorney General Xavier Becerra has filed a lawsuit claiming "that President Trump's proposal to expedite construction of a wall at the US-Mexico border violates laws aimed at protecting the environment." Announcing the lawsuit Wednesday, Becerra said that "the federal government failed to comply with federal environmental laws and relied on federal statutes that don't authorize border wall projects in San Diego and Imperial counties." Said Becerra, "No one gets to ignore the laws. Not even the President of the United States. ... The border between the US and Mexico spans some 2,000 miles. The list of laws violated by the President's administration in order to build his campaign wall is almost as long."

USA Today Explores "Challenges And Consequences" Of Trump's Border Wall. In an online report titled, "The Wall," [USA Today](#) (9/20, 8.62M) reports on "the challenges and consequences of President Donald Trump's border wall plan in unprecedented detail." The report enables users to "watch aerial video of every foot of the border, explore every piece of fence, even stand at the border in virtual reality."

Coulter: If Border Wall Not Happening, US Should Have An "Attractive, Dignified" GOP President. The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Mayfield, 465K) reports that in an [interview](#) with Newsmax TV on Wednesday, Ann Coulter said "that she would prefer Vice President Mike Pence over President Trump because Trump is failing to build his promised wall on the US-Mexico border."

Coulter said, "If we are not getting a wall, we might as well have a, you know, attractive, dignified Republican there." Coulter said "that Pence would pick 'better' Supreme Court justices and that people wouldn't have to worry about Nikki Haley becoming a justice if he were president."

Gillespie Ad Links Virginia Democrat Northam To MS-13 Street Gang.

In a report on the Virginia gubernatorial race, the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Vozzella, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports that Republican Ed Gillespie, "who for years pressed fellow Republicans to make their party more welcoming to minorities, on Wednesday unveiled a hard-hitting TV ad that blames his" opponent, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, "for the resurgence of the MS-13 street gang. As the MS-13 motto 'Kill, Rape, Control' flashes across the screen, the ad" blasts Northam over his vote "against a bill that would have prohibited the establishment of 'sanctuary cities' in the state." In the spot, a narrator says, "MS-13 is a menace, yet Ralph Northam voted in favor of sanctuary cities that let dangerous illegal immigrants back on the street, increasing the threat of MS-13." The ad "intersperses photos of Northam with the tattooed faces of men who, as it turns out, were photographed in a prison in El Salvador."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, McLaughlin, 541K) reports, "The ad underscores the messy politics of immigration, which President Trump thrust to the forefront during his own 2016 campaign, and has kept their in the months since, demanding an end to sanctuary cities he says protect dangerous illegal immigrants." The Times adds that Northam's campaign "said Mr. Gillespie was 'fear-mongering' and misleading the public. 'Ralph Northam doesn't care what your immigration status is, if you commit a violent crime, you're going to prison,' the campaign said."

Politico Analysis: Senate GOP Will Not "Fall In Line Behind" Trump's Tax Plan.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Faler, 3.6M) reports that while House leaders and Trump Administration officials have worked for months to ensure "a smooth rollout" of tax reform legislation, Senate Republicans "are making it clear they're not going to fall in line behind" Trump's plan. Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch "warned" that the "Big Six" proposal "will only be advisory," and Senate Republicans "are following that up with plans to seek a \$1.5 trillion tax cut, putting them at odds with the House, where Speaker Paul Ryan, another Big Six member, wants permanent changes that don't add to the deficit."

WSJournal: Corker-Toomey Deal Creates More Room For Tax Cuts. A [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorial says the budget deal struck between Sens. Bob Corker and Pat Toomey creates additional space for cutting taxes and calls on Republicans to follow their lead and make good on their promise to pass tax reform.

Tim Ryan Says Corporate Tax Reform Must Be "Revenue Positive."

Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH) said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (9/20, 1.08M), "If they stay away from the traditional supply side economics, I think there will be a lot of Democrats that will sit down and say hey, is this going to benefit working class people in Akron, Ohio, Youngstown, Ohio? I think they'll be

willing partners. But, again, we've got to make sure that some of these things, like any corporate tax reform, for example, that is revenue positive. You have 100 of the top Fortune 500 companies not paying any corporate tax at all. So that's not a progressive tax. If you want to lower the rate you have to make sure that you're closing the loopholes and getting some money. And the President is saying we're not going to hurt the middle class on this. So, we'll see."

Tillis: North Carolina Shows The Impact Tax Reform Can Have.

In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), Sen. Thom Tillis cites his home state of North Carolina as an example of what successful tax reform can accomplish. Tillis writes that the state has seen the creation of more than 350,000 jobs since passing tax reform, and its economy has become one of the fastest growing in the nation.

Sources: Mattis' "Agreeable Demeanor" Keeps Trump From "Feeling Threatened" By Him.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Cooper, Schmitt, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that while "nearly all of President Trump's top national security officials have been the target of his ire," Defense Secretary Mattis is the exception. Mattis, the Times says, has "exhibited a political deftness that has eluded other members of Mr. Trump's cabinet," and "none has managed to steer a path so different from the president's without incurring his wrath and while deflecting attention over apparent or genuine splits." Mattis, it suggests, has "stayed out of the chaos that has characterized the Trump administration in part because of his ability, friends and associates say, to present an agreeable demeanor," which keeps Trump "from feeling threatened even when his defense secretary contradicts him or slow-walks his pet policies."

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Nominee "Almost Certainly Voted Illegally" In November.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "As President Trump's voter integrity commission looks under rocks for possible voter malfeasance, its members might want to examine a presidential nominee awaiting confirmation by the Senate Finance Committee. Documents indicate that Jeffrey Gerrish," Trump's deputy US trade representative nominee, "moved from Virginia to Maryland last year, but opted in November to vote in the more competitive state of Virginia." The Times says that the Senate Finance Committee, "which has been considering Mr. Gerrish's nomination, was briefed on the matter on Tuesday, including the fact that" he "had almost certainly voted illegally, according to three Democratic congressional aides." The Times adds, "Given Mr. Trump's intense focus on alleged widespread voter fraud in last year's election – the president has claimed that millions of people voted illegally, without evidence – Democrats are likely to pounce on the misstep to try to sink Mr. Gerrish's nomination."

Media Analyses: Mueller's Latest Steps Indicate Trump Himself Under Scrutiny.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/20, story 4, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) reported on “new steps” by special counsel Robert Mueller “suggesting President Trump’s own actions are now under scrutiny, including his firing of FBI Director James Comey and the meeting with Russian officials in the Oval Office the very next day.” ABC’s Jonathan Karl: “Tonight, the clearest indication yet [that] Mueller is looking at the actions of President Trump himself.” The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/20, story 3, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported, “Mueller has been bombarding the White House with requests for documents.”

The [AP](#) (9/20, Tucker) reports that Mueller’s office “has requested a large batch of documents from the White House and is expected to interview at least a half dozen current and former aides in the coming weeks.” A person familiar with the investigation said investigators “want information on, among other topics, a June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower that Donald Trump Jr. attended with a Russian lawyer and the administration’s response to it,” as well as “what White House officials including Trump knew about the Justice Department’s investigation” into ex-National Security Adviser Michael Flynn.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Leonnig, Helderman, 10.38M) reports, “White House lawyers are now working to turn over internal documents that span 13 categories investigators for the special counsel have identified as critical to their probe.” [USA Today](#) (9/20, Jackson, Johnson, Heath, 8.62M) reports that officials speaking under condition of anonymity said that the White House “has been cooperating with Mueller’s requests for the past several weeks, in part to avoid subpoenas for individual testimony. The officials said they were not sure when the White House would finish turning over documents.”

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Schmidt, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says that the “document requests provide the most details to date about the breadth of Mr. Mueller’s investigation, and show that several aspects of his inquiry are focused squarely on Mr. Trump’s behavior in the White House.” However, the [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/20, Bierman, 4.49M) reports that John Dowd, an attorney for the President, said, “There’s nothing remarkable or unusual about his requests. ... It’s not like something’s about to happen. It’s just a routine inquiry by Bob [Mueller].”

David Gergen said on [CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360](#) (9/20, 1.38M), “As soon as I heard there were 13 different categories in which Mueller was asking for information or demanding information from the White House, you immediately thought this probe has widened way beyond what we or understood and it has clearly deepened.” Gergen added, “I think this deepens the sense that they’re doing everything they can to see what evidence there is of obstruction of justice.”

Grassley: Senate Preparing Subpoenas For Two Top FBI Officials. [CNN](#) (9/20, Herb, Raju, 33.59M) reports on its website that Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley said Tuesday that the Senate legal counsel “is preparing subpoenas for two senior FBI officials the Justice Department is preventing the committee from interviewing.” Grassley and ranking member Sen. Dianne Feinstein “have repeatedly asked the two senior FBI officials – Carl Ghattas and James Rybicki – to sit down for a transcribed interview to discuss the Comey firing.”

Manafort Offered “Private Briefings” On Campaign To Russian Billionaire. The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Hamburger, Helderman, Leonnig, Entous, 10.38M) reports that “less than two weeks before Donald Trump accepted the Republican presidential nomination,” then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort “offered to provide briefings on the race” to Oleg Deripaska, “a Russian billionaire closely aligned with the Kremlin.” In a July 7, 2016 email, Manafort wrote, “If he needs private briefings we can accommodate.” The emails “are among tens of thousands of documents that have

been turned over" to Mueller and to congressional investigators. The Post says that the documents show no evidence "that Deripaska received Manafort's offer or that any briefings took place."

Leon Panetta said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (9/20, 1.02M) that the fact Manafort "would offer a briefing on a political campaign to a Russian billionaire, someone obviously related to an adversary of the United States, raises some serious questions about just how much effort was made to try to get the Russians to participate in this last election campaign." But on the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/20, story 3, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M), Jeff Pegues reported, "Manafort's attorney did not deny the authenticity of the email but called the message 'innocuous,' and said, 'It's no secret Mr. Manafort was owed money by past clients,' implying it was a attempt to collect."

Ben Domenech of [The Federalist](#) (9/20, 88K) offers "13 Questions About The Wiretapping Of Paul Manafort," dealing with why Manafort was wiretapped, when the surveillance took place, and if the wiretap covered Trump Tower. Former CIA case officer Phil Giraldi asks at the [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, 521K), "Will anyone running for high office in the future want to be confronted by executive power acting secretly through the law enforcement and intelligence services to discredit him or her as well as a large and widening group of family and associates? ... Manafort, who has fully cooperated with the multiple investigations being conducted around Russiagate, is innocent until proven guilty."

Manafort Used Trump Campaign Email To Contact "Ukrainian Political Operative." [Politico](#) (9/20, Dawsey, 3.6M) reports that Manafort "used his presidential campaign email account to correspond with a Ukrainian political operative with suspected Russian ties, according to people familiar with the correspondence." In emails to Konstantin Kilimnik, Manafort sought "repayment for previous work he did in Ukraine" and proposed discussing "potential new opportunities in the country."

Clapper: "It's Possible" That Wiretap Picked Up Trump. The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Chaitin, 465K) reports, "Former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper suggested on Wednesday that 'it's possible' that President Trump's voice was picked up in a wiretap" as he spoke with Manafort. Clapper said on CNN, "It's certainly conceivable. ... I wouldn't want to go there, but I will say it's possible."

Facebook Facing Increasing Scrutiny Over Russia's Attempts At Influence. [Bloomberg News](#) (9/20, Litvan, 4.52M) reports that Facebook "is facing growing pressure from Congress over Russia's use of social media" to influence the 2016 election. In a Wednesday letter to the Federal Election Commission, Sens. Martin Heinrich and Ron Wyden, and Reps. John Conyers (D-MI), Elijah Cummings (D-MD), and John Sarbanes (D-MD) wrote, "We must address the threat posed by foreign citizens, companies, or organizations who aim to interfere with our political process." Sarbanes is seeking "new rules requiring disclosure for political ads on social media outlets...so they are as transparent as broadcast ads."

Senate Intelligence Vice Chairman Mark Warner said on [CNN's The Lead](#) (9/20, 1.13M) that "the level of some of the sophistication on the social media side and the level of targeting really leaves me with a lot of questions we are going to want Facebook to answer in public."

Media Matters: Drudge Report Has Become "Pipeline For Russian Propaganda." Matt Gertz of [Media Matters](#) (9/20, 61K) writes about "How Matt Drudge Became The Pipeline For Russian Propaganda," stating that Drudge "has for years used his site as a web traffic pipeline for Russian propaganda sites, directing his massive audience to nearly 400 stories from RT.com and fellow Russian-government-run English-language news sites SputnikNews.com and TASS.com since the beginning of 2012." The [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, 521K) covers the Media Matters piece under the headline

"Pro-Clinton Group Tries To Link Drudge Report," writing, "Despite the...bombastic claims," the Media Matters study "lacks context about how The Drudge Report operates. ... Drudge typically removes and adds links throughout the day, linking to hundreds of websites on any given day."

Dershowitz Says It Is Hard To Say If President Can Expect AG's Loyalty. Alan Dershowitz writes in the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, 465K) that it is hard to say whether a president can expect loyalty from an attorney general, since under the US system, the AG serves both as "an advisor to the chief executive" and as "chief prosecutor." Dershowitz says "the system should be changed," but that there is "no perfect cure for the mistake made by our founders in merging the two incompatible goals of the current attorney general: that of political advisor to the president; and that of independent chief prosecutor."

Judge Moves Toward Granting US Request For Information On Inaugural Protest Website.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Gerstein, 3.6M) reported that District of Columbia Superior Court Chief Judge Robert Morin "is pressing forward with plans to allow enforcement of a search warrant against a website used to organize protests against President Donald Trump's inauguration," but insists "that prosecutors won't be able to see messages and other information that demonstrators exchanged on the Disruptj20 site until he determines that every such communication is related to the ongoing investigation and prosecution of alleged rioting in downtown Washington on the same day Trump was sworn in. 'You have the right to have the warrant executed,' Morin told Assistant US Attorney John Borchert during a hearing Wednesday afternoon on the dispute between the government and DreamHost – the internet firm that hosted the site." Morin added, however, "Until the court has ruled...the court is not allowing the government to inspect either [email senders'] identity or their communications."

Bharara Says Trump Would Have Asked Him To Do "Something Inappropriate."

[USA Today](#) (9/20, McCoy, 8.62M) reports former federal prosecutor Preet Bharara said Wednesday he believes President Trump "eventually would have asked him to do 'something inappropriate'" if Trump hadn't fired him. During his weekly "Stay Tuned with Preet" podcast, Bharara "described a series of unusual interactions with Trump" during his time as US attorney, and said the interactions "were so unprecedented he considered but decided against recording a conversation with the president that ultimately never took place."

Bharara To Join CNN. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Grynbaum, Kelly, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports CNN announced Tuesday that Bharara will join the network as a senior legal analyst, "meaning he will be a frequent presence on the network's programming." The Times observes the arrangement "will offer a national forum for" Bharara's "at-times blistering critiques of the Trump administration."

Trump To Award Medal Of Honor To Army Medic For Valor In Laos.

The White House said Wednesday that President Trump will recognize former Army medic Gary Rose, who “dol[ed] out doses of morphine to keep the walking wounded moving to avoid capture” behind enemy lines in the jungles of Laos, in 1970, with the Medal of Honor, [USA Today](#) (9/20, Brook, Korte, 8.62M) reports. Noting that Laos was “officially off limits for combat,” USA Today says the White House, “in announcing the medal, said the award was ‘for conspicuous gallantry during the Vietnam War,’ obscuring the location of that gallantry as somewhere ‘deep in enemy-controlled territory.’” USA Today describes the battle and the controversy surrounding it, highlighting reports from CNN and Time in 1988 that “Rose and the soldiers involved in Operation Tailwind had been sent to Laos to capture American defectors, had used deadly Sarin nerve gas in their attack and had killed innocent civilians.” CNN ultimately “retracted the story, acknowledging that its account was fundamentally wrong.”

Spokesperson: “Demanding Schedule” Behind Price’s Use Of Private Jets.

The [New York Times](#) (9/21, A18, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that HHS Secretary Price “spent tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars to fly on private jets to attend routine public events instead of taking cheaper commercial airliners because he has an ‘incredibly demanding schedule,’ his spokeswoman said Wednesday.” The Times quotes HHS assistant secretary for public affairs Charmaine Yoest as saying in a statement, “With an incredibly demanding schedule full of 13-plus-hour days, every effort is being made to maximize Secretary Price’s ability to travel outside of Washington to meet with the American people.” The Times cites a Politico [story](#) that reported “the private flights cost the federal government as much as \$60,000.”

Kayla Tausche reported on [CNBC’s Closing Bell](#) (9/20, 177K) that HHS “is on the defensive” after Politico’s report saying Price “chartered private jets to travel to events in Maine, New Hampshire, and Philadelphia last week. The decision bucks the trend of Secretary Price’s predecessors, who all flew commercial at a much lower expense. It also diverges from Price’s cost-cutting efforts at HHS and also his previously held views on private travel.” Tausche added that an HHS spokesperson told CNBC, “When [Price] was in Congress, he did not take private or chartered jets at all. Now he does when his scheduling team decides on a case by case basis what is the most effective way to get him from place to place.”

Democrat Pallone “Will Be Looking Into” Price’s Travel. [Reuters](#) (9/20, Abutaleb) reports that Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ), ranking Democrat on the House Energy Committee, on Wednesday said “he is looking into [the Politico] report that...Price used private jets to travel on government business.” Reuters highlighted Politico’s report that “Price took private jets on five occasions for official business, which cost tens of thousands of dollars more than commercial flights. Politico documented one chartered trip from Washington to Philadelphia that cost about \$25,000.” In a Wednesday statement, Pallone said, “I would remind Secretary Price that taxpayer funds are not meant to be used as a jet-setting slush fund. My colleagues and I will be looking into this further and we will be asking the HHS Office of the Inspector General for a full accounting of Secretary Price’s travel.” Renee Marsh said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/20, 1.02M) that “Democratic members of Congress are preparing to call for an inspector general investigation into Price’s travel.”

EPA Pulls Agents Off Investigations To Provide Security For Pruitt.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Eilperin, Dennis, 10.38M) reports that EPA Administrator Pruitt's "round-the-clock personal security detail...demands triple the manpower of his predecessors" and "has prompted officials to rotate in special agents from around the country who otherwise would be investigating environmental crimes." The situation "has rankled some employees and outside critics, who note that the EPA's criminal enforcement efforts already are understaffed and that the Trump administration has proposed further cuts to the division."

Fourteen States Say They Will Meet Paris Agreement Goals Without Trump.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Richardson, 541K) reports that an alliance of 14 states known as the US Climate Alliance "said Wednesday they are on track to meet their share of the Paris climate agreement despite President Trump's decision to withdraw." The 14 governors – 13 Democrats and one Republican – "released a report showing that their states will be able to reduce emissions by 24 to 29 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, which would 'fulfill their contribution to the Paris Agreement targets.'" The Times says the 14 states "represent 41 percent of the US gross domestic product, which would make them the third-largest economy in the world if they broke off and formed a separate nation."

NYTimes Analysis: De Blasio Not Following His Own Advice On Climate Policy. In an analysis, the [New York Times](#) (9/20, Neuman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Mayor Bill de Blasio may not be "following his own advice" on energy efficiency standards in buildings, according to city records that show de Blasio seemingly failed to meet such standards in two small buildings he owns in Brooklyn. New York's Buildings Department database showed one building had a natural gas-fueled boiler and hot water heater, neither appearing to have Energy Star certification, and the other building had "no permits...issued for a boiler replacement, so it is likely the building has an older and potentially less energy-efficient unit."

Fed Leaves Rates Unchanged, Says It Will Reduce Its Bond Holdings.

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday said the US economy is "finally sturdy enough...to withdraw the extraordinary support it has provided it since the depths of the recession and financial crisis," [USA Today](#) (9/20, Davidson, 8.62M) reports. In a move USA Today said could "nudge consumer borrowing costs higher," the Fed agreed "to begin gradually shedding much of the roughly \$3.5 trillion in bonds it snapped up during and after the downturn to lower long-term interest rates." Fed Chair Yellen told a news conference, "We're working down our balance sheet because we think in some sense it's no longer needed. ... We feel the US economy is performing well." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Timiraos, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says the Fed has been signaling the move for months. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says it supports the Fed's decision to reduce its bond holdings, but adds that it should have begun sooner and should be happening faster.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says the Fed "left its benchmark interest rate unchanged." While "most Fed officials predicted in a new round of economic forecasts that the Fed would increase rates later this year," officials "once again reduced their

expectations for future rate hikes.” The median prediction now holds that “the benchmark rate will stabilize at 2.8 percent, down from a median estimate of 3 percent in June.”

Economists Blame “Start-Up Slump” For Slow Economic Expansion. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Casselman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that economists say the “tame” economic expansion since the recession is due, in part, to “a start-up slump – a decline in the creation of new businesses – and a growing understanding of what’s behind it.” According to the Census Bureau, “414,000 businesses were formed in 2015.” While that is “a slight increase from the previous year,” it is “well below the 558,000 companies given birth in 2006, the year before the recession set in.” Many economists attribute the slump to “the rising power of the biggest corporations, which they argue is stifling entrepreneurship by making it easier for incumbent businesses to swat away challengers – or else to swallow them before they become a serious threat.”

Government Workers To Appeal Judge’s Ruling On OPM Data Breach Lawsuit.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Swoyer, 541K) reports that government employees say they will appeal Tuesday’s ruling from US District Judge Amy Berman Jackson that “they can’t sue for damages from the 2015 Office of Personnel Management data breach.” Berman ruled that they “couldn’t show the data stolen – including financial, health and other very personal data from some 22 million personnel files – has been used by the hackers.” The National Treasury Employees Union filed notice Tuesday that it will appeal the ruling and the American Federation of Government Employees National “said it’s considering its next steps.”

SEC Says Its Computer System Was Hacked Last Year.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Tejada, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a statement Wednesday “that its computer system had been hacked last year, giving the attackers private information that could have been exploited for trading.” The SEC said it was investigating the breach and said the security vulnerability the hackers exploited had been patched shortly after it was discovered. The commission “said it did not believe that the breach had involved personal information or that it would jeopardize the commission’s activities.”

NYTimes Analysis: Facebook, Google Facing Increased Resistance From Washington.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Kang, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Facebook and Google “were hoping to reach a compromise” this week with Congress over a new bill that would hold companies accountable for hosting sex trafficking on their websites – “an acknowledgment,” the Times observes, “that they could not stop the bill entirely because of strong political headwinds.” Both companies had argued that although they worked hard to combat sex trafficking, they also argued that the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act “jeopardizes bedrock principles of a free and open internet.” The Times adds the companies’ shifting position from opposition to compromise “illustrates

the changing political reality in Washington” in which technology companies face increased criticism from both Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

In Wake Of “Fail” Over Ads Directed At Racists, Facebook Making Changes. The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Maheshwari, Isaac, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that in response “to evidence that its tools had allowed ads to be directed at users who used racist comments or hate speech in their profiles,” Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg “said Wednesday that it would change how ads can be targeted. That its ad-targeting tools could be used in such a way was ‘a fail’ for the company,” she “said in a post,” adding “that Facebook would add ‘more human review and oversight’ to its automated systems to prevent further misuse.” In addition, Sandberg “said the company would do more to ensure that offensive content – including that which attacks people for their race or religion – could not be used to target ads.” Her post “came after a report from ProPublica last week revealed that Facebook’s online ad tools had allowed advertisers to target self-described ‘Jew haters’ or people who had used terms like ‘how to burn Jews.’”

Poll: Moore Leads Strange 53%-47% In GOP Primary Runoff.

On its website, [WBRC-TV](#) Birmingham, AL (9/19, Journey, 23K) reports that a Raycom News Network-Strategy Research Poll of 2,930 likely Alabama Republican voters, taken Sept. 18, shows ex-Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore leading appointed Sen. Luther Strange 53%-47% in the Sept. 26 GOP primary runoff in the special election for the former seat of Attorney General Sessions.

White House, GOP Establishment Mounting Full Court Press To Boost Strange In Runoff. [USA Today](#) (9/20, Berry, 8.62M) reports that national Republicans are “sending money and even manpower to” Alabama for the GOP contest, which “is dividing the party between the conservatives and the even-more-conservatives.” USA Today says President Trump is slated to stump for Strange “in Huntsville on Friday, and Vice President Pence is” scheduled to campaign for the incumbent “in Birmingham on Monday. ‘I am supporting ‘Big’ Luther Strange because he was so loyal & helpful to me!’ Trump [tweeted](#) Wednesday.” Senate Majority Leader McConnell and a super PAC run by his allies are also backing Strange. Meanwhile Sarah Palin “is expected to stump Thursday in Montgomery for...Moore.”

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Shelbourne, 1.68M) reported that in a later [tweet](#) on Wednesday, Trump said, “Alabama is sooo lucky to have a candidate like ‘Big’ Luther Strange. Smart, tough on crime, borders & trade, loves Vets & Military. Tuesday!” In an earlier report, [The Hill](#) (9/20, Bowden, 1.68M) highlighted the President’s first Wednesday tweet expressing support for Strange, and added, “In backing Strange, Trump finds himself on the opposite side of former White House strategist Steve Bannon and other conservatives who have thrown their weight behind Moore.”

Indeed, in a piece titled “Alabama’s Senate Runoff Is The First Battle In The Trump-Bannon Cold War,” David Catanese writes for [US News & World Report](#) (9/20, 1.73M), “It just so happens that the Strange-Moore” contest “is now set up to be the first proxy battle in the cold war between Trump and the ousted Bannon.” Catanese says that Breitbart, now back under Bannon’s guidance, has been posting a number of stories about the runoff – pieces approving of Moore and critical of Strange. Catanese quotes a Bannon “confidante” as saying, “Alabama sent Donald Trump to the White House. It all started in Alabama when Jeff Sessions joined Donald Trump at a rally in Mobile in 2015 and said, ‘Welcome to my hometown.’ Now Alabama has a chance to send a wake-up call back to Washington and say to President Trump, ‘It’s time to right the ship.’”

Breitbart Highlights Strange's "Flip Flop" On Filibuster Rules. Under the headline "Donald Trump Praises 'Loyal' Luther Strange Despite Filibuster Flip Flop," [Breitbart](#) (9/20, Spierling, 2.42M) reported on Trump's first Wednesday tweet praising Strange, then added that "despite Strange's support for most of Trump's agenda, he struggled with the president's desire to kill the 60-vote threshold for the Senate filibuster. In April, Strange signed a letter with senators" urging McConnell and Senate Minority Leader Schumer "to keep the existing Senate tradition of a 60-vote threshold. After struggling in the first round of primary voting, Strange flipped his position, sending a letter to change the filibuster rule."

Moore In New Ad: "The Republican Establishment Has Failed Us." [The Hill](#) (9/20, Greenwood, 1.68M) reported that Moore is launching a statewide ad, in which he "pushes back on 'false negative ads' targeting him and vows to work to repeal the Affordable Care Act, support construction of...Trump's proposed border wall and abolish the Internal Revenue Service." In the spot, Moore says, "The Republican establishment has failed us," adding, "I've fought for this country in Vietnam, I fought against liberal judges in the courtroom and I'll fight for you in the United States Senate, so help me God." The ad also highlights Moore's "endorsements from former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, actor Chuck Norris and 'Duck Dynasty' star Phil Robertson."

Strange's Stake In Firm That Profits From EB-5 Program Draws Scrutiny. [Breitbart](#) (9/20, Mason, 2.42M) reported on "reports Strange is a major stakeholder in a firm that profits from the issuance of visas to rich, mostly Chinese, foreign investors. Reports rolled in Tuesday of Strange's one-sixth ownership in Sunbelt EB-5 Regional Center, LLC, a firm that solicits big money foreign investors to put \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars into projects in the American Southeast in exchange for 'golden visas.'" In a statement to a local TV station, the Strange camp said, "Luther agrees with the Trump administration that there are serious concerns over the EB-5 visa program, which is not being used as originally intended. It's time for Congress to get to work on these issues." Breitbart added, "Despite these 'serious concerns,' Strange has made no indication he is seeking to sell his ownership of the Sunbelt EB-5 firm."

Under the headline "Luther Strange Owns Stake In Company Brokering Green Cards For Wealthy Foreigners," the [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, Racke, 521K) reported that "Strange has touted his credentials as an immigration hawk, enthusiastically backing...Trump's tough immigration enforcement policies." Even so, Strange's "involvement with a company that brokers applications for a controversial visa program opens the door for opponents to question his intentions for immigration policy in Congress."

Austin Barbour Offers Advice To Moore, Strange Camps. In a piece for [Politico Magazine](#) (9/20, Barbour, 3.55M), Austin Barbour, a partner in Strategic Partners & Media, a GOP media firm, says that both Moore and Strange "have plausible paths to victory" and goes on to outline "what they need to do to win." For example, Barbour says that the Strange camp "has to find new voters," and suggests that the candidate "look for people who might be swayed by...Trump's endorsement but who didn't vote in the primary's first round." Barbour's advice for Moore's camp is: "Keep your base motivated, turn them out in the most organized way you can muster, stay hungry and keep working hard."

Biden To Stump For Jones In Birmingham On Oct 3. Meanwhile, the [AP](#) (9/20) reports that ex-Vice President Joe Biden "will come to Alabama next month to campaign for" the Democratic nominee in the special election, former US Attorney Doug Jones. Biden "will headline an Oct. 3 rally in Birmingham." Jones "is perhaps best known for prosecuting Ku Klux Klansmen responsible for killing four young girls in the 1963 bombing of a Birmingham church."

Pence Slated To Hold Fundraising Event In Milwaukee On September 28.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that Vice President Pence is slated to hold a fundraising “event on Sept. 28 at an undisclosed location in Milwaukee. An invitation for the event” says it will “benefit the Trump Victory fund, a joint fundraising committee for President Donald Trump’s campaign and the Republican National Committee. It costs \$2,700 per person to attend and \$10,000 to get a photo with Pence. A private dinner with Pence costs \$35,000 per couple and it’s \$70,000 to be a part of the host committee.”

CHC PAC “Spending Big On Resorts, Restaurants, And Nightclubs” In Las Vegas.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (9/20, Schoffstall, 158K) reported that the Congressional Hispanic Caucus BOLD PAC, the fundraising arm of the CHC, “is spending big on resorts, restaurants, and nightclubs this year, mainly in Las Vegas, Federal Election Commission filings show.” This year, the PAC “has pulled in \$4.4 million in contributions – including more than \$2 million in the first” quarter – “and spent \$2.2 million. As the CHC PAC was in the midst of its massive fundraising haul, they were spending extravagantly on luxury hotels in Las Vegas while paying hundreds of thousands to consultants.” As one of several example, the Free Beacon said the group “reported spending \$6,000 at Aria Resort and Casino while making two separate payments totaling \$19,649.12 for catering at Caesar’s Palace in February.”

Prosecutors Allege Menendez “Concealed Gifts” He Received From Melgen.

The [AP](#) (9/20, Porter) reports that on Wednesday at the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor Salomon Melgen, jurors heard testimony that Menendez “didn’t report free flights and a luxury hotel stay paid for by” Melgen “on Senate disclosure forms over a span of several years.” The jury was shown “a clip of a CNN interview Menendez gave in early 2013,” in which he discussed “his reimbursement of about \$58,000 to Melgen for some of the flights he took a few years earlier. The delay in reimbursement was because the flights ‘unfortunately fell through the cracks’ during a time when he was busy with travel on behalf of Senate Democrats and for his own campaign, he” said.

[Politico](#) (9/20, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that prosecutors “zeroed in on the charge legal experts say...Menendez may be most vulnerable: He concealed gifts he received from...Melgen.” Along with the CNN interview, prosecutors “also showed a January 2013 press release from Menendez’s office that said the Democratic senator ‘has traveled on Dr. Melgen’s plane on three occasions, all of which have been paid for and reported appropriately.’” However, “prosecutors showed a chart with many more flights Menendez had taken on Melgen’s private jet, and other travel Menendez undertook that was paid for by Melgen.” Politico added, “Legal experts have said the charge that Menendez concealed his gifts from Melgen – just one of 14 charges in the indictment – is the easiest for prosecutors to prove.”

The [Washington Post](#) (9/20, Maimon, 10.38M) reports, "With FBI agent Alan Mohl on the stand on Wednesday, prosecutor Monique Abrishami discussed Senate financial disclosure forms showing that Menendez didn't list a single gift from Melgen. Menendez attorney Abbe Lowell countered by asking Mohl to read portions of the forms related to knowingly falsifying information and disclosure exemption rules." Lowell "said prosecutors and the FBI had an extensive amount of time and resources to reconstruct Menendez's travels over the years and questioned why the government wasn't talking about Menendez's trips to Melgen's home in the Dominican Republic in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Mohl said the FBI didn't look at travel records going back that far because Melgen didn't own a private jet until later in the 2000s."

Prosecution, Defense Wrangle Over Definition Of "Constituent." The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the US "Constitution does not specifically designate whom Mr. Menendez can legally count as a constituent, nor has the Supreme Court or any court for that matter offered a ruling defining who, exactly, is a constituent of a United States senator. That ambiguity has injected some intrigue into the" trial, "with both the defense and prosecution debating the meaning of constituent." Prosecutors "argued in a brief filed on Tuesday that 'the straightforward answer is that Senator Menendez's constituents are the New Jerseyans that he was elected to represent in the United States Senate.'" The defense, however, claims "the term was significantly amorphous and that wrestling with its meaning was 'not a legal question for the court to answer' but rather one for the jury to determine, 'because the word potentially bears on defendants' state of mind.'"

Newsbusters: After Describing Menendez Trial As "A Big Deal," CNN Offering Little Coverage. Meanwhile, the [Daily Caller](#) (9/20, Athey, 521K) reported, "On September 6, CNN anchor Poppy Harlow said the [Menendez] trial 'is a big deal...because this is the first bribery case involving a sitting US Senator in over three decades' and her co-anchor John Berman asserted, 'we will follow this case very, very closely.' However, Newsbusters [discovered](#) that CNN has only given the trial 14 minutes and 11 seconds of coverage since the trial began two weeks ago, and they have only mentioned it one time since September 7." The Daily Caller added, "ABC, CBS, and NBC have given even less time to the trial since September 5, combining for a total of less than two and a half minutes."

Majority Of Californians Have Considered Moving Because Of Costly Housing.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, McPhate, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that a new UC Berkeley poll of 1,200 California residents found that 56 percent of respondents and a majority of respondents in every major region of the state have considered moving as a result of rising housing costs. About a third of the state's residents "spend most of their income on housing costs."

FiveThirtyEight Analysis: Trump Looms Over Flake-Ward Primary Clash.

Writing at [FiveThirtyEight](#) (9/20, Malone, 384K), Clare Malone discussed ex-state Sen. Kelli Ward's 2018 primary challenge to Sen. Jeff Flake, saying that "the Washington Post called it a 'proxy war' between [President Trump] and the GOP establishment." Some contend a Ward victory "would be an assertion of Trump's power against the establishment, another notch in the belt for the Trumpification

of the party – more economic nationalism and an anti-immigrant bent.” However, members of “the Arizona Republican establishment scoff at this notion, noting that primaries in the state have often entertained an antiestablishment element – the state has a long tradition of populism and libertarianism.”

Poll Shows Stabenow Leading Kid Rock 52%-34% In Hypothetical Matchup.

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (9/20, Spangler, 1.07M) reports that a Marketing Resource Group poll of 600 Michigan likely voters, taken Sept. 13-18, shows Sen. Debbie Stabenow leading musician Kid Rock 52%-34% in a hypothetical 2018 matchup. Kid Rock, whose given name is Robert Ritchie, has been teasing a potential challenge to Stabenow. If he enters the contest, it's widely expected he'd run as a Republican, The Free Press says that the results of the MRG survey are “a far cry from a Trafalgar Group poll in July that had Kid Rock” leading 49%-46%. Another poll, “done by Target Insyght in July, had Stabenow ahead of Kid Rock 50%-42%.”

“Inside Sources” Say Upton “90 Percent” Decided On A Challenge To Stabenow. On its website, [WLNS-TV](#) Lansing, MI (9/20, Skubick) reported that Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI) “is very close to” challenging Stabenow in next year's election. According to “inside sources,” Upton “is already 90 percent there but he's still crossing the t's and dotting the i's.” WLNS-TV added that Upton “is in no hurry and might make the decision in October.”

Corker Will Face Primary Challenge If He Seeks Reelection.

[Roll Call](#) (9/20, Pathé, 134K) reported that Sen. Bob Corker on Tuesday said he's yet to decide if he'll seek reelection next year, “and he wouldn't comment on reports that [President] Trump asked him to run for re-election at their meeting last week. He's already facing at least one declared primary challenger,” Andy Ogles, the former state director of Americans for Prosperity, the political arm of the Koch brothers. However, if Corker seeks reelection, he “can find solace in the fact that there are at least two more Republicans interested in taking him on, which would split the anti-incumbent vote.” Roll Call said that ex-state Rep. Joe Carr and ex-state Sen. Mark Green – the latter of whom was nominated by Trump to be secretary of the Army, but withdrew “his name from consideration in May because of past controversial statements” – are possible Senate candidates.

Fox Sports Radio Host Says He May Mount Independent Bid. Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (9/20, Easley, 1.68M) reported that Fox Sports radio host Clay Travis “said Wednesday he will consider running for Senate in Tennessee as an independent,” should Corker opt against seeking another term next year. Speaking on his “Outkick the Coverage” program, Travis said, “I think I could get elected,” and added, “There has to be no incumbent and Peyton Manning has to not run. Other than that I think I could beat anyone in the state.” In mentioning Manning, Travis was “referring to the NFL legend, who won a football national championship at the University of Tennessee.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Giaritelli, 465K) reported that last week, Travis “told CNN he only has faith in the First Amendment and ‘boobs.’” The Examiner added that Travis, “who has previously referenced his support for the First Amendment and women's breasts, made it into the national spotlight last week when he told CNN host Brooke Baldwin about his two passions. Baldwin

was visibly disturbed by the remark, but others took to Twitter and tweeted support for his unexpected statement.”

Justice Indicates He'll Support Manchin's Reelection Bid.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (9/20, Correll, 465K) reported that Gov. Jim Justice, who was elected as a Democrat but switched to the GOP last month, on Wednesday indicated he's backing Sen. Joe Manchin's 2018 bid for reelection. Asked about the Senate race during a meeting with state GOP lawmakers, Justice replied that Manchin “may be a terrible person to y'all, but Joe has been a friend of mine and I'm going to tell you this as straight up as I can be: Joe Manchin is becoming a very key, integral part with Donald Trump. And I'm going to take my read off of Donald Trump.” Justice added, “Joe Manchin is – and I know this – Joe Manchin is Donald Trump's liaison with the Democrats. And you want, and I want, what Donald Trump is trying to get done.”

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Bowden, 1.68M) reported that the comments “shocked Republicans in the state and came just hours after West Virginia's GOP chairman told BuzzFeed News that he was confident Justice would be supporting conservative candidates in 2018.” The Hill added that Manchin “is one of a number of Senate Democrats up for reelection next year hailing from a state that Trump won in the 2016 presidential election. Trump took West Virginia by a whopping 42 points and many Republicans see Manchin's seat as a prime target for a GOP win.”

Poll: Kaine Leads Stewart 53%-36% In Virginia Senate Race.

The [Fauquier \(VA\) Times](#) (9/20, 50K) reported that a University of Mary Washington poll of 1,000 Virginia voters shows Sen. Tim Kaine holding big leads over his potential 2018 GOP rivals. In hypothetical general election matchups, Kaine leads Rep. Scott Taylor (R-VA) 52%-37%; Prince William Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart 53%-36%; and Rep. Dave Brat (R-VA) 54%-36%. Stewart is currently the only announced GOP candidate in the race. In a hypothetical GOP primary matchup, Taylor leads with 20%, followed by Stewart at 12%, and Brat at 9%; the majority of those surveyed were undecided.

Christie Labels Murphy A “Coward” Over Arbitration Cap Issue.

The [AP](#) (9/20) reports that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who is term-limited this year, on Wednesday took aim at the frontrunner in the race to succeed him, calling Democrat Phil Murphy “a ‘coward’ for failing to clarify his position on an expiring provision that affects property tax rates.” Christie pressed “Murphy to take a position on the 2 percent interest arbitration cap expiring in December. The cap limits what police and fire officials can get in contract disputes. Property taxes are levied by local governments, which run police and fire departments, and school boards.” Polls have shown Murphy leading by wide margins over Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno.

Lummis' Decision Not To Run Throws Wyoming Governor's Race “Wide Open.”

The [Casper \(WY\) Star-Tribune](#) (9/20, Rosenfeld, 96K) reports that the 2018 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Matt Mead “has been thrown wide open” in the wake of ex-Rep. Cynthia Lummis’ announcement “that she will not enter next year’s Republican primary. With strong name recognition across the state and financial resources, Lummis was the heavy favorite to win both the primary and general election if she ran. ‘I thought when I returned home that I would run for governor,’ Lummis acknowledged in an interview with the Wyoming Tribune Eagle Tuesday.” However, Lummis, “who decided not to run for reelection to Congress last year, said that she was enjoying time off from public office.” Of Lummis’ announcement GOP strategist Bill Novotny told the Star-Tribune, “This is going to open the floodgates. Most of the serious candidates I’ve spoken to were waiting for her to officially declare her plans.”

Los Angeles Officials Prepare For Potential Big Earthquake.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/20, story 6, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M) reported that a study from the US Geological Survey found that the chance of an earthquake magnitude eight or larger near Los Angeles in the next 30 years “has doubled since 2008” – bolstering the city’s concern for and desire to prepare for the next large earthquake. Experts “say a major quake along the San Andreas in Southern California fault could kill 1,800 people, injure 53,000, destroy 1,500 buildings, and damage 300,000 more,” and a serious quake “could also cripple the city’s water supply and take as long as six months to repair.” City officials have spent \$14 billion on seismic upgrades to transportation infrastructure, and Mayor Eric Garcetti has received a new “preparedness plan.”

“Hundreds Of Non-Citizens” Registered To Vote In Philadelphia Over Past 10 Years.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports, “Hundreds of non-citizens were registered to vote in Philadelphia over the last decade, and at least 90 of them actually ended up casting ballots that should never have been allowed, City Commissioner Al Schmidt said Wednesday, adding more fuel to complaints of bogus voting in US elections. The voters are all self-admitted non-citizens who went back and canceled their registrations later – but not before casting illegal ballots a total of 227 times in elections spanning 2006 to 2007, Mr. Schmidt said.” The Times adds, “The data offers a boost to President Trump, who has claimed voters are tainted by non-citizens casting illegal ballots.”

Prosecutors: Weiner Deserves Jail Time.

The [New York Times](#) (9/20, Weiser, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Federal prosecutors said Wednesday that former congressman Anthony Weiner’s request for probation and no prison time “for his conviction in a sexting case,” is “simply inadequate,” and that “his crime deserves time in prison.” A sentencing memo from prosecutors seeks “a prison term of 21 to 27 months.” The Times adds that when he is sentenced Monday, the “disgraced former Democratic

congressman” could receive “up to 10 years in prison on one count of transferring obscene material to a minor, a 15-year-old girl with whom he exchanged lewd texts over several months in early 2016.”

Poll: Greater “2016 Election Buyers’ Remorse” Among Clinton Voters Than Trump Voters.

Under the headline “Poll: More Hillary Voters Regret Their 2016 Vote Than Trump Voters,” Guy Benson wrote at [Townhall](#) (9/20, 523K), “According to a new national Politico/Morning Consult [survey](#), 2016 election buyers’ remorse is more prevalent among Hillary Clinton’s voters than those who cast ballots for President Trump. ‘Among Clinton voters, 13 percent say they would either vote for a different candidate or not vote at all,’ the survey finds, while that number among Trump backers is four points lower.” Benson provided a link to the poll results, but the data about the Clinton/Trump voters doesn’t appear in that version of the survey.

Court To Hear Appeal In Request For Clinton Draft Whitewater Indictment Records.

[McClatchy](#) (9/20, Welsh, 67K) reports, “A federal appeals court will hear a case brought by Judicial Watch on Friday to make public draft indictments of Hillary Clinton from the Whitewater scandal in the 1990s.” Judicial Watch is seeking “copies of the documents that the National Archives and Records Administration has declined to release. It filed a FOIA request for the documents in March 2015 and in October 2015 the group sued for the 238 pages of responsive records.” McClatchy adds, “The documents in question are alleged drafts of indictments written by Hickman Ewing, the chief deputy of Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel appointed to investigate Bill and Hillary Clinton’s alleged involvement in fraudulent real estate dealings.”

Leaked Footage Shows MSNBC’s O’Donnell Screaming At Staff.

[The Hill](#) (9/20, Delk, 1.68M) reports in its “Blog Briefing Room” blog that outtakes of MSNBC host Lawrence O’Donnell berating staff surfaced online Wednesday, with Mediaite publishing an eight-minute video showing a series of clips in which the host “screams at the crew about malfunctions in his earpiece and distracting noises coming from inside the control room.” The clip compilation were apparently taken from the August 29 episode of “The Last Word With Lawrence O’Donnell.”

Daines: Allow Forest Management Needed To Stop Forest Fires.

In a [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) op-ed, Sen. Steve Daines writes that environmental lawsuits and excessive regulations “have become barriers to responsible forest management” in the western United States, costing states millions of acres of land lost to forest fires that could have been better contained. Daines argues that forest management reforms should be passed, certain environmental rules should be cut, and the Forest Service budget should be maintained.

Will: National Conversation Empowering “Demagogues.”

In his [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) column, George Will writes that the United States has undergone what one UCLA professor described as the “demassification of the mass media” – meaning technology has radically reduced intermediaries and barriers to entry into societal conversation and thus has caused “ignorance, incompetence and intellectual sociopathy” to enter mainstream discussion. Will argues such “cheap speech” is decreasing the relevance of political parties and newspapers, empowering “demagogues,” and spurring calls to limit First Amendment protections.

WPost: DC Making Progress Toward Better Youth Rehabilitation.

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (9/20, 10.38M) applauds the District of Columbia Council for offering a “comprehensive” and “thoughtful” overhaul of the city’s Youth Rehabilitation Act. The new legislation “preserves the worthwhile goal of rehabilitation for defendants 21 or younger” but also tempers “this leniency with common-sense protections for public safety,” such as making offensive actions like sexual assault ineligible for the act.

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today’s Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[Fed Unveils Plan To Pare Holdings, Hints At Another Rate Rise](#)

[Hackers Entered Equifax Systems In March](#)

[States Need \\$645 Billion To Pay Full Health-Care Costs](#)

[The Secret Of Angela Merkel’s Longevity: Strategic Flip-Flops](#)

New York Times:

[Mueller Seeks White House Documents Related To Trump’s Actions As President](#)

[Hurricane Maria Strikes, And Puerto Rico Goes Dark](#)

[At Mexican School Hit By Quake, Heartbreak And Dwindling Hope](#)

[Trump Pushes To Revisit Iran Nuclear Deal, And Asks Allies To Help](#)

[Insurers Come Out Swinging Against New Republican Health Care Bill](#)

[Confident Fed Sets Stage For December Rate Increase](#)

Washington Post:

[Death Toll In Mexico Rises Amid Search For Missing](#)

[Murkowski Finds Herself In Healthcare Hot Seat Again](#)

[Manafort Email Draws Interest](#)
[Probe Casts Wide Net Toward White House](#)
[No Power In Pummeled Puerto Rico](#)

Financial Times:

[Spanish National Police Raid Catalan Government Headquarters](#)
[Fed Calls Historic End To Quantitative Easing](#)
[Lawmakers Fear Russia's Facebook Meddling Continues](#)
[Toshiba Seals \\$18bn Memory Chip Sale To Bain-Led Group](#)

Washington Times:

[McConnell Pressures Senate Republican Holdouts To Support Last-Ditch Obamacare Repeal Bill](#)
[Iranian President Warns "Ignorant" Trump Not To Withdraw From Nuclear Deal](#)
[Islamic State Changes Battlefield Tactics To Guerrilla Warfare After Losing Territory To Coalition](#)
[Afghanistan Welcomes Trump Plan For Long-Term US Occupation](#)
[DACA Denial Rate Doubles Under Trump Administration](#)
[Clashes Intensify As Spain Tries To Block Catalonia's Secession Referendum](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Mexico City Earthquake; Russia Meddling Investigation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; North Korea Threats; Myanmar-Rohingya Genocide; Yankee Stadium Foul Ball Injury; Family Struck By Lightning; California-Drug Bust; Jake LaMotta Dies; Bone Marrow Donor.

CBS: Hurricane-Caribbean; Mexico City Earthquake; Russia Meddling Investigation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Amazon-Bomb Materials; Yankee Stadium Foul Ball Injury; High School Football-Dangers; Jake LaMotta Dies; San Diego-Hepatitis A Outbreak; New York City-Global Citizen Festival.

NBC: Hurricane-Caribbean; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Mexico City Earthquake 1; Mexico City Earthquake 2; Los Angeles Earthquake Preparation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Trump-Iran Nuclear Deal; Jake LaMotta Dies; Airlines-Extra Fees; Mexico City Earthquake 3.

Network TV At A Glance:

Hurricane – 12 minutes, 25 seconds
Mexico City Earthquake – 11 minutes, 55 seconds
Congress-Healthcare Reform – 6 minutes, 20 seconds
Russia Meddling Investigation – 4 minutes, 30 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricane-Puerto Rico.

CBS: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Mexico City Earthquake; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Fed Reserve-Interest Rate; Jake LaMotta Dies.

FOX: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Trump-Iran Nuclear Deal.

NPR: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Mexico City Earthquake; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Wall Street News.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participates in a meeting with the President of Afghanistan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Ukraine; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of the Republic of Korea; participates in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Turkey.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Participates in an interview with CBS This Morning; participates in an interview with Fox and Friends; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of Afghanistan; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of Ukraine; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of the Republic of Korea; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan.

US Senate: 8:30 AM Senate convenes for pro forma session – Senate convenes for a pro forma session * No votes scheduled in the chamber today or tomorrow Location: Washington, DC
<http://www.senate.gov/>

No votes scheduled in the Senate.

US House: 11:00 AM House of Representatives convenes for pro forma session Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

On recess until 25 September.

Other: 10:30 AM Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference continues, themed 'And Still I Rise'. Agenda today includes the Inaugural Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Braintrust hosted by Democratic Rep. Alma Adams (10:30 AM EDT), and National Association of Real Estate Brokers 'State of Housing in Black America' forum, with Democratic Rep. Gregory Meeks (2:00 PM EDT) Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, Washington, DC
www.cbcfinc.org/alca [#CBCFALC17](https://twitter.com/CBCFInc)

2:00 PM Rwandan President Kagame speaks at Brookings – 'Flagship reforms for a more effective African Union: A conversation with Rwandan President Paul Kagame' Brookings Institution discussion Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC
<http://www.brookings.edu> [#AUREform](https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst)

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Subject:

The Department of Education News Briefing for September 21, 2017

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=001-77f&t=c>>

TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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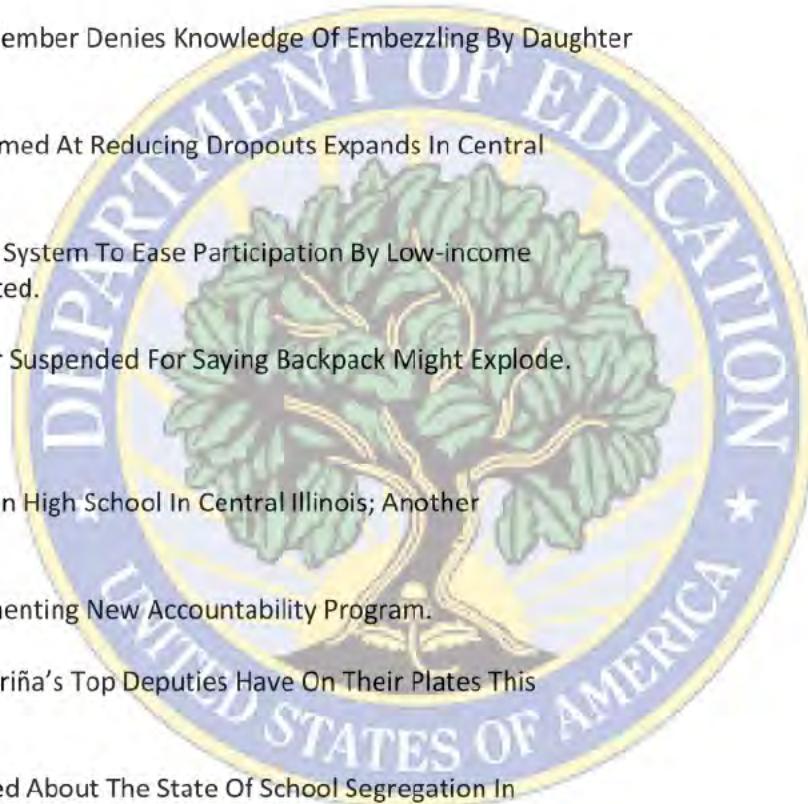
- Eighth Grader Develops Device To Make Solar Panels More Efficient.
- Learning Policy Institute Warns Of Growing Teacher Shortage.
- Green Schoolyards May Provide Health Benefits To Kids.
- South Carolina District Moves To Lift Desegregation Order.
- Fairfax County Superintendent Wants To Diversify Workforce And Reduce Demands On Teachers.
- New Hampshire District To Hold Diversity Training After Racial Comments Reported.
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- United Way Program Aimed At Reducing Dropouts Expands In Central Maryland.
- Denver Changes Choice System To Ease Participation By Low-income Parents And Undocumented.
- California Kindergartner Suspended For Saying Backpack Might Explode.

Additional Reading

- Student Shot At Mattoon High School In Central Illinois; Another Student In Custody.
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- Here's What Carmen Fariña's Top Deputies Have On Their Plates This School Year.
- Three Things We Learned About The State Of School Segregation In Memphis.
- Petition Calls For Charleston Schools Superintendent's Firing.
- Maryland Education Department Will Specially Train Principals At Failing Baltimore Schools.

Post-Secondary Education

- California State University Faculty Oppose Changes In Remedial, Math Instruction.
- Report: California College Students Borrow Less Than Nearly All Other States.



- UC President: Security For “Free Speech Week” Will Be Costly.

Additional Reading

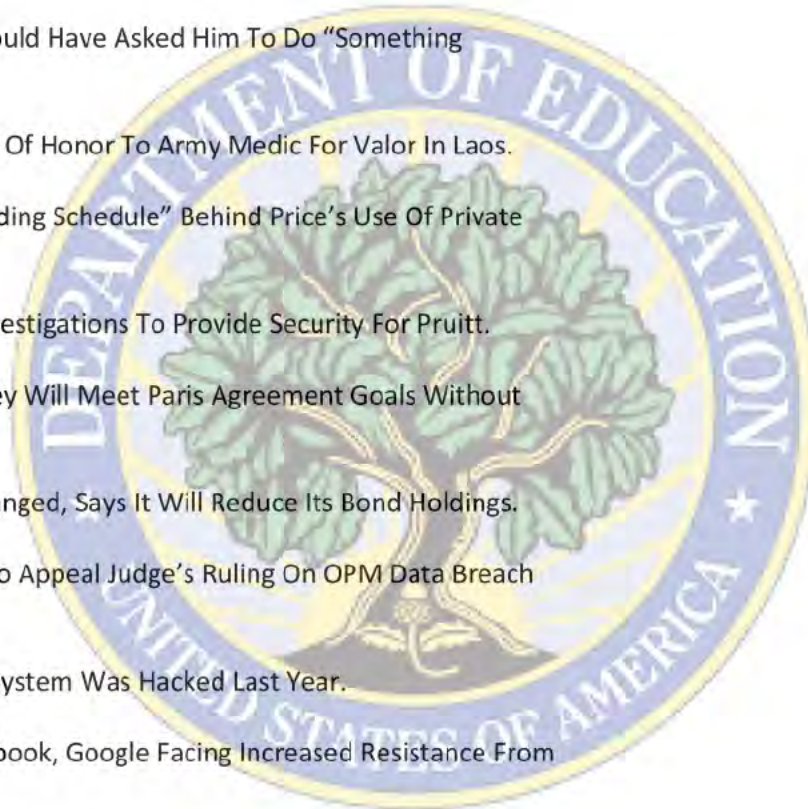
- UT’s Four-year Graduation Rate Reaches A Record.

Other Washington News

- Sources: Trump “Leaning Against” Re-Certifying Iran Deal.
- Carson: Harvey, Irma Recoveries Will Take “Years.”
- Ryan Expects More Hurricane Aid To Be Approved In October.
- All Of Puerto Rico Without Power As Hurricane Maria Makes Landfall.
- Sewer Systems Unable To Handle Hurricanes’ Rain, Flooding.
- Hundreds Seek Aid At East Naples Recovery Assistance Center.
- Agency: Florida Nursing Home “A Danger To Every Person On Its Premises.”
- Brown Calls For National System Of First Responder Caches.
- Trump: Graham-Cassidy “At 47 Or 48” Senate Votes Right Now.
- Illinois Submits Big ACA Rate Increases.
- Poll: 49 Percent Of Voters Support Single-Payer.
- Report: States Short \$645 Billion On Healthcare Costs.
- VA Fires Former District Of Columbia Medical Center Director.
- Number Of DACA Denials Has Doubled Under Trump.
- Administration Weighs Deporting Unaccompanied Central American Teenagers.
- Trump Considers Further Reducing Refugee Limits.
- In Videotaped Message, Trump Welcomes New Citizens.
- California AG Files Suit To Block Border Wall.
- Gillespie Ad Links Virginia Democrat Northam To MS-13 Street Gang.
- Politico Analysis: Senate GOP Will Not “Fall In Line Behind” Trump’s Tax Plan.



- Tim Ryan Says Corporate Tax Reform Must Be “Revenue Positive.”
- Tillis: North Carolina Shows The Impact Tax Reform Can Have.
- Sources: Mattis’ “Agreeable Demeanor” Keeps Trump From “Feeling Threatened” By Him.
- NYTimes Analysis: Trump Nominee “Almost Certainly Voted Illegally” In November.
- Media Analyses: Mueller’s Latest Steps Indicate Trump Himself Under Scrutiny.
- Judge Moves Toward Granting US Request For Information On Inaugural Protest Website.
- Bharara Says Trump Would Have Asked Him To Do “Something Inappropriate.”
- Trump To Award Medal Of Honor To Army Medic For Valor In Laos.
- Spokesperson: “Demanding Schedule” Behind Price’s Use Of Private Jets.
- EPA Pulls Agents Off Investigations To Provide Security For Pruitt.
- Fourteen States Say They Will Meet Paris Agreement Goals Without Trump.
- Fed Leaves Rates Unchanged, Says It Will Reduce Its Bond Holdings.
- Government Workers To Appeal Judge’s Ruling On OPM Data Breach Lawsuit.
- SEC Says Its Computer System Was Hacked Last Year.
- NYTimes Analysis: Facebook, Google Facing Increased Resistance From Washington.
- Poll: Moore Leads Strange 53%-47% In GOP Primary Runoff.
- Pence Slated To Hold Fundraising Event In Milwaukee On September 28.
- CHC PAC “Spending Big On Resorts, Restaurants, And Nightclubs” In Las Vegas.
- Prosecutors Allege Menendez “Concealed Gifts” He Received From Melgen.
- Majority Of Californians Have Considered Moving Because Of Costly Housing.



- FiveThirtyEight Analysis: Trump Looms Over Flake-Ward Primary Clash.
- Poll Shows Stabenow Leading Kid Rock 52%-34% In Hypothetical Matchup.
- Corker Will Face Primary Challenge If He Seeks Reelection.
- Justice Indicates He'll Support Manchin's Reelection Bid.
- Poll: Kaine Leads Stewart 53%-36% In Virginia Senate Race.
- Christie Labels Murphy A "Coward" Over Arbitration Cap Issue.
- Lummis' Decision Not To Run Throws Wyoming Governor's Race "Wide Open."
- Los Angeles Officials Prepare For Potential Big Earthquake.
- "Hundreds Of Non-Citizens" Registered To Vote In Philadelphia Over Past 10 Years.
- Prosecutors: Weiner Deserves Jail Time.
- Poll: Greater "2016 Election Buyers' Remorse" Among Clinton Voters Than Trump Voters.
- Court To Hear Appeal In Request For Clinton Draft Whitewater Indictment Records.
- Leaked Footage Shows MSNBC's O'Donnell Screaming At Staff.
- Daines: Allow Forest Management Needed To Stop Forest Fires.
- Will: National Conversation Empowering "Demagogues."
- WPost: DC Making Progress Toward Better Youth Rehabilitation.

The Big Picture

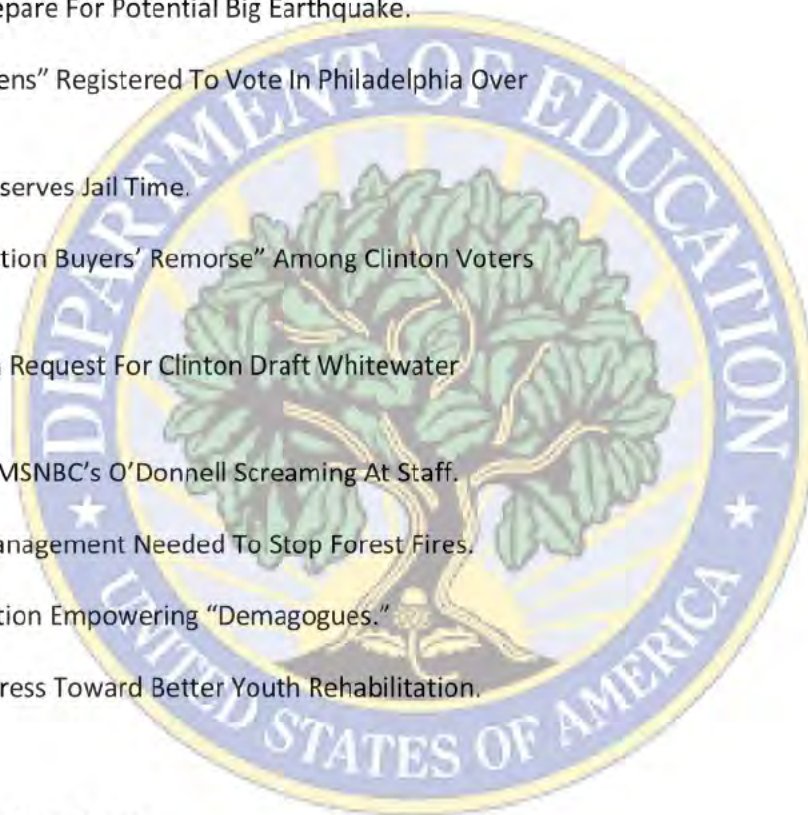
- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Washington's Schedule

- Today's Events In Washington.

Secretary and Department News

DeVos Attends Dedication Of Michigan State University Research Building.



MLive (MI)

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=002-3a7&t=c>> (9/20, 947K) reports Education Secretary Betsy DeVos attended the ribbon cutting of the Michigan State University Grand Rapids Research Center on Wednesday, noting that her "appearance was protested by about two dozen people who said they oppose her stance on school choice and what they described as efforts to 'defund' public schools." The building will house research on cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and Parkinson's disease. MSU President Lou Anna Simon "said the building will house researchers and students dedicated to 'pushing the frontiers of knowledge' and improving 'the quality of life by using the best technology, best science and best connections.'"

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=003-377&t=c>> (9/20) reports that DeVos "joined Michigan State University officials and other dignitaries to mark the official opening the school's Grand Rapids Research Center," which "is eventually expected to employ 44 research teams." The Lansing (MI) State Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=004-a74&t=c>> (9/20, 206K) and WOOD-TV
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=005-644&t=c>> Grand Rapids, MI (9/20, 170K) also cover this story.

Fordham Report: Traditional Public School Teachers Miss More School Than Charter Teachers.

Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=006-8b2&t=c>> (9/20, Loewus, 127K) reports that according to a new report from the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, "a right-leaning think tank," "teachers in traditional public schools are much more likely than teachers in charter schools to miss more than 10 days of work." The analysis found that while some 28% of traditional public school teachers missed over 10 days, only 10% of charter teachers were chronically absent. Education Week quotes lead author and Fordham researcher David Griffith saying, "I think the biggest takeaway is that teacher chronic absenteeism seems to be driven by state policy and local collective bargaining agreements—and possibly to a greater extent than is generally appreciated." However, National Education Association president Lily Eskelsen Garcia "said in a statement that 'Fordham is using corrupted assertions to draw misguided conclusions.'"

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=007-21e&t=c>> (9/20, 3.55M) reports that the report, which is based on data from ED's Office for Civil Rights, "comes with remarkable caveats. For one, differences between how individual

school districts and states report absenteeism can vary, and the data was not independently verified. The report also uses charter school unionization data from the 2009-2010 school year, and the Office of Civil Rights data is from the 2013-2014 school year.”

State-Level Discord Over ESSA Plans Could Impact Implementation.

Daarel Burnette II writes at the Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=008-872&t=c> (9/20, 127K) “State EdWatch” blog that the political rancor and wrangling within states over their ESSA plans could have lingering effects even though the plans have been submitted now. Burnette explains that as the law is implemented, state DOEs will “ask school districts to create their own ESSA plans. If local superintendents, principals, and teachers don’t think much of the state’s new accountability plan, they could drag their feet on implementation.” Moreover, state legislatures and governors could withhold funding from programs they don’t like, and the average turnover of state schools chiefs is shorter than the projected path to implementation for the initiatives in state ESSA plans.

Florida Submits Plan After Receiving Extension Due To Hurricane. The Orlando (FL) Sentinel

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=009-77a&t=c> (9/20, 603K) reports that Florida Gov. Rick Scott has signed his state’s ESSA plan, sending it along to ED for evaluation. The piece notes that the state was granted an extension on the September 18 deadline because of Hurricane Irma.

Deadline Passes For Feedback On ED’s Regulation Plans.

Alison Klein writes at the Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=00a-074&t=c> (9/20, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that hundreds of respondents to a call for public feedback from ED have expressed concerns that “scrapping or rewriting federal regulations could mean a serious weakening of students’ civil rights.” The piece explains that after President Trump “tasked DeVos and her team with slimming down the Education Department and getting rid of ‘burdensome’ regulations and guidance,” ED “asked the public for feedback.” Klein writes that many of the respondents, including individuals and a coalition of 43 civil rights and education groups, “essentially told DeVos not to touch a single regulation, especially rules that help protect children’s civil rights.”

ED Audit Questions New Hampshire’s Handling Of Federal Education Funds.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=00b-6ed&t=c>> (9/20) reports that an ED audit “of how New Hampshire manages federal education funds found the state has failed to independently monitor schools to ensure they are using the money appropriately.” ED “reviewed 19 areas in a fiscal review of how the state education department administers federal grants last fall.” The report “rated the state satisfactory on eight measures and said it is meeting requirements, but should make improvements in five other areas.”

GAO Report Criticizes ED’s Financial Oversight Of Colleges.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=00c-4a6&t=c>> (9/20, Douglas-Gabriel, 10.38M) reports that the Government Accountability Office has released a report saying that ED “could do more to guard against” the implosion of such schools as ITT Technical Institutes and Corinthian Colleges. The Post explains that ED assesses the financial stability of colleges participating in federal student aid programs every year, including “calculating what’s known as a financial responsibility composite score, a set of ratios derived from a school’s audited financial statements.” However, the GAO report “said the composite score has serious limitations” and “does not reflect updates in accounting practices or incorporate financial metrics, such as available cash, that would offer a broader indication of a school’s health.”

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=00d-536&t=c>> (9/20, 3.55M) reports the GAO “is recommending in a report out today that the Education Department update the financial composite score used to measure a college or university’s financial health — a recommendation rejected by the department.” The report says that under the current system, “schools are able to manipulate it by taking out loans to avoid requirements to post letters of credit.”

DeVos To Attend Washington State Fundraiser Next Month.

The Everett (WA) Herald

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=00e-506&t=c>> (9/20, 135K) reports Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is scheduled to attend “a \$350-a-person fundraising dinner for the Washington Policy Center” on October 13 in Bellevue, Washington. The piece says DeVos is likely to “encounter a welcoming committee comprised of teachers, parents, students, Democratic

politicians and other assorted defenders of public schools that will not be cheering her arrival but jeering her efforts to redesign the federal approach to education.”

Additional Reading

Education Dept. Confirms Initial Approval Of Kaplan, EDMC Deals.

Inside Higher Ed

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=00f-82c&t=c>> (9/20, 70K)

EDMC Sale Gets Initial Blessing From U.S. Department Of Education.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=010-777&t=c>> (9/20, Moore, 516K)

Democrats Grill Ed Dept. Nominee.

Inside Higher Ed

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=011-681&t=c>> (9/20, 70K)

Napolitano Riffs On DeVos, Free Speech, And DACA.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=012-0f1&t=c>> (9/20, 43K)

Elementary and Secondary Education

Connecticut Governor Malloy Criticizes Republican Education Budget.

The Hartford (CT) Courant

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=013-ed8&t=c>> (9/20, Megan, 463K) reports Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy “blasted” the education budget proposed by Republicans in the legislature as a “hot mess” and saying, “Their proposal shifts critical aid away from those that need it the

most and directs it to those school systems that are in a far better position to handle their challenges." Sen. Len Fasano (R-North Haven) in reply said Malloy's statements were "purposely off base" and "self-serving." Fasano said that "funding from the other grant programs is all rolled into the education cost-sharing grants, distributed to districts according to a formula that takes into account relevant measures such as poverty and the number of students learning English in a district."

The Connecticut Mirror

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=014-62f&t=c>> (9/20, Rabe Thomas) reports the budget caused "shockwaves" in that the Republicans were able to get their budget passed despite being in the minority in the state House and tied in the state Senate. The result is that although Gov. Malloy "has promised to veto that budget...Democratic legislative leaders and the governor now acknowledge they must negotiate a bipartisan one."

Wisconsin Governor Vetoes Schools Provision Championed By Public School Supporters And Republicans In Legislature.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=015-735&t=c>> (9/20, Bauer) reports Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker "on Wednesday vetoed 99 parts of the state budget" including a plan to allow "low-spending school districts to raise more money from property taxes." The AP says Walker's "vetoes touched on nearly all parts of the" state budget, cutting "\$16.5 million over the next two years." The vetoed school provision "was championed by public school advocates and the Republican co-chair of the Legislature's budget-writing Joint Finance Committee."

Louisiana Association Of Educators Finds Residents Think There Is Too Much Testing.

The Lafayette (LA) Daily Advertiser

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=016-4b5&t=c>> (9/20, McElfresh, 80K) reports the Louisiana Association of Educators took a poll of 837 Louisianans, finding that "hundreds of Louisiana citizens think there is too much of a focus on standardized testing in the state's schools." That was "65 percent of respondents." In reply, Sydni Dunn, spokeswoman for the Louisiana Department of Education, said the state limits state testing to "2 percent of the minimum time students spend in schools."

Eighth Grader Develops Device To Make Solar Panels More Efficient.

Newsday (NY)

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=017-728&t=c>> (9/20, Eidler, 1.64M) reports on the Broadcom MASTERS contest for STEM fields, in which Austin Crouchley, 13, is one of 30 finalists after having “researched a way to make solar energy more cost-effective.” He said, “If we can make solar panels more economically sustainable and more efficient, we can actually use solar panels to satisfy basically all of our electric needs in our planet, and that’s very promising.” The contest had 2,500 applicants in “37 states, Puerto Rico and Department of Defense overseas sites.” There were 300 semifinalists and now 30 finalists, who “will compete in Washington, D.C., from Oct. 19-25 for more than \$100,000 in prizes.” Crouchley developed “a simple, low-cost solar tracking device that can be used to increase the efficiency of solar panels.”

Learning Policy Institute Warns Of Growing Teacher Shortage.

Madeline Will writes at the Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=018-f88&t=c>> (9/20, 127K) “Teaching Now” blog that the “California-based think tank” the Learning Policy Institute hosted a panel discussion on Tuesday about its new analysis titled “Teacher Turnover: Why It Matters and What We Can Do about It.” Researchers and policymakers attending the meeting said that “states and districts must find ways to keep teachers in the profession—or they’re staring down the barrel of a growing teacher shortage.” The group found that around “8 percent of teachers leave the teaching profession each year, and another 8 percent move to a different school, making the overall turnover rate about 16 percent.”

Green Schoolyards May Provide Health Benefits To Kids.

HealthDay

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=019-c2a&t=c>> (9/20, Preidt, 11K) reports that “green schoolyards provide benefits in areas such as heart health, weight control, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder...and stress relief” in children, researchers found after summarizing “the findings of prior published studies on the potential benefits of green schoolyards.” The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

South Carolina District Moves To Lift Desegregation Order.

The Myrtle Beach (SC) Online

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=01a-761&t=c>> (9/20, Boschult, 76K) reports the Georgetown County, South Carolina school board “unanimously voted Tuesday to file a motion with the U.S. District Court in Charleston to lift” parts of a desegregation order governing the district since 1997. According to the article, board members say the order has prevented the district from “hiring some new teachers in areas where there are teacher shortages” and has forced it “to spend extra time and money compiling information for the Department of Justice that they otherwise wouldn’t have done, the superintendent said.” Attorney David Duff, who represents the district in court, “said the DOJ had agreed after it’s most recent visit that the schools had ended the effects of segregation in the areas of transportation, facilities and extracurricular activities and he was confident the court would lift those parts of the order.”

Fairfax County Superintendent Wants To Diversify Workforce And Reduce Demands On Teachers.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=01b-a25&t=c>> (9/20, Truong, 10.38M) reports on the new Fairfax County Schools superintendent Scott Braband. He worked in the district until he left “five years ago to lead Lynchburg City Schools.” Now, he’s back and “officials said they’re optimistic he can navigate the intricacies of the district and state without needing to scale the steep learning curve commonly associated with the role.” Braband said he hopes to be able to work on “diversifying the workforce and scaling back demands on teachers.”

New Hampshire District To Hold Diversity Training After Racial Comments Reported.

The Boston Globe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=01c-1c5&t=c>> (9/21, Johnson, 969K) reports the Oyster River Cooperative School District in Durham, New Hampshire “is taking steps to educate faculty and staff about diversity after racially charged incidents were reported on a school bus and at its middle school.” Superintendent James Morse said that the state’s Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator will conduct the training sessions, and Morse wants “100 percent of all district faculty, staff, and administrators participate.” Morse said there would also be “a multicultural forum and...a review of...curriculum, policies and procedures regarding how members of the community treat each other.” The action is in response to the reported use of “racial comments” and “racial jokes” in the elementary and middle schools.

Albuquerque Schools Member Denies Knowledge Of Embezzling By Daughter At Charter School.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=01d-e3a&t=c>> (9/20) reports in response to a report by the state auditor finding that Julieanne Maestas, formerly assistant business manager at La Promesa Early Learning Center, a charter school, "had deposited over 500 checks worth more than \$475,000 into her personal bank account," her mother Analee Maestas, a member of the Albuquerque Public Schools education board, said through her lawyer that she "was not aware of any alleged criminal activity involving her daughter." She also "suggested that her daughter's substance abuse problems were directly related to issues outlined in the auditor's report." The AP adds, "No charges have been filed."

United Way Program Aimed At Reducing Dropouts Expands In Central Maryland.

The Annapolis (MD) Capital Gazette

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=01e-ce8&t=c>> (9/19, Richman, 90K) reports on a program by United Way of Central Maryland "aimed at stemming school dropout rates" called On Track 4 Success. After apparent success at Maree G. Farring Elementary/Middle School it will be expanded to Benjamin Franklin High School and Meade Middle School. About 8 percent of students in central Maryland "did not graduate from high school last year" with higher numbers "in areas of Baltimore." The program works by spotting "early signs that a student is struggling...and intervenes."

Denver Changes Choice System To Ease Participation By Low-income Parents And Undocumented.

The Denver Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=01f-74c&t=c>> (9/20, Asmar, 817K) reports Denver Public Schools "is making changes to its nationally recognized school choice system," in order "to make it easier for low-income parents to navigate and to assuage fears of undocumented families." Part of the change is "a new, mobile-friendly school information website," another is to "eliminate a requirement that families show 'proof papers.'"

California Kindergartner Suspended For Saying Backpack Might Explode.

The Sacramento (CA) Bee

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=020-fc8&t=c>> (9/20, 349K) reports that the parents of a five-year-old student at Great Valley Academy in Modesto, California are “upset” that the school suspended him “for making terroristic threats” after he “refused to remove his backpack, telling a teacher there was a bomb in it that would explode if he took it off.”

The Huffington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=021-500&t=c>> (9/20, Golgowski, 5.74M) reports that the parents are “speaking out” and are calling for the incident to be removed from his permanent record.

Additional Reading

Student Shot At Mattoon High School In Central Illinois; Another Student In Custody.

The Chicago Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=022-4b0&t=c>> (9/20, Press, 1.98M)

Harford Schools Implementing New Accountability Program.

The Baltimore Sun

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=023-f01&t=c>> (9/20, 706K)

Here’s What Carmen Fariña’s Top Deputies Have On Their Plates This School Year.

Chalkbeat

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=024-c25&t=c>> (9/20)

Three Things We Learned About The State Of School Segregation In Memphis.

Chalkbeat

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=025-ce7&t=c>> (9/20)

Petition Calls For Charleston Schools Superintendent’s Firing.

The Charleston (SC) Post and Courier

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=026-bc3&t=c>> (9/20, 269K)

Maryland Education Department Will Specially Train Principals At Failing Baltimore Schools.

WBFF-TV

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=027-5a7&t=c>> Baltimore (9/20)

Post-Secondary Education

California State University Faculty Oppose Changes In Remedial, Math Instruction.

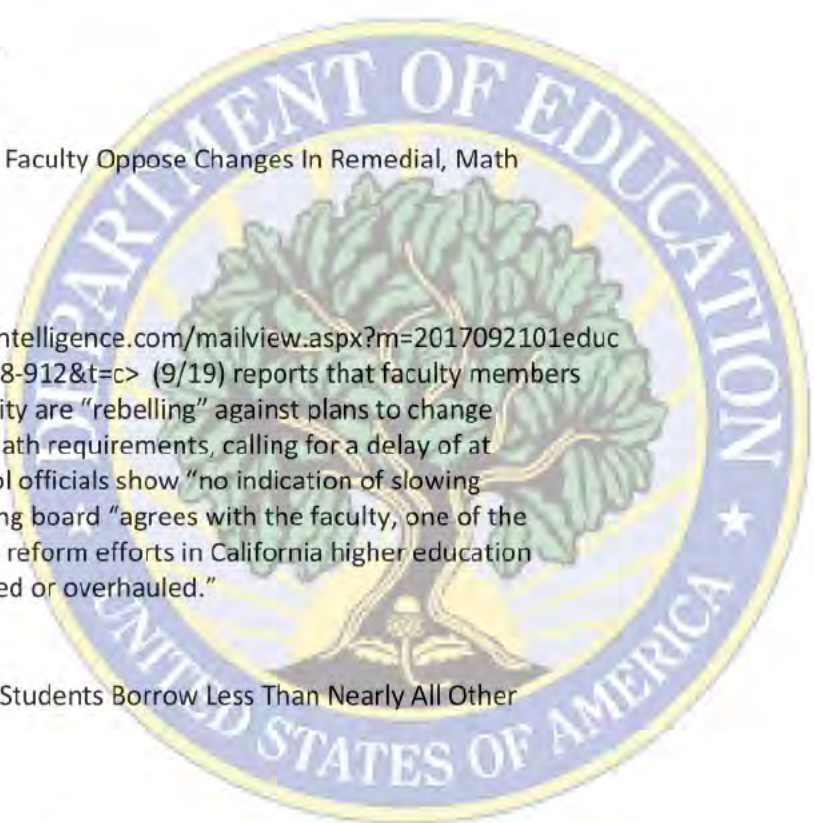
EdSource

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=028-912&t=c>> (9/19) reports that faculty members at California State University are “rebelling” against plans to change remedial education and math requirements, calling for a delay of at least a year. Though school officials show “no indication of slowing down,” if the CSU governing board “agrees with the faculty, one of the most ambitious education reform efforts in California higher education in decades could be delayed or overhauled.”

Report: California College Students Borrow Less Than Nearly All Other States.

EdSource

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=029-d4a&t=c>> (9/19) reports that according to a new report from The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS), California college graduates “finish school with some of the lowest average debt in the nation.” The report “shows that 53 percent of students who started at a four-year, not-for-profit college in California and graduated there in 2016 had incurred any student debt and that their average loan total was \$22,744.” The piece says this data reinforces “a long trend of relatively modest student debt in California.” Researchers cite “a strong tradition of public university attendance, relatively low tuition at the CSU system and generous state financial aid.”



Michigan Borrowing Mainly Steady. The Detroit Free Press
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=02a-3b7&t=c>> (9/20, 1.07M) reports that the report indicates that “the average Michigan graduate with loans owes \$30,852 in student loans,” saying this is “almost the same as the class of 2015, which owed \$30,045.”

UC President: Security For “Free Speech Week” Will Be Costly.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=02b-656&t=c>> (9/20, Wermund, 3.6M) reports that University of California President Janet Napolitano says that the “Free Speech Week” event planned at UC Berkeley this month “will be an expensive test for the school that has become the center of debate over free speech on college campuses.” The event is being planned by “far right provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos” and will feature former White House adviser Steve Bannon. Napolitano said Wednesday that the UC system “will take the unprecedented step of helping Berkeley cover the ‘substantial’ security costs” which she said are “necessary to ensure free speech on campus.”

Additional Reading

UT’s Four-year Graduation Rate Reaches A Record.

The Houston Chronicle

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=02c-fa8&t=c>> (9/20, Ellis, 1.97M)

Other Washington News

Sources: Trump “Leaning Against” Re-Certifying Iran Deal.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=02d-897&t=c>> (9/20, story 8, 0:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported, “President Trump says he’s made up his mind about the Iran nuclear deal, but he’s not saying if the US will stay in the agreement.” However, four sources tell NBC News that Trump is “leaning against re-certifying Iran’s compliance with the deal.” On its website, NBC News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=02e-eb7&t=c>> (9/20, 3.46M) reports such a move would put “the decision of whether the US will withdraw from the accord

in the hands of Congress, according to four sources – including one senior administration official.” NBC says that “such a move would come prior to an Oct. 15 deadline and would trigger a 60-day window for lawmakers to determine whether to reimpose sanctions.” Still, “several of the sources caution the president could change his mind over the next three weeks.”

On Wednesday, the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=02f-71c&t=c>> (9/20, Baker, Sengupta, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports President Trump said that he has made a decision on the future of the Iran deal, “but declined to tell reporters what it was.” Speaking to reporters, Trump said, “I have decided,” repeating the phrase “three times.” Pressed by reporters, he added: “I’ll let you know. I’ll let you know.” The Times notes that while Trump has already certified Iran’s compliance twice, he “has made clear that he is reluctant to certify compliance a third time, citing destabilizing activities by Iran that are not directly covered by the agreement.”

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=030-30c&t=c>> (9/20, Boyer, 541K) and Politico <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=031-0a2&t=c>> (9/20, Nelson, 3.6M) also report briefly on Trump’s remarks, while USA Today <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=032-26d&t=c>> (9/20, Jackson, 8.62M) says Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, in his remarks to the UN General Assembly on Wednesday, “said Trump is the one threatening to violate the agreement – and that the former New York businessman is making unfounded accusations.” Said Rouhani, “It will be a great pity if this agreement were to be destroyed by ‘rogue’ newcomers to the world of politics: the world will have lost a great opportunity.”

Another USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=033-52d&t=c>> (9/20, Michaels, Dorell, 8.62M) report notes that Rouhani “did not mention Trump by name...but his remarks were clearly directed at the US president,” and the AP <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=034-bd5&t=c>> (9/20, Peltz, Lederer) too says the remarks were “clearly directed” at Trump. Bloomberg News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=035-a3e&t=c>> (9/20, Foroohar, Nasser, 4.52M) says the Iranian leader “rejected any US-led effort to alter the 2015 nuclear agreement,” and the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=036-d73&t=c>> (9/20, Morello, 10.38M) reports Rouhani “blasted” Trump for his “ignorant, absurd and hateful” speech before the General Assembly a day earlier.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=037-6ee&t=c>> (9/20, Lee) says the “jabbing” between Trump and Rouhani “set the stage for a contentious meeting of the nuclear accord’s parties” on Wednesday on the sidelines of the General Assembly, including Secretary of State Tillerson and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. The AP says that “a year ago, such a get-together would have been considered routine,” but “in the current environment, it is anything but ordinary.”

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=038-2c9&t=c>> (9/20, Stokols, Schwartz, Peker, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports Tillerson said late Tuesday that the US would remain a part of the agreement only if it is modified to tighten restrictions on Iran’s nuclear program that loosen after the year 2025 under the deal. Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=039-c7d&t=c>> (9/20, Hafezi, Holland) reports that a “source familiar with the US discussions” said the Administration is “also considering ways to leave the agreement intact, sanction Iran for its missile tests and support for extremist groups, and then seek to strengthen the pact.”

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=03a-3ee&t=c>> (9/20, Persons, 541K) reports White House press secretary Sarah Sanders “hinted” Wednesday that Trump “might make changes to the Iran nuclear deal soon.” When asked what type of announcement Trump may be planning, Sanders told Fox News that “plans may change” for the current deal, and that Trump will take “actions” to “fix the mistakes of being part of that deal on the front end.” She did not, however, say when an announcement with his plans could be expected.

“Sources” To Free Beacon: Tillerson, Haley “At Odds” Over Deal. In what the Washington Free Beacon

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=03b-e48&t=c>> (9/20, Kredo, 158K) calls a “sign of the ongoing internal dissent over ending” the agreement, “multiple sources” told the Free Beacon that Tillerson and Ambassador Haley “have been at odds over the deal,” with Haley “privately expressing dismay with Tillerson over his continued efforts to preserve the nuclear agreement.” Tillerson and Haley “held a private powwow Wednesday with international leaders regarding the future of the nuclear deal, a sign of Haley’s vital role” in the issue.

After Wednesday’s meeting, the Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=03c-ee2&t=c>> (9/20, Morrongiello, 465K) reports Tillerson told reporters, “We had a very open and candid exchange with all of the parties to the agreement. We clearly have significant issues with the agreement.” He also confirmed that Trump has reached a decision on recertifying Iran’s compliance with the agreement, but “declined to disclose the details of it.”

Paul Wants US To Stay In Agreement. In an interview with Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=03d-e8b&t=c>> (9/20, Kim, 3.6M) Wednesday, Sen. Rand Paul, who opposed the nuclear deal with Iran two years ago, said he wants the US to stay in the agreement because he believes evidence shows that Iran has been complying with its terms. "Most of the complaints about Iran don't have anything to do with the agreement. They complain about ballistic missiles and other things, but that's not part of the agreement," Paul told Politico. "I think while the agreement's not perfect, my main concern has always been compliance. But if they're complying with it, I think we should stay in it."

Panetta Defends Deal, Rice Blasts Trump. Former CIA Director Leon Panetta said on CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=03e-058&t=c>> (9/20, 1.02M) the concerns about the Iran nuclear deal are "understandable," but "the fact is we do have an agreement" that has "been effective at preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapon," and "we have evidence that Iran has abided by that agreement." Panetta said that if Trump withdraws, "he has to think seriously about the fact that at some point down the road he will bear responsibility for Iran getting a nuclear weapon."

The Daily Caller

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=03f-a37&t=c>> (9/20, 521K) reports former national security advisor Susan Rice "didn't mince words" Wednesday when criticizing Trump's speech at the UN. Rice was "especially unhappy" with Trump's insistence that the Iran nuclear deal is a "one-sided deal" and "an embarrassment" to the US. Said Rice, "We could begin a process of dialogue on what comes next after the deal. But we can't do that when hurling threats, when threatening to walk out, when acting like a spoiled child at the dinner table."

EU Official: Iran Deal "Working." The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=040-a90&t=c>> (9/20) reports EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said Wednesday that all parties to the Iran nuclear deal "agree that the accord is being implemented as planned and US complaints about other Iranian behavior should be discussed outside the context of the agreement." Speaking to reporters in New York, Mogherini said the deal "is working and is delivering for its purpose."

Macron: If US Scraps Deal, World Could Face Another North Korea Crisis. USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=041-927&t=c>> (9/20, Ullmann, 8.62M) reports French President Emmanuel Macron urged President Trump Wednesday "to stick with the Iran nuclear deal" because "what else do we have? We would be put in the North Korea situation." Macron told a group of editors and reporters

in New York that without the current agreement, Tehran “would be able to rush ahead with a nuclear weapons program the way North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un is, creating a new international crisis.”

Media Analyses: Trump’s Criticism Of Iran Deal Poses Problems For North Korea Strategy. An AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=042-724&t=c>> (9/20, Pennington) analysis says Trump’s threat “to obliterate North Korea left no doubt about his determination to stop the communist country’s nuclear weapons buildup,” and “his disparagement of the Iran nuclear deal in the same speech offered Pyongyang little hope of a negotiated solution.” While Trump said, “It is time for North Korea to realize that the denuclearization is its only acceptable future,” the AP says he “offered no path toward making that future a reality.”

David Sanger similarly writes in a New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=043-fa5&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis that the “dynamics” of the two cases “are entirely different, but they are also oddly interdependent. If Mr. Trump makes good on his threat to pull out of the 2015 nuclear agreement with Iran, how will he then convince the North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un, that America will honor the commitment to integrate North Korea into the world community if only it disarms – the demand Mr. Trump made from the podium of the United Nations.”

Security Firm: US Aviation, Energy Companies Targeted By Iranian Hackers. USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=044-086&t=c>> (9/20, Weise, 8.62M) reports that a “suspected Iranian hacking group has been targeting aviation and energy companies in the United States, Saudi Arabia and South Korea since 2013,” computer security company FireEye said in a report released Wednesday. The group “seems largely to have engaged in stealth spying to give Iranian military and corporate interests information about possible enemies and competition.” However, the researchers also found “signs of links to malicious software called SHAPESHIFT capable of destroying data within a company’s network.” FireEye cautioned that it had “not directly observed the hackers carry out any destructive operations, but the capability appears to be present.”

Carson: Harvey, Irma Recoveries Will Take “Years.”

HUD Secretary Carson told reporters Wednesday that federal aid to communities impacted by hurricanes Harvey and Irma is weeks or months away “from starting to flow as the painstaking process of assessing damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure is far from finished,”
USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101educ>

ation&r=email-9544&l=045-603&t=c> (9/20, King, 8.62M) reports. Carson said, "What I've seen has really been a catastrophe, an unprecedented amount of damage from natural disasters which means we need an unprecedented response. ... Funding allocations are an overriding priority. We want to move the compensation into people's hands as quickly as possible. But despite our best efforts, that of course will take some time." Carson added, "HUD is in this for the long haul. ... We know that this is a recovery that's going to take years – could be many years – and we're prepared to be here for the long run."

Ryan Expects More Hurricane Aid To Be Approved In October.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=046-c05&t=c>> (9/20, Marcos, 1.68M) reports in its "Floor Action" blog that House Speaker Ryan said Wednesday that Congress "will approve more emergency aid in October to help communities affected by recent hurricanes." Speaking at a news conference in Florida during a tour of areas hit by Hurricane Irma, Ryan "said lawmakers are still waiting for official estimates of how much money will be needed before crafting another funding package." Ryan said, "As we assess and we get more information from the administration, I'm sure that we're going to do another what we call a 'supplemental' sometime in October once we have a full assessment of what is needed." The Miami Herald
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=047-a8f&t=c>> (9/20, Smiley, 701K) quotes Ryan as saying, "What matters most is the Disaster [Relief] Fund at FEMA is full and it can respond. That's why just a few weeks ago we made sure that the FEMA funds were there because the spend-down rate was accelerating very quickly as opposed to other hurricanes."

All Of Puerto Rico Without Power As Hurricane Maria Makes Landfall.

Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico Wednesday causing extensive damage. All three network news broadcasts led with the story Wednesday evening and it garners heavy print coverage this morning. Much of the coverage focuses on the devastation in Puerto Rico, but damage to Dominica and the storm's path towards the Dominican Republic and Turks and Caicos also garner coverage.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=048-abd&t=c>> (9/20, lead story, 3:15, Holt, 16.61M) reported in its lead story that in Puerto Rico "hundreds of homes are damaged or destroyed, streets are flooded, and 100 percent of that US island is without power after Hurricane Maria slammed ashore with 155-mile-an-hour winds." In its lead story, the CBS Evening News
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=048-abd&t=c>>

ation&r=email-9544&l=049-b49&t=c> (9/20, lead story, 2:25, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Maria made landfall "as a Category 4 and touched off catastrophic flooding. The storm is moving away from Puerto Rico tonight, toward the Dominican Republic, and tomorrow, the Bahamas." CBS (Begnaud) added that "despite the devastation, no deaths or injuries have been reported, so far." Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello "is telling people to stay calm, but he's warning that the island is on the verge of losing communication." Rossello "is asking for generators to be shipped from the mainland here to the island to help restore power as a dusk-to-dawn curfew has just gone into effect."

ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=04a-5c6&t=c>> (9/20, lead story, 2:55, Oquendo, 14.63M) reported in its lead story that Puerto Rico's emergency management director says "the entire island is destroyed." Many homes on the island were "not built to withstand any hurricane, let alone a Category 4." According to officials, "many areas will be uninhabitable for weeks, maybe even months." Rossello said on CNN's Anderson Cooper 360

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=04b-8e3&t=c>> (9/20, 1.44M), "The damage is very extensive. It is nothing short of a major disaster. We have a lot of flooding, a lot of infrastructure damage. Our tell communications system is partially down. Our energy infrastructure is completely down."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=04c-37d&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that while Rossello said "more than 500 shelters had been opened...he could not vouch for the storm-worthiness of all of those structures." In what the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=04d-e5e&t=c>> (9/20, De Córdoba, De Avila, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) calls an apparent effort to prevent looting, Rossello announced via tweet that he is imposing a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew from Wednesday to Saturday. Rossello wrote, "I am making a call for calm, understanding and prudence during these difficult days for Puerto Rico."

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=04e-77e&t=c>> (9/20, Hennessy-Fiske, Lee, 4.49M) reports that a statement from the White House said "that President Trump is continuing to monitor the situation and that he and First Lady Melania Trump 'send their thoughts and prayers to all those in harm's way.'" White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said on Fox News' Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=04f-6f0&t=c>> (9/20, 1.76M), "FEMA Director Brock Long has been working alongside all the state and local officials really trying to make sure we put as many resources in place as possible."

Thanks to technology we have a lot more leeway on the front end of a lot of these storms that are allowing us to preposition resources. The federal government is doing all we can to help people in both, you know, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and other surrounding islands as these storms are moving in."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=050-d72&t=c>> (9/20, Schmidt, 10.38M) says recovery efforts "could be hampered by long-standing financial problems that led the territorial government to file for a form of bankruptcy in May." Puerto Rican Rep. Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon expressed a similar concern on CNN's The Lead

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=051-044&t=c>> (9/20, 1.13M), saying, "I spoke last night with Vice President Mike Pence and FEMA Director Brock Long and other members of cabinet regarding how are we going to put Puerto Rico back on track considering the financial situation Puerto Rico got in the recent years. And, thank God, Vice President Pence conveyed the message of the President of the United States and the whole government is going to be helping out the island. As a matter of fact, there are more than 400 rescue teams and federal employees from all over the nation waiting until it is safe to go outside and begin the search and rescue already on the island."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=052-719&t=c>> (9/20, Faiola, 10.38M) reports that a "direct hit" by Maria "caused massive damage to homes and buildings, washed out roads, upended water pipelines and left at least seven people dead" in Dominica. According to official estimates, "70 to 80 percent of Dominica's structures sustained storm damage, ranging from ripped-off roofs to near-total destruction." The Post adds that "intact public buildings were being converted into emergency shelters for scores of homeless residents."

ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=053-123&t=c>> (9/20, story 2, 0:55, Muir, 14.63M) reported that Maria's center is currently about 75 miles east of the Dominican Republic. While it's a category two storm, it "may very well strengthen" as it heads to Turks and Caicos. Al Roker said on NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=054-bcc&t=c>> (9/20, story 3, 1:00, Holt, 16.61M) that the Dominican Republic will get "four to six feet of surge, 8 to 16 inches of rain." Turks and Caicos, meanwhile, "may be the next really big devastated area with 125 mph winds, a storm surge of nine to 12 feet and nine to 16 inches."

Sewer Systems Unable To Handle Hurricanes' Rain, Flooding.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=055-7bb&t=c>> (9/20, King, Bauerlein, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports on the impact hurricanes Harvey and Irma had on aging sewer systems that were unable to handle the heavy rainfall and flooding. In Texas alone, Harvey destroyed two wastewater treatment facilities in Harris County and eight such facilities are still not operational in five counties including Harris .

Hundreds Seek Aid At East Naples Recovery Assistance Center.

The Naples (FL) Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=056-b75&t=c>> (9/20, Riley, 142K) reports that Sen. Marco Rubio's office hosted a recovery assistance center in East Naples, Florida Wednesday to which "hundreds affected by Hurricane Irma's winds and storm surge flocked to...seek help from federal authorities, browse insurance options and load up on supplies." According to a FEMA spokeswoman, the center "functioned as a 'one-stop shop' for residents looking for financial assistance."

Agency: Florida Nursing Home "A Danger To Every Person On Its Premises."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=057-589&t=c>> (9/20, Yee, Fink, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration has found that the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills, where eight residents died following Hurricane Irma, "'presents a danger to every person on its premises' and must close after staff at the facility failed to call 911 for its overheated patients." The nursing home was also "rebuked" for "entering normal vital signs, or mildly elevated temperatures, into the medical records of several residents after they had already been evacuated or, in one case, had already died." The Naples (FL) Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=058-78c&t=c>> (9/20, Sarkissian, 142K) reports that "the nursing home filed a complaint in Leon County Circuit Court arguing it had followed an emergency plan overseen by Broward County as it prepared for Irma." According to the lawsuit, nursing home staff "did everything possible to seek help from Florida Power & Light to restore power to its air conditioning system knocked out by the storm," and "called 911 as patients' conditions deteriorated due to the heat, according to the lawsuit."

The Miami Herald

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=059-dc0&t=c>> (9/20, Klas, 701K) highlights a psychiatric hospital's efforts to seek assistance in advance of the storm. The facility sent an email "to a Broward County commissioner, whose office was closed" and who "didn't get the message until days later." The Herald says the email "raises doubts about the state's strategy for helping elder-care operators brace for a looming catastrophe." Gov. Rick Scott "gave out a private cell phone number to the caregivers," and "said give us a call if you have a problem." Many did so, "including the Hollywood Hills nursing home," which "made multiple calls to the cell phone and to a separate state information hotline set up to deal with storm-related emergencies." The nursing home "'reported the electrical breakdown and indicated the situation was becoming increasingly urgent," the calls "fail[ed] to yield any substantive help," and have resulted in sharp criticism from the governor's office, which said the nursing home never reported that lives were in jeopardy."

Brown Calls For National System Of First Responder Caches.

In an op-ed for The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=05a-c37&t=c>> (9/20, 1.68M), former FEMA Director Michael Brown writes that FEMA should expand its Task Force Equipment caches, which "are designed to provide first responders with medical, rescue, communications, technical support and logistics for teams to be self-sufficient up to 72 hours in a disaster zone." Expanding the "strategic thinking" behind the caches, he argues, "would not only speed up FEMA response (and as fast as FEMA is currently responding, every first responder wants to be able to respond even faster) but would reduce last-minute ramp ups from the private sector – which always cost a premium." Brown calls on Congress and FEMA to "outline a plan to create a nationwide system of first responder caches," which "should be fully funded, separate and apart from the Disaster Relief Fund."

Trump: Graham-Cassidy "At 47 Or 48" Senate Votes Right Now.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=05b-fa6&t=c>> (9/20, Werner) reports that President Trump said Wednesday that "the Republicans' last-resort 'Obamacare' repeal effort remains two or three votes short, forecasting days of furious lobbying ahead with a crucial deadline looming next week." Trump told reporters that "by his reckoning, 'we're at 47 or 48 already, senators, and a lot of others are looking at it very positively.'"

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=05b-fa6&t=c>>

ation&r=email-9544&l=05c-8f8&t=c> (9/20, Mason) reports that Trump also said, "I thought that when I won, I would go to the Oval Office, sit down at my desk, and there would be a healthcare bill on my desk, to be honest. And it hasn't worked out that way. And I think a lot of Republicans are embarrassed by it."

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said on Fox News' Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=05d-d79&t=c>> (9/20, 1.76M) that "we have to have a program that actually works and we know that that's not Obamacare. It's simply not sustainable. It's collapsing. There's many markets where they don't even have providers anymore. We have got to get a system in place that actually works for all Americans."

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=05e-6c3&t=c>> (9/20, Howell, 541K) reports that a vote will take place next week, according to a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader McConnell. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=05f-a85&t=c>> (9/20, Everett, 3.6M) reports, "The bill does not yet have the public support of 50 senators, but GOP insiders are growing more confident it will pass." Sen. John Thune said on Fox News Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=060-cf2&t=c>> (9/20, 1.99M), "We are a handful of votes short of having the 50 that we need. ... I think we're going to be working very hard over the course of the next few days to try and get to 50 so we can get this across the finish line." Karl Rove writes in his Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=061-97f&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) column that the bill could reach 50 votes, making GOP repeal promises a reality.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=062-bc4&t=c>> (9/20, Peterson, Radnofsky, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Trump urged Republicans to back the measure, tweeting

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=063-681&t=c>> , "I hope Republican Senators will vote for Graham-Cassidy and fulfill their promise to Repeal & Replace ObamaCare. Money direct to States!" He also criticized Sen. Rand Paul, an opponent of the bill, tweeting

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=064-173&t=c>> , "Rand Paul is a friend of mine but he is such a negative force when it comes to fixing healthcare.

Graham-Cassidy Bill is GREAT! Ends Ocare!"

Trump also tweeted

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=065-f11&t=c>> , "I would not sign Graham-Cassidy if it did not include coverage of pre-existing conditions. It does! A great Bill. Repeal & Replace." However, Axios

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=066-696&t=c>> (9/20, Owens, 303K) reports that the bill "does allow states to waive the ACA's ban on charging people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums than healthy people."

On the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=067-d07&t=c>> (9/20, story 4, 2:05, Mason, 11.17M), Nancy Cordes reported, "Republicans Bill Cassidy and Lindsey Graham sprinted from meeting to meeting today...trying to close the sale on the party's last, best shot at replacing Obamacare." The Graham-Cassidy bill "would keep Obamacare's taxes in place, but turn most of the revenues over to the states to come up with their own healthcare systems." The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=068-49b&t=c>> (9/20, Woodward) reports that Graham called the bill he co-authored "a 'historic opportunity' and asserted:

'We're going to vote. Everyone will be held accountable.'" Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=069-7dd&t=c>> (9/20, McIntire, 134K) says the measure "would dramatically restructure the individual health insurance market by giving states block grants to fund health insurance coverage," and would "transition traditional Medicaid, which is an entitlement, to a system that gives states a capped amount of funding based on their Medicaid population."

Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=06a-a6e&t=c>> (9/20, Williams, 134K) reports, "Republican senators face the prospect of retreating from their previous public stances in order to support [the] fast-moving legislation." The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=06b-08c&t=c>> (9/20, Carney, 1.68M), the Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=06c-478&t=c>> (9/20, Weaver, 465K), and Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=06d-48f&t=c>> (9/20, Moran, 2.42M) briefly report on the announcement of the upcoming vote.

Murkowski Again In Spotlight As Vote Approaches. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=06e-370&t=c>> (9/20, A1, Sullivan, 10.38M) reports that Sen. Lisa Murkowski is again the spotlight as "one of at least four Republicans who remain unsure whether to support" the bill. Murkowski "regularly breaks with her party – yet she is also willing to play ball. 'The problem last time was process and substance,' Murkowski said

Tuesday...explaining why she might be willing to support the current measure despite voting against the last one in July. 'Nobody knew what we were really looking to in voting on.'"

Congressional correspondent Phil Mattingly said on CNN's Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=06f-46a&t=c>> (9/20, 1.02M) that GOP leaders are "gathering information and specific asks from specific senators that will change this bill in an effort to try and get them on board. Most notably though they're targeting Lisa Murkowski." Murkowski met Wednesday with Graham and Cassidy "to figure out exactly what this bill would do to Alaska and what Republican leaders and Administration officials can do to make sure the state is not disproportionately affected by this massive change in the US healthcare system."

Johnson: Bill Would Shift Power To States. Sen. Ron Johnson writes in USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=070-4ff&t=c>> (9/20, 8.62M), "Obamacare was never designed to be patient-friendly. In fact, one of the key tenets of Obamacare is taking power away from patients and local officials. Obamacare gives this decision-making power to the federal government." Graham-Cassidy "would change that by block-granting Obamacare spending to states, empowering those closest to their communities to provide effective solutions."

Lanhee Chen of the Hoover Institution writes in the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=071-cfc&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) that the bill's federalism is its most appealing component. However, Avik Roy of the Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity, a former policy adviser to several GOP presidential candidates, writes in the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=072-0d6&t=c>> (9/20, 10.38M), "Cassidy-Graham, in its current form, would put a heavy Washington hand on the federalism steering wheel. The bill would make it relatively easy for blue states to expand the role of single-payer health care, while making it rather difficult for red states to achieve market-oriented reforms."

Schumer, Pelosi Working To Defeat Measure. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=073-e9d&t=c>> (9/20, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) looks at how Senate Minority Leader Schumer and House Minority Leader Pelosi, who "have forged what may be the most surprisingly potent partnership in Mr. Trump's Washington," are now attempting to kill Graham-Cassidy. But both said Trump "was noncommittal."

Christie Opposes Bill. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=074-772&t=c>> (9/20, Jennings, 3.6M) reports that Gov. Chris Christie said Wednesday, "I oppose Graham-Cassidy because it is too injurious to the people of New Jersey. I'm certainly not going to support a bill that takes nearly \$4 billion from people in the state."

BCBS Association, AHIP Announce Opposition. The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=075-f34&t=c>> (9/20, Pear, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that "the two major trade groups for insurers," the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and America's Health Insurance Plans, "came out forcefully" against the bill on Wednesday, "suggesting that its state-by-state block grants could create health care chaos in the short term and a Balkanized, uncertain insurance market."

Avalere Health Analysis: 34 States Would Lose Federal Funding. The Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=076-e69&t=c>> (9/20, Goldstein, Elperin, 10.38M) reports that an analysis by Avalere Health concludes that Graham-Cassidy "would sharply reduce federal spending on health insurance and cause 34 states to lose such funding. ... States with relatively low medical costs, skimpy Medicaid benefits and no program expansion would win out. Texas would gain more than any state – \$35 billion from 2020 through 2026."

Cassidy Says Kimmel "Does Not Fully Grasp The Bill." The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=077-2d5&t=c>> (9/20, Rogers, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "Hours after Jimmy Kimmel unleashed a monologue attacking" Graham-Cassidy, the two senators "spent Wednesday morning defending the legislation against the late-night host, who in recent months has become an unlikely – and increasingly impassioned – critic." Kimmel "delivered an earnest monologue on Tuesday evening," accusing Cassidy "of failing to deliver on several key issues, including lowering premiums, expanding coverage, banning lifetime caps and not discriminating based on pre-existing conditions." Cassidy told Fox News that "Kimmel did not fully grasp the bill." Graham said on the same network, "I understand the emotional nature of having a sick child. ... I bet he looked at some liberal talking point, bought it hook, line and sinker, and went after Bill Cassidy without talking to him." Cassidy said on MSNBC's Morning Joe
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=078-db0&t=c>> (9/20, 1.08M), "There will be more people covered...than are under status quo and we protect those with pre-existing conditions." Graham said on Fox News' Fox & Friends
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=079-19a&t=c>> (9/20, 2.02M), "Our bill requires preexisting illnesses to be covered in the block grant."

On ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=07a-819&t=c>> (9/20, story 5, 2:05, Muir, 14.63M), Mary Bruce reported, "Cassidy promised he would defend protections for people with preexisting conditions. But now, Kimmel says he's not living up to his word." Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=07b-2c5&t=c>> (9/20, Diamond, 3.6M) writes, "In the war of words between Jimmy Kimmel and Sen. Bill Cassidy, the late-night host has the better grasp of health policy, health care analysts say."

Experts say "that Kimmel's assessment was basically accurate because of the flexibility the bill gives states to set up their own health care systems." NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=07c-9ca&t=c>> (9/20, story 7, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M) and Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=07d-c5d&t=c>> (9/20, Dennis, Tracer, 4.52M) also report on Kimmel's remarks and Cassidy's response.

Obama: "50th Or 60th" ACA Repeal Effort Is "Aggravating." USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=07e-196&t=c>> (9/20, Estepa, 8.62M) reports that former President Obama, addressing the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on Wednesday, said, "When I see people trying to undo that progress for the 50th or 60th time, with bills that would raise costs or reduce coverage, or rollback protections for older Americans or pre-existing conditions – the cancer survivor, the expecting mom or the child with autism or asthma, for whom coverage would once again be almost unattainable – it is aggravating. And all of this being done without any economic or actuarial or plain common sense rationale." The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=07f-d43&t=c>> (9/20, Carney, 1.68M) reports that Graham replied, "It's no surprise President Obama opposes sending money and power back to the states and closer to where the patients live. Obamacare was designed with the exact opposite goal in mind – which is to consolidate healthcare power and decision-making in Washington."

USA Today: Graham-Cassidy "Would Be Poison." USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=080-485&t=c>> (9/20, 8.62M) runs an editorial headlined "Last-Ditch Obamacare Repeal Would Be Poison," writing, "This measure would strip tens of millions of people of their health coverage. It would gut Medicaid," and would "allow insurers in some states to deny coverage based on a previous medical condition. And it would allow insurers to skip coverage of essential services, including maternity care. That's all bad enough, but the Graham-Cassidy measure adds a new level of cynicism...with states that vote largely Republican faring far better than Democratic ones."

Illinois Submits Big ACA Rate Increases.

The Chicago Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=081-b40&t=c>> (9/20, Schencker, 1.98M) reports that a new analysis from the Illinois Department of Insurance found that hundreds of thousands of Illinois consumers “who buy health insurance on the state’s Obamacare exchange will likely see average rates increase by 16 percent to 37 percent next year for the lowest-priced plans.” According to the analysis of expected rates submitted by the department, Illinois consumers “will also see less competition among insurance providers on the exchange.”

Poll: 49 Percent Of Voters Support Single-Payer.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=082-bf0&t=c>> (9/20, Savransky, 1.68M) reports that a new Politico/Morning Consult poll of 1,994 registered voters found that 49 percent of respondents “support a single-payer health care system in which ‘Americans would get their health insurance from one government plan.’” Thirty-five percent of respondents opposed single-payer.

Report: States Short \$645 Billion On Healthcare Costs.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=083-9fd&t=c>> (9/20, A1, Gillers, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that states have promised to pay \$645 billion more in retiree health benefits than states have been able to save, according to a new report from The Pew Charitable Trusts based on 2015 data. These shortfalls will be made more evident as states and cities around the country will be required to follow new Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines that urge officials to record all healthcare liabilities on their balance sheets.

VA Fires Former District Of Columbia Medical Center Director.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=084-299&t=c>> (9/20, Boyer, 541K) reports the Department of Veterans Affairs fired former District of Columbia VA Medical Center Director Brian Hawkins Wednesday for “failure to provide effective leadership” at the center. The department “said it took this

action using authorities provided by the VA Accountability Act, which President Trump signed into law in June. Mr. Hawkins was notified in late August that he was facing removal."

Number Of DACA Denials Has Doubled Under Trump.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=085-0fd&t=c>> (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports that numbers released Wednesday show that DHS "has doubled the rate of denials of Dreamers' amnesty applications," suggesting that "the administration had been taking a harder line even before President Trump's announcement this month that he would phase out the DACA program altogether." From April to June, "32 percent applications for DACA status that were decided...were rejected," which is "twice the 16 percent rate of the last months of the Obama administration."

Pelosi: Dreamers' Parents "Did A Great Thing" For The Country.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=086-57d&t=c>> (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports that in comments that "strike a dissonant note from many analysts, who while saying the Dreamers are sympathetic since they had no say in the decision, say the parents do deserve blame for creating the problem," House Minority Leader Pelosi said Wednesday that "parents who brought their children to the US in defiance of the law 'did a great thing,' giving the country an infusion of successful young people."

Administration Weighs Deporting Unaccompanied Central American Teenagers.

The Miami Herald

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=087-e5f&t=c>> (9/20, Ordoñez, 701K) reports that "two sources with knowledge of the developing policy proposal" say the Trump Administration "is weighing a new policy that would fast-track the deportation of thousands of Central American teenagers who arrived at the southern border, unaccompanied by adults." According to the sources, the Justice Department "wants to avoid creating a new protected class of undocumented immigrants, given how politically difficult it has been for the administration to unwind another program – DACA, which protected young people brought by adults to the country illegally when they were children." The new policy would call for "expedited deportation" of the "more than 150,000 children who arrived at the southern border alone, escaping violence and poverty in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala." The plan would send teens in this group "back to their countries when they turn 18 under a fast-track deportation, which means they would not see an immigration judge first."

Trump Considers Further Reducing Refugee Limits.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=088-9ad&t=c>> (9/20, Colvin) cites "Trump administration officials" who said Wednesday that the President "is considering a further reduction in the number of refugees allowed into the United States as the administration works to re-shape American immigration policy." However, "Cabinet officials are divided as they weigh the costs and potential security risks associated with the program." While DHS "has been pushing for a reduction beyond the 50,000 mark set by Trump earlier this year as part of his travel ban executive orders," the State Department, "which oversees the program, has formally recommended that the number be kept at 50,000."

A pair of opinion pieces this morning argue against reducing the number of refugees. A Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=089-a10&t=c>> (9/20, 10.38M) editorial says that "xenophobes seeking an upper hand in the Trump administration have covered" a report showing refugees' revenue contributions to federal, state, and local governments. A report ordered by the President in March "concluded that refugees had delivered \$63 billion more in federal, state and local tax revenue than they had cost in federal benefits through the decade ending in 2014." However, according to the New York Times, the fact that refugees "pay more in taxes than they draw in benefits...was suppressed by Stephen Miller, Mr. Trump's nativist senior policy adviser." The Post argues that "it would be not just callous for Washington to turn its back on" refugees, it would be "an act of national redefinition and an abdication of leadership."

In an op-ed for USA Today <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=08a-c86&t=c>> (9/20, 8.62M), Sasha Chanoff, executive director of RefugePoint, argues that while it is "not true that refugees are a security threat and therefore need to be kept out of America," this "fiction may influence President Trump to slash the resettlement admissions number to the lowest in decades." Chanoff writes that the President "should set next year's ceiling at a minimum of 75,000, a number in line with admissions over the past few years, and the very least we can do in the face of an unprecedented global refugee crisis with more than 22.5 million refugees."

US To Accept 54 Refugees From Australia's Offshore Detention Centers. The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=08b-3ee&t=c>> (9/20, Williams, Baidawi, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull announced Wednesday that "the first group of refugees

from Australia's offshore detention centers is expected to leave for the United States "in the coming weeks." In a video posted on social media, Turnbull "thanked President Trump for honoring a deal reached by the Obama administration, which Mr. Trump had criticized, in which the United States agreed to accept hundreds of refugees from the centers." A State Department official "confirmed that 54 approved refugees would be notified in the coming days and travel to the United States in the coming weeks."

In Videotaped Message, Trump Welcomes New Citizens.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=08c-d4b&t=c>> (9/20, Taxin) reports that 4,000 immigrants taking their citizenship oath in Los Angeles Wednesday "let out a collective moan when they learned they were going to watch a videotaped message from President Donald Trump." In the message, Trump "welcomes citizens and tells them they should teach American values to others and 'help newcomers assimilate to our way of life.'" The AP says for the immigrants, Trump's remarks "felt insincere after he previously ordered a travel ban, moved to end a program shielding nearly 800,000 young immigrants from deportation, and referred to Mexican immigrants as rapists." However, others "appreciated Trump's message of unity – especially at a time of political division."

Zinke: Statue Of Liberty "Beacon Of Light" For Immigrants Coming To America. Fox News' Fox & Friends
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=08d-ae8&t=c>> (9/20, 1.26M) traveled with Interior Secretary Zinke on his first visit to the Statue of Liberty. Zinke told Fox that the statue represents "freedom, opportunity, and why people want to be a part of America." Asked about the poem inscribed on the statue, Zinke said, "Give me your tired and your poor. What a beacon of light for those immigrants that come to the country and want to be a part of the American experience. ... You see the tensions in our country, the strains. I think we should all take a deep breath and remember this and remember what has made America great." Fox's Brian Kilmeade added, "And maybe coming here the right way," to which Zinke replied, "Coming here the right way, absolutely."

California AG Files Suit To Block Border Wall.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=08e-111&t=c>> (9/20, McGreevy, Ulloa, 4.49M) reports that California Attorney General Xavier Becerra has filed a lawsuit claiming "that President Trump's proposal to expedite construction of a wall at the US-Mexico border violates laws aimed at

protecting the environment.” Announcing the lawsuit Wednesday, Becerra said that “the federal government failed to comply with federal environmental laws and relied on federal statutes that don’t authorize border wall projects in San Diego and Imperial counties.” Said Becerra, “No one gets to ignore the laws. Not even the President of the United States. ... The border between the US and Mexico spans some 2,000 miles. The list of laws violated by the President’s administration in order to build his campaign wall is almost as long.”

USA Today Explores “Challenges And Consequences” Of Trump’s Border Wall. In an online report titled, “The Wall,” USA Today <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=08f-2fc&t=c>> (9/20, 8.62M) reports on “the challenges and consequences of President Donald Trump’s border wall plan in unprecedented detail.” The report enables users to “watch aerial video of every foot of the border, explore every piece of fence, even stand at the border in virtual reality.”

Coulter: If Border Wall Not Happening, US Should Have An “Attractive, Dignified” GOP President. The Washington Examiner <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=090-a4f&t=c>> (9/20, Mayfield, 465K) reports that in an interview <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=091-7cd&t=c>> with Newsmax TV on Wednesday, Ann Coulter said “that she would prefer Vice President Mike Pence over President Trump because Trump is failing to build his promised wall on the US-Mexico border.” Coulter said, “If we are not getting a wall, we might as well have a, you know, attractive, dignified Republican there.” Coulter said “that Pence would pick ‘better’ Supreme Court justices and that people wouldn’t have to worry about Nikki Haley becoming a justice if he were president.”

Gillespie Ad Links Virginia Democrat Northam To MS-13 Street Gang.

In a report on the Virginia gubernatorial race, the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=092-aa7&t=c>> (9/20, Vozzella, Nirappil, 10.38M) reports that Republican Ed Gillespie, “who for years pressed fellow Republicans to make their party more welcoming to minorities, on Wednesday unveiled a hard-hitting TV ad that blames his” opponent, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, “for the resurgence of the MS-13 street gang. As the MS-13 motto ‘Kill, Rape, Control’ flashes across the screen, the ad” blasts Northam over his vote “against a bill that would have prohibited the establishment of ‘sanctuary cities’ in the state.” In the spot, a narrator says, “MS-13 is a menace, yet Ralph Northam voted in favor of sanctuary cities that let dangerous illegal immigrants back on the street, increasing the threat of MS-13.” The ad “intersperses photos of Northam with the tattooed faces of men who, as it turns out, were photographed in a prison in El Salvador.”

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=093-bfb&t=c>> (9/20, McLaughlin, 541K) reports, "The ad underscores the messy politics of immigration, which President Trump thrust to the forefront during his own 2016 campaign, and has kept their in the months since, demanding an end to sanctuary cities he says protect dangerous illegal immigrants." The Times adds that Northam's campaign "said Mr. Gillespie was 'fear-mongering' and misleading the public. 'Ralph Northam doesn't care what your immigration status is, if you commit a violent crime, you're going to prison,' the campaign said." Politico Analysis: Senate GOP Will Not "Fall In Line Behind" Trump's Tax Plan.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=094-ca2&t=c>> (9/20, Faler, 3.6M) reports that while House leaders and Trump Administration officials have worked for months to ensure "a smooth rollout" of tax reform legislation, Senate Republicans "are making it clear they're not going to fall in line behind" Trump's plan. Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch "warned" that the "Big Six" proposal "will only be advisory," and Senate Republicans "are following that up with plans to seek a \$1.5 trillion tax cut, putting them at odds with the House, where Speaker Paul Ryan, another Big Six member, wants permanent changes that don't add to the deficit."

WSJournal: Corker-Toomey Deal Creates More Room For Tax Cuts. A Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=095-824&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorial says the budget deal struck between Sens. Bob Corker and Pat Toomey creates additional space for cutting taxes and calls on Republicans to follow their lead and make good on their promise to pass tax reform.

Tim Ryan Says Corporate Tax Reform Must Be "Revenue Positive."

Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH) said on MSNBC's Morning Joe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=096-312&t=c>> (9/20, 1.08M), "If they stay away from the traditional supply side economics, I think there will be a lot of Democrats that will sit down and say hey, is this going to benefit working class people in Akron, Ohio, Youngstown, Ohio? I think they'll be willing partners. But, again, we've got to make sure that some of these things, like any corporate tax reform, for example, that is revenue positive. You have 100 of the top Fortune 500 companies not paying any corporate tax at all. So that's not a progressive tax. If you want to lower the rate you have to make sure that you're closing the loopholes and getting some money. And the President is saying we're not

going to hurt the middle class on this. So, we'll see."

Tillis: North Carolina Shows The Impact Tax Reform Can Have.

In an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=097-dbc&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), Sen. Thom Tillis cites his home state of North Carolina as an example of what successful tax reform can accomplish. Tillis writes that the state has seen the creation of more than 350,000 jobs since passing tax reform, and its economy has become one of the fastest growing in the nation.

Sources: Mattis' "Agreeable Demeanor" Keeps Trump From "Feeling Threatened" By Him.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=098-b14&t=c>> (9/20, Cooper, Schmitt, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that while "nearly all of President Trump's top national security officials have been the target of his ire," Defense Secretary Mattis is the exception. Mattis, the Times says, has "exhibited a political deftness that has eluded other members of Mr. Trump's cabinet," and "none has managed to steer a path so different from the president's without incurring his wrath and while deflecting attention over apparent or genuine splits." Mattis, it suggests, has "stayed out of the chaos that has characterized the Trump administration in part because of his ability, friends and associates say, to present an agreeable demeanor," which keeps Trump "from feeling threatened even when his defense secretary contradicts him or slow-walks his pet policies."

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Nominee "Almost Certainly Voted Illegally" In November.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=099-8ee&t=c>> (9/20, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "As President Trump's voter integrity commission looks under rocks for possible voter malfeasance, its members might want to examine a presidential nominee awaiting confirmation by the Senate Finance Committee. Documents indicate that Jeffrey Gerrish," Trump's deputy US trade representative nominee, "moved from Virginia to Maryland last year, but opted in November to vote in the more competitive state of Virginia." The Times says that the Senate Finance Committee, "which has been considering Mr. Gerrish's nomination, was

briefed on the matter on Tuesday, including the fact that” he “had almost certainly voted illegally, according to three Democratic congressional aides.” The Times adds, “Given Mr. Trump’s intense focus on alleged widespread voter fraud in last year’s election – the president has claimed that millions of people voted illegally, without evidence – Democrats are likely to pounce on the misstep to try to sink Mr. Gerrish’s nomination.”

Media Analyses: Mueller’s Latest Steps Indicate Trump Himself Under Scrutiny.

ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=09a-8d0&t=c>> (9/20, story 4, 2:10, Muir, 14.63M) reported on “new steps” by special counsel Robert Mueller “suggesting President Trump’s own actions are now under scrutiny, including his firing of FBI Director James Comey and the meeting with Russian officials in the Oval Office the very next day.” ABC’s Jonathan Karl: “Tonight, the clearest indication yet [that] Mueller is looking at the actions of President Trump himself.” The CBS Evening News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=09b-fd7&t=c>> (9/20, story 3, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported, “Mueller has been bombarding the White House with requests for documents.”

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=09c-6f8&t=c>> (9/20, Tucker) reports that Mueller’s office “has requested a large batch of documents from the White House and is expected to interview at least a half dozen current and former aides in the coming weeks.” A person familiar with the investigation said investigators “want information on, among other topics, a June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower that Donald Trump Jr. attended with a Russian lawyer and the administration’s response to it,” as well as “what White House officials including Trump knew about the Justice Department’s investigation” into ex-National Security Adviser Michael Flynn.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=09d-3d0&t=c>> (9/20, Leonnig, Helderman, 10.38M) reports, “White House lawyers are now working to turn over internal documents that span 13 categories investigators for the special counsel have identified as critical to their probe.” USA Today <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=09e-33d&t=c>> (9/20, Jackson, Johnson, Heath, 8.62M) reports that officials speaking under condition of anonymity said that the White House “has been cooperating with Mueller’s requests for the past several weeks, in part to avoid subpoenas for individual testimony. The officials said they were not sure when the White House would finish turning over documents.”

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=09f-83c&t=c>> (9/20, Schmidt, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says that the “document requests provide the most details to date about the breadth of Mr. Mueller’s investigation, and show that several aspects of his inquiry are focused squarely on Mr. Trump’s behavior in the White House.” However, the Los Angeles Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a0-647&t=c>> (9/20, Bierman, 4.49M) reports that John Dowd, an attorney for the President, said, “There’s nothing remarkable or unusual about his requests. ... It’s not like something’s about to happen. It’s just a routine inquiry by Bob [Mueller].”

David Gergen said on CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a1-d2a&t=c>> (9/20, 1.38M), “As soon as I heard there were 13 different categories in which Mueller was asking for information or demanding information from the White House, you immediately thought this probe has widened way beyond what we or understood and it has clearly deepened.” Gergen added, “I think this deepens the sense that they’re doing everything they can to see what evidence there is of obstruction of justice.”

Grassley: Senate Preparing Subpoenas For Two Top FBI Officials.

CNN

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a2-c06&t=c>> (9/20, Herb, Raju, 33.59M) reports on its website that Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley said Tuesday that the Senate legal counsel “is preparing subpoenas for two senior FBI officials the Justice Department is preventing the committee from interviewing.” Grassley and ranking member Sen. Dianne Feinstein “have repeatedly asked the two senior FBI officials – Carl Ghattas and James Rybicki – to sit down for a transcribed interview to discuss the Comey firing.”

Manafort Offered “Private Briefings” On Campaign To Russian

Billionaire. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a3-937&t=c>> (9/20, Hamburger, Helderman, Leonnig, Entous, 10.38M) reports that “less than two weeks before Donald Trump accepted the Republican presidential nomination,” then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort “offered to provide briefings on the race” to Oleg Deripaska, “a Russian billionaire closely aligned with the Kremlin.” In a July 7, 2016 email, Manafort wrote, “If he needs private briefings we can accommodate.” The emails “are among tens of thousands of documents that have been turned over” to Mueller and to congressional investigators. The Post says that the documents show no evidence “that Deripaska received Manafort’s offer or that any briefings took place.”

Leon Panetta said on CNN’s Situation Room

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101educ>

ation&r=email-9544&l=0a4-89d&t=c> (9/20, 1.02M) that the fact Manafort "would offer a briefing on a political campaign to a Russian billionaire, someone obviously related to an adversary of the United States, raises some serious questions about just how much effort was made to try to get the Russians to participate in this last election campaign." But on the CBS Evening News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a5-972&t=c>> (9/20, story 3, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M), Jeff Pegues reported, "Manafort's attorney did not deny the authenticity of the email but called the message 'innocuous,' and said, 'It's no secret Mr. Manafort was owed money by past clients,' implying it was a attempt to collect."

Ben Domenech of The Federalist

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a6-1d0&t=c>> (9/20, 88K) offers "13 Questions About The Wiretapping Of Paul Manafort," dealing with why Manafort was wiretapped, when the surveillance took place, and if the wiretap covered Trump Tower. Former CIA case officer Phil Giraldi asks at the Daily Caller <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a7-401&t=c>> (9/20, 521K), "Will anyone running for high office in the future want to be confronted by executive power acting secretly through the law enforcement and intelligence services to discredit him or her as well as a large and widening group of family and associates? ... Manafort, who has fully cooperated with the multiple investigations being conducted around Russiagate, is innocent until proven guilty."

Manafort Used Trump Campaign Email To Contact "Ukrainian Political Operative." Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a8-77e&t=c>> (9/20, Dawsey, 3.6M) reports that Manafort "used his presidential campaign email account to correspond with a Ukrainian political operative with suspected Russian ties, according to people familiar with the correspondence." In emails to Konstantin Kilimnik, Manafort sought "repayment for previous work he did in Ukraine" and proposed discussing "potential new opportunities in the country."

Clapper: "It's Possible" That Wiretap Picked Up Trump. The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0a9-275&t=c>> (9/20, Chaitin, 465K) reports, "Former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper suggested on Wednesday that 'it's possible' that President Trump's voice was picked up in a wiretap" as he spoke with Manafort. Clapper said on CNN, "It's certainly conceivable. ... I wouldn't want to go there, but I will say it's possible."

Facebook Facing Increasing Scrutiny Over Russia's Attempts At Influence. Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0aa-4f0&t=c>> (9/20, Litvan, 4.52M) reports that Facebook “is facing growing pressure from Congress over Russia’s use of social media” to influence the 2016 election. In a Wednesday letter to the Federal Election Commission, Sens. Martin Heinrich and Ron Wyden, and Reps. John Conyers (D-MI), Elijah Cummings (D-MD), and John Sarbanes (D-MD) wrote, “We must address the threat posed by foreign citizens, companies, or organizations who aim to interfere with our political process.” Sarbanes is seeking “new rules requiring disclosure for political ads on social media outlets...so they are as transparent as broadcast ads.”

Senate Intelligence Vice Chairman Mark Warner said on CNN’s The Lead

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ab-d60&t=c>> (9/20, 1.13M) that “the level of some of the sophistication on the social media side and the level of targeting really leaves me with a lot of questions we are going to want Facebook to answer in public.”

Media Matters: Drudge Report Has Become “Pipeline For Russian Propaganda.” Matt Gertz of Media Matters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ac-2ad&t=c>> (9/20, 61K) writes about “How Matt Drudge Became The Pipeline For Russian Propaganda,” stating that Drudge “has for years used his site as a web traffic pipeline for Russian propaganda sites, directing his massive audience to nearly 400 stories from RT.com and fellow Russian-government-run English-language news sites SputnikNews.com and TASS.com since the beginning of 2012.” The Daily Caller

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ad-a7b&t=c>> (9/20, 521K) covers the Media Matters piece under the headline “Pro-Clinton Group Tries To Link Drudge Report,” writing, “Despite the...bombastic claims,” the Media Matters study “lacks context about how The Drudge Report operates. ... Drudge typically removes and adds links throughout the day, linking to hundreds of websites on any given day.”

Dershowitz Says It Is Hard To Say If President Can Expect AG’s Loyalty. Alan Dershowitz writes in the Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ae-589&t=c>> (9/20, 465K) that it is hard to say whether a president can expect loyalty from an attorney general, since under the US system, the AG serves both as “an advisor to the chief executive” and as “chief prosecutor.” Dershowitz says “the system should be changed,” but that there is “no perfect cure for the mistake made by our founders in merging the two incompatible goals of the current attorney general: that of political advisor to the president; and that of independent chief prosecutor.”

Judge Moves Toward Granting US Request For Information On Inaugural

Protest Website.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0af-2c7&t=c>> (9/20, Gerstein, 3.6M) reported that District of Columbia Superior Court Chief Judge Robert Morin “is pressing forward with plans to allow enforcement of a search warrant against a website used to organize protests against President Donald Trump’s inauguration,” but insists “that prosecutors won’t be able to see messages and other information that demonstrators exchanged on the Disruptj20 site until he determines that every such communication is related to the ongoing investigation and prosecution of alleged rioting in downtown Washington on the same day Trump was sworn in. ‘You have the right to have the warrant executed,’ Morin told Assistant US Attorney John Borchert during a hearing Wednesday afternoon on the dispute between the government and DreamHost – the internet firm that hosted the site.” Morin added, however, “Until the court has ruled...the court is not allowing the government to inspect either [email senders’] identity or their communications.”

Bharara Says Trump Would Have Asked Him To Do “Something Inappropriate.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b0-089&t=c>> (9/20, McCoy, 8.62M) reports former federal prosecutor Preet Bharara said Wednesday he believes President Trump “eventually would have asked him to do ‘something inappropriate’” if Trump hadn’t fired him. During his weekly “Stay Tuned with Preet” podcast, Bharara “described a series of unusual interactions with Trump” during his time as US attorney, and said the interactions “were so unprecedented he considered but decided against recording a conversation with the president that ultimately never took place.”

Bharara To Join CNN. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b1-51c&t=c>> (9/20, Grynbaum, Kelly, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports CNN announced Tuesday that Bharara will join the network as a senior legal analyst, “meaning he will be a frequent presence on the network’s programming.” The Times observes the arrangement “will offer a national forum for” Bharara’s “at-times blistering critiques of the Trump administration.”

Trump To Award Medal Of Honor To Army Medic For Valor In Laos.

The White House said Wednesday that President Trump will recognize former Army medic Gary Rose, who “dol[ed] out doses of morphine to keep

the walking wounded moving to avoid capture" behind enemy lines in the jungles of Laos, in 1970, with the Medal of Honor, USA Today
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b2-874&t=c>> (9/20, Brook, Korte, 8.62M) reports. Noting that Laos was "officially off limits for combat," USA Today says the White House, "in announcing the medal, said the award was 'for conspicuous gallantry during the Vietnam War,' obscuring the location of that gallantry as somewhere 'deep in enemy-controlled territory.'" USA Today describes the battle and the controversy surrounding it, highlighting reports from CNN and Time in 1988 that "Rose and the soldiers involved in Operation Tailwind had been sent to Laos to capture American defectors, had used deadly Sarin nerve gas in their attack and had killed innocent civilians." CNN ultimately "retracted the story, acknowledging that its account was fundamentally wrong."

Spokesperson: "Demanding Schedule" Behind Price's Use Of Private Jets.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b3-1fd&t=c>> (9/21, A18, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that HHS Secretary Price "spent tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars to fly on private jets to attend routine public events instead of taking cheaper commercial airliners because he has an 'incredibly demanding schedule,' his spokeswoman said Wednesday." The Times quotes HHS assistant secretary for public affairs Charmaine Yoest as saying in a statement, "With an incredibly demanding schedule full of 13-plus-hour days, every effort is being made to maximize Secretary Price's ability to travel outside of Washington to meet with the American people." The Times cites a Politico story
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b4-1b6&t=c>> that reported "the private flights cost the federal government as much as \$60,000."

Kayla Tausche reported on CNBC's Closing Bell
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b5-59a&t=c>> (9/20, 177K) that HHS "is on the defensive" after Politico's report saying Price "chartered private jets to travel to events in Maine, New Hampshire, and Philadelphia last week. The decision bucks the trend of Secretary Price's predecessors, who all flew commercial at a much lower expense. It also diverges from Price's cost-cutting efforts at HHS and also his previously held views on private travel." Tausche added that an HHS spokesperson told CNBC, "When [Price] was in Congress, he did not take private or chartered jets at all. Now he does when his scheduling team decides on a case by case basis what is the most effective way to get him from place to place."

Democrat Pallone "Will Be Looking Into" Price's Travel. Reuters
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b6-0a0&t=c>> (9/20, Abutaleb) reports that Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ), ranking Democrat on the House Energy

Committee, on Wednesday said “he is looking into [the Politico] report that...Price used private jets to travel on government business.” Reuters highlighted Politico’s report that “Price took private jets on five occasions for official business, which cost tens of thousands of dollars more than commercial flights. Politico documented one chartered trip from Washington to Philadelphia that cost about \$25,000.” In a Wednesday statement, Pallone said, “I would remind Secretary Price that taxpayer funds are not meant to be used as a jet-setting slush fund. My colleagues and I will be looking into this further and we will be asking the HHS Office of the Inspector General for a full accounting of Secretary Price’s travel.” Renee Marsh said on CNN’s Situation Room <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b7-c5f&t=c>> (9/20, 1.02M) that “Democratic members of Congress are preparing to call for an inspector general investigation into Price’s travel.”

EPA Pulls Agents Off Investigations To Provide Security For Pruitt.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b8-82d&t=c>> (9/20, Eilperin, Dennis, 10.38M) reports that EPA Administrator Pruitt’s “round-the-clock personal security detail...demands triple the manpower of his predecessors” and “has prompted officials to rotate in special agents from around the country who otherwise would be investigating environmental crimes.” The situation “has rankled some employees and outside critics, who note that the EPA’s criminal enforcement efforts already are understaffed and that the Trump administration has proposed further cuts to the division.”

Fourteen States Say They Will Meet Paris Agreement Goals Without Trump.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0b9-e33&t=c>> (9/20, Richardson, 541K) reports that an alliance of 14 states known as the US Climate Alliance “said Wednesday they are on track to meet their share of the Paris climate agreement despite President Trump’s decision to withdraw.” The 14 governors – 13 Democrats and one Republican – “released a report showing that their states will be able to reduce emissions by 24 to 29 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, which would ‘fulfill their contribution to the Paris Agreement targets.’” The Times says the 14 states “represent 41 percent of the US gross domestic product, which would make them the third-largest economy in the world if they broke off and formed a separate nation.”

NYTimes Analysis: De Blasio Not Following His Own Advice On Climate Policy. In an analysis, the New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101educ>

ation&r=email-9544&l=0ba-ee8&t=c> (9/20, Neuman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Mayor Bill de Blasio may not be “following his own advice” on energy efficiency standards in buildings, according to city records that show de Blasio seemingly failed to meet such standards in two small buildings he owns in Brooklyn. New York’s Buildings Department database showed one building had a natural gas-fueled boiler and hot water heater, neither appearing to have Energy Star certification, and the other building had “no permits...issued for a boiler replacement, so it is likely the building has an older and potentially less energy-efficient unit.”

Fed Leaves Rates Unchanged, Says It Will Reduce Its Bond Holdings.

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday said the US economy is “finally sturdy enough...to withdraw the extraordinary support it has provided it since the depths of the recession and financial crisis,” USA Today <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0bb-9a9&t=c>> (9/20, Davidson, 8.62M) reports. In a move USA Today said could “nudge consumer borrowing costs higher,” the Fed agreed “to begin gradually shedding much of the roughly \$3.5 trillion in bonds it snapped up during and after the downturn to lower long-term interest rates.” Fed Chair Yellen told a news conference, “We’re working down our balance sheet because we think in some sense it’s no longer needed. ... We feel the US economy is performing well.” The Wall Street Journal <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0bc-82b&t=c>> (9/20, Timiraos, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says the Fed has been signaling the move for months. In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0bd-5a5&t=c>> (9/20, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says it supports the Fed’s decision to reduce its bond holdings, but adds that it should have begun sooner and should be happening faster.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0be-767&t=c>> (9/20, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says the Fed “left its benchmark interest rate unchanged.” While “most Fed officials predicted in a new round of economic forecasts that the Fed would increase rates later this year,” officials “once again reduced their expectations for future rate hikes.” The median prediction now holds that “the benchmark rate will stabilize at 2.8 percent, down from a median estimate of 3 percent in June.”

Economists Blame “Start-Up Slump” For Slow Economic Expansion.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0bf-5dc&t=c>> (9/20, Casselman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that economists say the “tame” economic

expansion since the recession is due, in part, to “a start-up slump – a decline in the creation of new businesses – and a growing understanding of what’s behind it.” According to the Census Bureau, “414,000 businesses were formed in 2015.” While that is “a slight increase from the previous year,” it is “well below the 558,000 companies given birth in 2006, the year before the recession set in.” Many economists attribute the slump to “the rising power of the biggest corporations, which they argue is stifling entrepreneurship by making it easier for incumbent businesses to swat away challengers – or else to swallow them before they become a serious threat.”

Government Workers To Appeal Judge’s Ruling On OPM Data Breach Lawsuit.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c0-6d3&t=c>> (9/20, Swoyer, 541K) reports that government employees say they will appeal Tuesday’s ruling from US District Judge Amy Berman Jackson that “they can’t sue for damages from the 2015 Office of Personnel Management data breach.” Berman ruled that they “couldn’t show the data stolen – including financial, health and other very personal data from some 22 million personnel files – has been used by the hackers.” The National Treasury Employees Union filed notice Tuesday that it will appeal the ruling and the American Federation of Government Employees National “said it’s considering its next steps.”

SEC Says Its Computer System Was Hacked Last Year.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c1-44a&t=c>> (9/20, Tejada, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a statement Wednesday “that its computer system had been hacked last year, giving the attackers private information that could have been exploited for trading.” The SEC said it was investigating the breach and said the security vulnerability the hackers exploited had been patched shortly after it was discovered. The commission “said it did not believe that the breach had involved personal information or that it would jeopardize the commission’s activities.”

NYTimes Analysis: Facebook, Google Facing Increased Resistance From Washington.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c2-da6&t=c>> (9/20, Kang, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Facebook and Google “were hoping to

reach a compromise" this week with Congress over a new bill that would hold companies accountable for hosting sex trafficking on their websites – "an acknowledgment," the Times observes, "that they could not stop the bill entirely because of strong political headwinds." Both companies had argued that although they worked hard to combat sex trafficking, they also argued that the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act "jeopardizes bedrock principles of a free and open internet." The Times adds the companies' shifting position from opposition to compromise "illustrates the changing political reality in Washington" in which technology companies face increased criticism from both Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

In Wake Of "Fail" Over Ads Directed At Racists, Facebook Making Changes. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c3-021&t=c>> (9/20, Maheshwari, Isaac, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that in response "to evidence that its tools had allowed ads to be directed at users who used racist comments or hate speech in their profiles," Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg "said Wednesday that it would change how ads can be targeted. That its ad-targeting tools could be used in such a way was 'a fail' for the company," she "said in a post," adding "that Facebook would add 'more human review and oversight' to its automated systems to prevent further misuse." In addition, Sandberg "said the company would do more to ensure that offensive content – including that which attacks people for their race or religion – could not be used to target ads." Her post "came after a report from ProPublica last week revealed that Facebook's online ad tools had allowed advertisers to target self-described 'Jew haters' or people who had used terms like 'how to burn Jews.'"

Poll: Moore Leads Strange 53%-47% In GOP Primary Runoff.

On its website, WBRC-TV

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c4-ee1&t=c>> Birmingham, AL (9/19, Journey, 23K) reports that a Raycom News Network-Strategy Research Poll of 2,930 likely Alabama Republican voters, taken Sept. 18, shows ex-Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore leading appointed Sen. Luther Strange 53%-47% in the Sept. 26 GOP primary runoff in the special election for the former seat of Attorney General Sessions.

White House, GOP Establishment Mounting Full Court Press To Boost Strange In Runoff. USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c5-7d9&t=c>> (9/20, Berry, 8.62M) reports that national Republicans are "sending money and even manpower to" Alabama for the GOP contest, which "is dividing the party between the conservatives and the even-more-conservatives." USA Today says President Trump is slated to stump for Strange "in Huntsville on Friday, and Vice President Pence is" scheduled to campaign for the incumbent "in

Birmingham on Monday. 'I am supporting 'Big' Luther Strange because he was so loyal & helpful to me!' Trump tweeted
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c6-a5d&t=c>> Wednesday." Senate Majority Leader McConnell and a super PAC run by his allies are also backing Strange. Meanwhile Sarah Palin "is expected to stump Thursday in Montgomery for...Moore."

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c7-0dd&t=c>> (9/20, Shelbourne, 1.68M) reported that in a later tweet
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c8-5fc&t=c>> on Wednesday, Trump said, "Alabama is sooo lucky to have a candidate like 'Big' Luther Strange. Smart, tough on crime, borders & trade, loves Vets & Military. Tuesday!" In an earlier report, The Hill
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0c9-6a5&t=c>> (9/20, Bowden, 1.68M) highlighted the President's first Wednesday tweet expressing support for Strange, and added, "In backing Strange, Trump finds himself on the opposite side of former White House strategist Steve Bannon and other conservatives who have thrown their weight behind Moore."

Indeed, in a piece titled "Alabama's Senate Runoff Is The First Battle In The Trump-Bannon Cold War," David Catanese writes for US News & World Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ca-47c&t=c>> (9/20, 1.73M), "It just so happens that the Strange-Moore" contest "is now set up to be the first proxy battle in the cold war between Trump and the ousted Bannon." Catanese says that Breitbart, now back under Bannon's guidance, has been posting a number of stories about the runoff – pieces approving of Moore and critical of Strange. Catanese quotes a Bannon "confidante" as saying, "Alabama sent Donald Trump to the White House. It all started in Alabama when Jeff Sessions joined Donald Trump at a rally in Mobile in 2015 and said, 'Welcome to my hometown.' Now Alabama has a chance to send a wake-up call back to Washington and say to President Trump, 'It's time to right the ship.'"

Breitbart Highlights Strange's "Flip Flop" On Filibuster Rules. Under the headline "Donald Trump Praises 'Loyal' Luther Strange Despite Filibuster Flip Flop," Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0cb-a2c&t=c>> (9/20, Spierling, 2.42M) reported on Trump's first Wednesday tweet praising Strange, then added that "despite Strange's support for most of Trump's agenda, he struggled with the president's desire to kill the 60-vote threshold for the Senate filibuster. In April, Strange signed a letter with senators" urging McConnell and Senate Minority Leader Schumer "to keep the existing Senate tradition of a 60-vote threshold. After struggling in the first round of primary voting, Strange flipped his position, sending a letter

to change the filibuster rule.”

Moore In New Ad: “The Republican Establishment Has Failed Us.”

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0cc-334&t=c>> (9/20, Greenwood, 1.68M) reported that Moore is launching a statewide ad, in which he “pushes back on ‘false negative ads’ targeting him and vows to work to repeal the Affordable Care Act, support construction of...Trump’s proposed border wall and abolish the Internal Revenue Service.” In the spot, Moore says, “The Republican establishment has failed us,” adding, “I’ve fought for this country in Vietnam, I fought against liberal judges in the courtroom and I’ll fight for you in the United States Senate, so help me God.” The ad also highlights Moore’s “endorsements from former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, actor Chuck Norris and ‘Duck Dynasty’ star Phil Robertson.”

Strange’s Stake In Firm That Profits From EB-5 Program Draws Scrutiny. Breitbart

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0cd-5b1&t=c>> (9/20, Mason, 2.42M) reported on “reports Strange is a major stakeholder in a firm that profits from the issuance of visas to rich, mostly Chinese, foreign investors. Reports rolled in Tuesday of Strange’s one-sixth ownership in Sunbelt EB-5 Regional Center, LLC, a firm that solicits big money foreign investors to put \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars into projects in the American Southeast in exchange for ‘golden visas.’” In a statement to a local TV station, the Strange camp said, “Luther agrees with the Trump administration that there are serious concerns over the EB-5 visa program, which is not being used as originally intended. It’s time for Congress to get to work on these issues.” Breitbart added, “Despite these ‘serious concerns,’ Strange has made no indication he is seeking to sell his ownership of the Sunbelt EB-5 firm.”

Under the headline “Luther Strange Owns Stake In Company Brokering Green Cards For Wealthy Foreigners,” the Daily Caller

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ce-b0e&t=c>> (9/20, Racke, 521K) reported that “Strange has touted his credentials as an immigration hawk, enthusiastically backing...Trump’s tough immigration enforcement policies.” Even so, Strange’s “involvement with a company that brokers applications for a controversial visa program opens the door for opponents to question his intentions for immigration policy in Congress.”

Austin Barbour Offers Advice To Moore, Strange Camps. In a piece for Politico Magazine

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0cf-099&t=c>> (9/20, Barbour, 3.55M), Austin Barbour, a partner in Strategic Partners & Media, a GOP media firm, says that both Moore and Strange “have plausible paths to victory” and goes on to outline “what they need to do to win.” For example, Barbour says

that the Strange camp “has to find new voters,” and suggests that the candidate “look for people who might be swayed by...Trump’s endorsement but who didn’t vote in the primary’s first round.” Barbour’s advice for Moore’s camp is: “Keep your base motivated, turn them out in the most organized way you can muster, stay hungry and keep working hard.”

Biden To Stump For Jones In Birmingham On Oct 3. Meanwhile, the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d0-365&t=c>> (9/20) reports that ex-Vice President Joe Biden “will come to Alabama next month to campaign for” the Democratic nominee in the special election, former US Attorney Doug Jones. Biden “will headline an Oct. 3 rally in Birmingham.” Jones “is perhaps best known for prosecuting Ku Klux Klansmen responsible for killing four young girls in the 1963 bombing of a Birmingham church.”

Pence Slated To Hold Fundraising Event In Milwaukee On September 28.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d1-608&t=c>> (9/20) reports that Vice President Pence is slated to hold a fundraising “event on Sept. 28 at an undisclosed location in Milwaukee. An invitation for the event” says it will “benefit the Trump Victory fund, a joint fundraising committee for President Donald Trump’s campaign and the Republican National Committee. It costs \$2,700 per person to attend and \$10,000 to get a photo with Pence. A private dinner with Pence costs \$35,000 per couple and it’s \$70,000 to be a part of the host committee.”

CHC PAC “Spending Big On Resorts, Restaurants, And Nightclubs” In Las Vegas.

The Washington Free Beacon

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d2-f4d&t=c>> (9/20, Schoffstall, 158K) reported that the Congressional Hispanic Caucus BOLD PAC, the fundraising arm of the CHC, “is spending big on resorts, restaurants, and nightclubs this year, mainly in Las Vegas, Federal Election Commission filings show.” This year, the PAC “has pulled in \$4.4 million in contributions – including more than \$2 million in the first” quarter – “and spent \$2.2 million. As the CHC PAC was in the midst of its massive fundraising haul, they were spending extravagantly on luxury hotels in Las Vegas while paying hundreds of thousands to consultants.” As one of several example, the Free Beacon said the group “reported spending \$6,000 at Aria Resort and Casino while making two separate payments totaling \$19,649.12 for catering at Caesar’s Palace in February.”

Prosecutors Allege Menendez "Concealed Gifts" He Received From Melgen.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d3-1db&t=c>> (9/20, Porter) reports that on Wednesday at the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor Salomon Melgen, jurors heard testimony that Menendez "didn't report free flights and a luxury hotel stay paid for by" Melgen "on Senate disclosure forms over a span of several years." The jury was shown "a clip of a CNN interview Menendez gave in early 2013," in which he discussed "his reimbursement of about \$58,000 to Melgen for some of the flights he took a few years earlier. The delay in reimbursement was because the flights 'unfortunately fell through the cracks' during a time when he was busy with travel on behalf of Senate Democrats and for his own campaign, he" said.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d4-b5b&t=c>> (9/20, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that prosecutors "zeroed in on the charge legal experts say...Menendez may be most vulnerable: He concealed gifts he received from...Melgen." Along with the CNN interview, prosecutors "also showed a January 2013 press release from Menendez's office that said the Democratic senator 'has traveled on Dr. Melgen's plane on three occasions, all of which have been paid for and reported appropriately.'" However, "prosecutors showed a chart with many more flights Menendez had taken on Melgen's private jet, and other travel Menendez undertook that was paid for by Melgen." Politico added, "Legal experts have said the charge that Menendez concealed his gifts from Melgen – just one of 14 charges in the indictment – is the easiest for prosecutors to prove."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d5-13f&t=c>> (9/20, Maimon, 10.38M) reports, "With FBI agent Alan Mohl on the stand on Wednesday, prosecutor Monique Abrishami discussed Senate financial disclosure forms showing that Menendez didn't list a single gift from Melgen. Menendez attorney Abbe Lowell countered by asking Mohl to read portions of the forms related to knowingly falsifying information and disclosure exemption rules." Lowell "said prosecutors and the FBI had an extensive amount of time and resources to reconstruct Menendez's travels over the years and questioned why the government wasn't talking about Menendez's trips to Melgen's home in the Dominican Republic in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Mohl said the FBI didn't look at travel records going back that far because Melgen didn't own a private jet until later in the 2000s."

Prosecution, Defense Wrangle Over Definition Of "Constituent."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d6-686&t=c>> (9/20, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the US "Constitution does not

specifically designate whom Mr. Menendez can legally count as a constituent, nor has the Supreme Court or any court for that matter offered a ruling defining who, exactly, is a constituent of a United States senator. That ambiguity has injected some intrigue into the trial, “with both the defense and prosecution debating the meaning of constituent.” Prosecutors “argued in a brief filed on Tuesday that ‘the straightforward answer is that Senator Menendez’s constituents are the New Jerseyans that he was elected to represent in the United States Senate.’” The defense, however, claims “the term was significantly amorphous and that wrestling with its meaning was ‘not a legal question for the court to answer’ but rather one for the jury to determine, ‘because the word potentially bears on defendants’ state of mind.’”

Newsbusters: After Describing Menendez Trial As “A Big Deal,” CNN Offering Little Coverage. Meanwhile, the Daily Caller <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d7-0ac&t=c>> (9/20, Athey, 521K) reported, “On September 6, CNN anchor Poppy Harlow said the [Menendez] trial ‘is a big deal...because this is the first bribery case involving a sitting US Senator in over three decades’ and her co-anchor John Berman asserted, ‘we will follow this case very, very closely.’ However, Newsbusters discovered <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d8-c89&t=c>> that CNN has only given the trial 14 minutes and 11 seconds of coverage since the trial began two weeks ago, and they have only mentioned it one time since September 7.” The Daily Caller added, “ABC, CBS, and NBC have given even less time to the trial since September 5, combining for a total of less than two and a half minutes.”

Majority Of Californians Have Considered Moving Because Of Costly Housing.

The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0d9-fa5&t=c>> (9/20, McPhate, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that a new UC Berkeley poll of 1,200 California residents found that 56 percent of respondents and a majority of respondents in every major region of the state have considered moving as a result of rising housing costs. About a third of the state’s residents “spend most of their income on housing costs.”

FiveThirtyEight Analysis: Trump Looms Over Flake-Ward Primary Clash.

Writing at FiveThirtyEight <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0da-10a&t=c>> (9/20, Malone, 384K), Clare Malone discussed ex-state Sen. Kelli Ward’s 2018 primary challenge to Sen. Jeff

Flake, saying that “the Washington Post called it a ‘proxy war’ between [President Trump] and the GOP establishment.” Some contend a Ward victory “would be an assertion of Trump’s power against the establishment, another notch in the belt for the Trumpification of the party – more economic nationalism and an anti-immigrant bent.” However, members of “the Arizona Republican establishment scoff at this notion, noting that primaries in the state have often entertained an antiestablishment element – the state has a long tradition of populism and libertarianism.”

Poll Shows Stabenow Leading Kid Rock 52%-34% In Hypothetical Matchup.

The Detroit Free Press

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0db-a69&t=c>> (9/20, Spangler, 1.07M) reports that a Marketing Resource Group poll of 600 Michigan likely voters, taken Sept. 13-18, shows Sen. Debbie Stabenow leading musician Kid Rock 52%-34% in a hypothetical 2018 matchup. Kid Rock, whose given name is Robert Ritchie, has been teasing a potential challenge to Stabenow. If he enters the contest, it’s widely expected he’d run as a Republican. The Free Press says that the results of the MRG survey are “a far cry from a Trafalgar Group poll in July that had Kid Rock” leading 49%-46%. Another poll, “done by Target Insyght in July, had Stabenow ahead of Kid Rock 50%-42%.”

“Inside Sources” Say Upton “90 Percent” Decided On A Challenge To Stabenow. On its website, WLNS-TV
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0dc-a88&t=c>> Lansing, MI (9/20, Skubick) reported that Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI) “is very close to” challenging Stabenow in next year’s election. According to “inside sources,” Upton “is already 90 percent there but he’s still crossing the t’s and dotting the i’s.” WLNS-TV added that Upton “is in no hurry and might make the decision in October.”

Corker Will Face Primary Challenge If He Seeks Reelection.

Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0dd-826&t=c>> (9/20, Pathé, 134K) reported that Sen. Bob Corker on Tuesday said he’s yet to decide if he’ll seek reelection next year, “and he wouldn’t comment on reports that [President] Trump asked him to run for re-election at their meeting last week. He’s already facing at least one declared primary challenger,” Andy Ogles, the former state director of Americans for Prosperity, the political arm of the Koch brothers. However, if Corker seeks reelection, he “can find solace in the fact that there are at least two more Republicans interested in taking him on, which would split the

anti-incumbent vote.” Roll Call said that ex-state Rep. Joe Carr and ex-state Sen. Mark Green – the latter of whom was nominated by Trump to be secretary of the Army, but withdrew “his name from consideration in May because of past controversial statements” – are possible Senate candidates.

Fox Sports Radio Host Says He May Mount Independent Bid.

Meanwhile, The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0de-bd4&t=c>> (9/20, Easley, 1.68M) reported that Fox Sports radio host Clay Travis “said Wednesday he will consider running for Senate in Tennessee as an independent,” should Corker opt against seeking another term next year. Speaking on his “Outkick the Coverage” program, Travis said, “I think I could get elected,” and added, “There has to be no incumbent and Peyton Manning has to not run. Other than that I think I could beat anyone in the state.” In mentioning Manning, Travis was “referring to the NFL legend, who won a football national championship at the University of Tennessee.”

The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0df-1d9&t=c>> (9/20, Giaritelli, 465K) reported that last week, Travis “told CNN he only has faith in the First Amendment and ‘boobs.’” The Examiner added that Travis, “who has previously referenced his support for the First Amendment and women’s breasts, made it into the national spotlight last week when he told CNN host Brooke Baldwin about his two passions. Baldwin was visibly disturbed by the remark, but others took to Twitter and tweeted support for his unexpected statement.”

Justice Indicates He’ll Support Manchin’s Reelection Bid.

The Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e0-b0d&t=c>> (9/20, Correll, 465K) reported that Gov. Jim Justice, who was elected as a Democrat but switched to the GOP last month, on Wednesday indicated he’s backing Sen. Joe Manchin’s 2018 bid for reelection. Asked about the Senate race during a meeting with state GOP lawmakers, Justice replied that Manchin “may be a terrible person to y’all, but Joe has been a friend of mine and I’m going to tell you this as straight up as I can be: Joe Manchin is becoming a very key, integral part with Donald Trump. And I’m going to take my read off of Donald Trump.” Justice added, “Joe Manchin is – and I know this – Joe Manchin is Donald Trump’s liaison with the Democrats. And you want, and I want, what Donald Trump is trying to get done.”

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e1-f13&t=c>> (9/20, Bowden, 1.68M) reported that the comments “shocked Republicans in the state and came just hours after

West Virginia's GOP chairman told BuzzFeed News that he was confident Justice would be supporting conservative candidates in 2018." The Hill added that Manchin "is one of a number of Senate Democrats up for reelection next year hailing from a state that Trump won in the 2016 presidential election. Trump took West Virginia by a whopping 42 points and many Republicans see Manchin's seat as a prime target for a GOP win."

Poll: Kaine Leads Stewart 53%-36% In Virginia Senate Race.

The Fauquier (VA) Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e2-68c&t=c>> (9/20, 50K) reported that a University of Mary Washington poll of 1,000 Virginia voters shows Sen. Tim Kaine holding big leads over his potential 2018 GOP rivals. In hypothetical general election matchups, Kaine leads Rep. Scott Taylor (R-VA) 52%-37%; Prince William Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart 53%-36%; and Rep. Dave Brat (R-VA) 54%-36%. Stewart is currently the only announced GOP candidate in the race. In a hypothetical GOP primary matchup, Taylor leads with 20%, followed by Stewart at 12%, and Brat at 9%; the majority of those surveyed were undecided.

Christie Labels Murphy A "Coward" Over Arbitration Cap Issue.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e3-e62&t=c>> (9/20) reports that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who is term-limited this year, on Wednesday took aim at the frontrunner in the race to succeed him, calling Democrat Phil Murphy "a 'coward' for failing to clarify his position on an expiring provision that affects property tax rates." Christie pressed "Murphy to take a position on the 2 percent interest arbitration cap expiring in December. The cap limits what police and fire officials can get in contract disputes. Property taxes are levied by local governments, which run police and fire departments, and school boards." Polls have shown Murphy leading by wide margins over Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno.

Lummis' Decision Not To Run Throws Wyoming Governor's Race "Wide Open."

The Casper (WY) Star-Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e4-cd3&t=c>> (9/20, Rosenfeld, 96K) reports that the 2018 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Matt Mead "has been thrown wide open" in the wake of ex-Rep. Cynthia Lummis' announcement "that she will not enter next year's Republican primary. With strong name recognition across the state and financial resources, Lummis was the

heavy favorite to win both the primary and general election if she ran. 'I thought when I returned home that I would run for governor,' Lummis acknowledged in an interview with the Wyoming Tribune Eagle Tuesday." However, Loomis, "who decided not to run for reelection to Congress last year, said that she was enjoying time off from public office." Of Lummis' announcement GOP strategist Bill Novotny told the Star-Tribune, "This is going to open the floodgates. Most of the serious candidates I've spoken to were waiting for her to officially declare her plans."

Los Angeles Officials Prepare For Potential Big Earthquake.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e5-567&t=c>> (9/20, story 6, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M) reported that a study from the US Geological Survey found that the chance of an earthquake magnitude eight or larger near Los Angeles in the next 30 years "has doubled since 2008" – bolstering the city's concern for and desire to prepare for the next large earthquake. Experts "say a major quake along the San Andreas in Southern California fault could kill 1,800 people, injure 53,000, destroy 1,500 buildings, and damage 300,000 more," and a serious quake "could also cripple the city's water supply and take as long as six months to repair." City officials have spent \$14 billion on seismic upgrades to transportation infrastructure, and Mayor Eric Garcetti has received a new "preparedness plan."

"Hundreds Of Non-Citizens" Registered To Vote In Philadelphia Over Past 10 Years.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e6-3e5&t=c>> (9/20, Dinan, 541K) reports, "Hundreds of non-citizens were registered to vote in Philadelphia over the last decade, and at least 90 of them actually ended up casting ballots that should never have been allowed, City Commissioner Al Schmidt said Wednesday, adding more fuel to complaints of bogus voting in US elections. The voters are all self-admitted non-citizens who went back and canceled their registrations later – but not before casting illegal ballots a total of 227 times in elections spanning 2006 to 2007, Mr. Schmidt said." The Times adds, "The data offers a boost to President Trump, who has claimed voters are tainted by non-citizens casting illegal ballots."

Prosecutors: Weiner Deserves Jail Time.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e7-8af&t=c>> (9/20, Weiser, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Federal prosecutors said Wednesday that former congressman Anthony Weiner's request for probation and no prison time "for his conviction in a sexting case," is "simply inadequate," and that "his crime deserves time in prison." A sentencing memo from prosecutors seeks "a prison term of 21 to 27 months." The Times adds that when he is sentenced Monday, the "disgraced former Democratic congressman" could receive "up to 10 years in prison on one count of transferring obscene material to a minor, a 15-year-old girl with whom he exchanged lewd texts over several months in early 2016."

Poll: Greater "2016 Election Buyers' Remorse" Among Clinton Voters Than Trump Voters.

Under the headline "Poll: More Hillary Voters Regret Their 2016 Vote Than Trump Voters," Guy Benson wrote at Townhall <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e8-abd&t=c>> (9/20, 523K), "According to a new national Politico/Morning Consult survey <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0e9-796&t=c>> , 2016 election buyers' remorse is more prevalent among Hillary Clinton's voters than those who cast ballots for President Trump. 'Among Clinton voters, 13 percent say they would either vote for a different candidate or not vote at all,' the survey finds, while that number among Trump backers is four points lower." Benson provided a link to the poll results, but the data about the Clinton/Trump voters doesn't appear in that version of the survey.

Court To Hear Appeal In Request For Clinton Draft Whitewater Indictment Records.

McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ea-c00&t=c>> (9/20, Welsh, 67K) reports, "A federal appeals court will hear a case brought by Judicial Watch on Friday to make public draft indictments of Hillary Clinton from the Whitewater scandal in the 1990s." Judicial Watch is seeking "copies of the documents that the National Archives and Records Administration has declined to release. It filed a FOIA request for the documents in March 2015 and in October 2015 the group sued for the 238 pages of responsive records." McClatchy adds, "The documents in question are alleged drafts of indictments written by Hickman Ewing, the chief deputy of Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel appointed to investigate Bill and Hillary Clinton's alleged involvement in fraudulent real estate dealings."

Leaked Footage Shows MSNBC's O'Donnell Screaming At Staff.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0eb-b0f&t=c>> (9/20, Delk, 1.68M) reports in its "Blog Briefing Room" blog that outtakes of MSNBC host Lawrence O'Donnell berating staff surfaced online Wednesday, with Mediaite publishing an eight-minute video showing a series of clips in which the host "screams at the crew about malfunctions in his earpiece and distracting noises coming from inside the control room." The clip compilation were apparently taken from the August 29 episode of "The Last Word With Lawrence O'Donnell."

Daines: Allow Forest Management Needed To Stop Forest Fires.

In a Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ec-11e&t=c>> (9/20, 10.38M) op-ed, Sen. Steve Daines writes that environmental lawsuits and excessive regulations "have become barriers to responsible forest management" in the western United States, costing states millions of acres of land lost to forest fires that could have been better contained. Daines argues that forest management reforms should be passed, certain environmental rules should be cut, and the Forest Service budget should be maintained.

Will: National Conversation Empowering "Demagogues."

In his Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ed-673&t=c>> (9/20, 10.38M) column, George Will writes that the United States has undergone what one UCLA professor described as the "demassification of the mass media" – meaning technology has radically reduced intermediaries and barriers to entry into societal conversation and thus has caused "ignorance, incompetence and intellectual sociopathy" to enter mainstream discussion. Will argues such "cheap speech" is decreasing the relevance of political parties and newspapers, empowering "demagogues," and spurring calls to limit First Amendment protections.

WPost: DC Making Progress Toward Better Youth Rehabilitation.

In an editorial, the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ee-92b&t=c>> (9/20, 10.38M) applauds the District of Columbia Council for offering a "comprehensive" and "thoughtful" overhaul of the city's Youth Rehabilitation Act. The new legislation

“preserves the worthwhile goal of rehabilitation for defendants 21 or younger” but also tempers “this leniency with common-sense protections for public safety,” such as making offensive actions like sexual assault ineligible for the act.

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today’s Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

Fed Unveils Plan To Pare Holdings, Hints At Another Rate Rise

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ef-27b&t=c>>

Hackers Entered Equifax Systems In March

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f0-324&t=c>>

States Need \$645 Billion To Pay Full Health-Care Costs

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f1-e4e&t=c>>

The Secret Of Angela Merkel’s Longevity: Strategic Flip-Flops

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f2-644&t=c>>

New York Times:

Mueller Seeks White House Documents Related To Trump’s Actions As President

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f3-223&t=c>>

Hurricane Maria Strikes, And Puerto Rico Goes Dark

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f4-656&t=c>>

At Mexican School Hit By Quake, Heartbreak And Dwindling Hope

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f5-58b&t=c>>

Trump Pushes To Revisit Iran Nuclear Deal, And Asks Allies To Help

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f6-a80&t=c>>

Insurers Come Out Swinging Against New Republican Health Care Bill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f7-594&t=c>>

Confident Fed Sets Stage For December Rate Increase

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f8-dc2&t=c>>

Washington Post:

Death Toll In Mexico Rises Amid Search For Missing

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0f9-cf9&t=c>>

Murkowski Finds Herself In Healthcare Hot Seat Again

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0fa-396&t=c>>

Manafort Email Draws Interest

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0fb-f3b&t=c>>

Probe Casts Wide Net Toward White House

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0fc-6ce&t=c>>

No Power In Pummeled Puerto Rico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0fd-ff3&t=c>>

Financial Times:

Spanish National Police Raid Catalan Government Headquarters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0fe-653&t=c>>

Fed Calls Historic End To Quantitative Easing

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=0ff-dd5&t=c>>

Lawmakers Fear Russia's Facebook Meddling Continues

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=100-acf&t=c>>

Toshiba Seals \$18bn Memory Chip Sale To Bain-Led Group

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=101-2a2&t=c>>

Washington Times:

McConnell Pressures Senate Republican Holdouts To Support Last-Ditch
Obamacare Repeal Bill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=102-f1d&t=c>>

Iranian President Warns "Ignorant" Trump Not To Withdraw From Nuclear
Deal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=103-420&t=c>>

Islamic State Changes Battlefield Tactics To Guerrilla Warfare After
Losing Territory To Coalition

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=104-f23&t=c>>

Afghanistan Welcomes Trump Plan For Long-Term US Occupation

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=105-caa&t=c>>

DACA Denial Rate Doubles Under Trump Administration

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=106-3c4&t=c>>

Clashes Intensify As Spain Tries To Block Catalonia's Secession
Referendum

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=107-dfc&t=c>>

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Mexico City Earthquake;

Russia Meddling Investigation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; North Korea Threats; Myanmar-Rohingya Genocide; Yankee Stadium Foul Ball Injury; Family Struck By Lightning; California-Drug Bust; Jake LaMotta Dies; Bone Marrow Donor.

CBS: Hurricane-Caribbean; Mexico City Earthquake; Russia Meddling Investigation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Amazon-Bomb Materials; Yankee Stadium Foul Ball Injury; High School Football-Dangers; Jake LaMotta Dies; San Diego-Hepatitis A Outbreak; New York City-Global Citizen Festival.

NBC: Hurricane-Caribbean; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Mexico City Earthquake 1; Mexico City Earthquake 2; Los Angeles Earthquake Preparation; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Trump-Iran Nuclear Deal; Jake LaMotta Dies; Airlines-Extra Fees; Mexico City Earthquake 3.

Network TV At A Glance:

Hurricane – 12 minutes, 25 seconds

Mexico City Earthquake – 11 minutes, 55 seconds

Congress-Healthcare Reform – 6 minutes, 20 seconds

Russia Meddling Investigation – 4 minutes, 30 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricane-Puerto Rico.

CBS: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Mexico City Earthquake; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Fed Reserve-Interest Rate; Jake LaMotta Dies.

FOX: Mexico City Earthquake; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Trump-Iran Nuclear Deal.

NPR: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Mexico City Earthquake; Congress-Healthcare Reform; Wall Street News.

Washington's Schedule

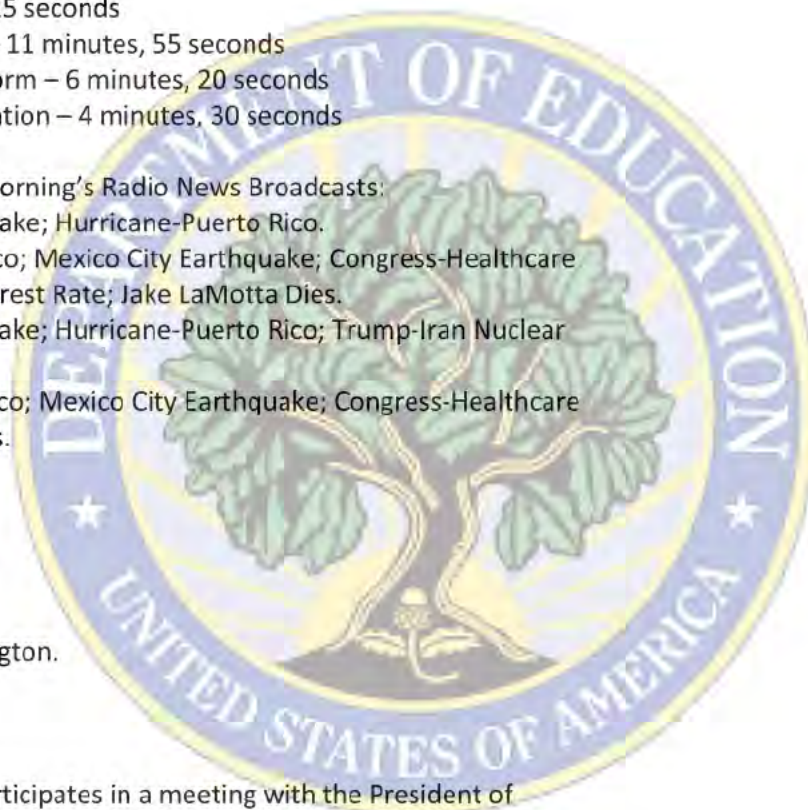
Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Participates in a meeting with the President of Afghanistan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Ukraine; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of the Republic of Korea; participates in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan; participates in an expanded meeting with the President of Turkey.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Participates in an interview with CBS This Morning; participates in an interview with Fox and Friends; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of Afghanistan; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of Ukraine; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the President of the Republic of Korea; joins the President to participate in an expanded meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan.

US Senate: 8:30 AM Senate convenes for pro forma session – Senate



convenes for a pro forma session * No votes scheduled in the chamber today or tomorrow Location: Washington, DC <http://www.senate.gov/>

No votes scheduled in the Senate.

US House: 11:00 AM House of Representatives convenes for pro forma session Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

On recess until 25 September.

Other: 10:30 AM Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference – Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 47th Annual Legislative Conference continues, themed ‘And Still I Rise’. Agenda today includes the Inaugural Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Braintrust hosted by Democratic Rep. Alma Adams (10:30 AM EDT), and National Association of Real Estate Brokers ‘State of Housing in Black America’ forum, with Democratic Rep. Gregory Meeks (2:00 PM EDT) Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, Washington, DC www.cbcfinc.org/alc [#CBCFALC17](https://twitter.com/CBCFInc)

2:00 PM Rwandan President Kagame speaks at Brookings – ‘Flagship reforms for a more effective African Union: A conversation with Rwandan President Paul Kagame’ Brookings Institution discussion Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.brookings.edu> [#AUREform](https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst)

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<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=108-223&t=c>> . Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Website’s information and privacy policies

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092101education&r=email-9544&l=109-69e&t=c>> . The Department of Education News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at BulletinIntelligence.com, or called at (703) 483-6100.

Subject: EDMC Call
Location: 1-877-211-3621; part code 7239089

Start: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:00 PM
End: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Organizer: Johnson, Wayne
Required Attendees: Minor, Robin



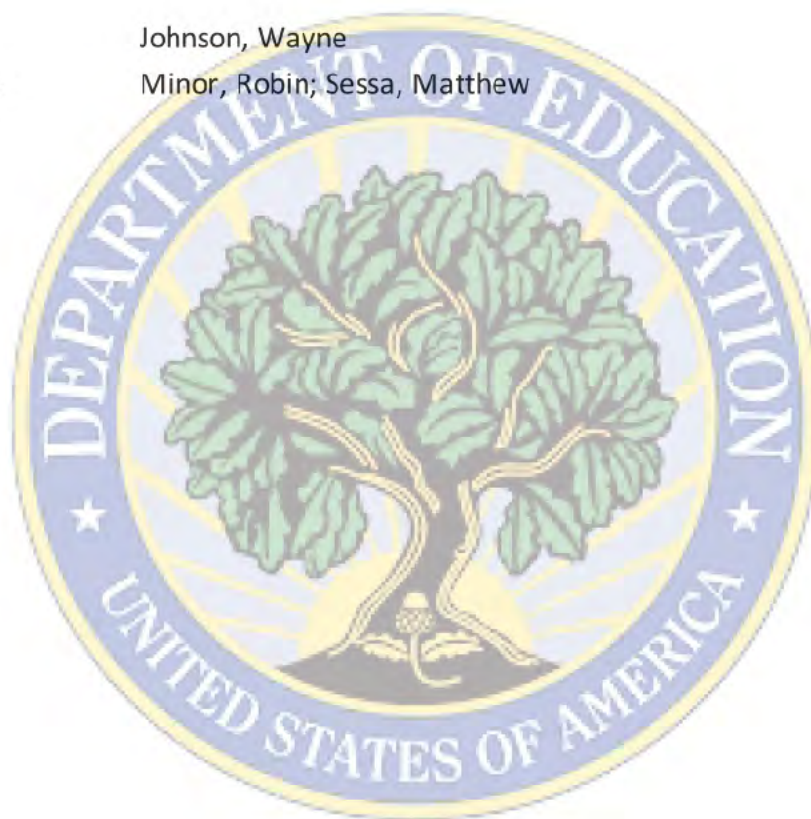
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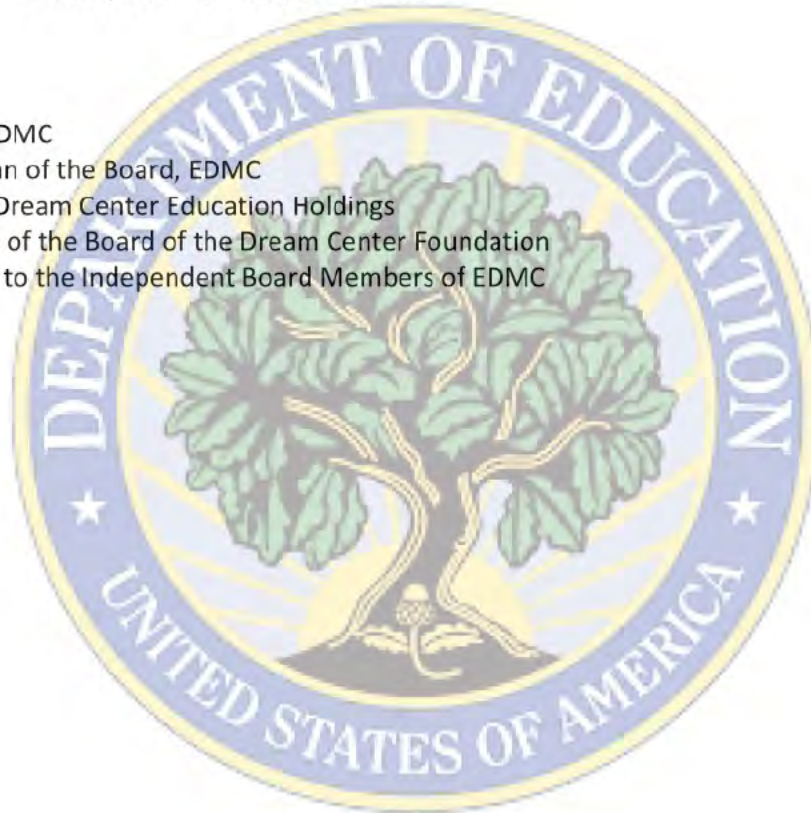
Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Organizer: Johnson, Wayne
Required Attendees: Minor, Robin; Sessa, Matthew



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Mark McEachen – CEO, EDMC
John Danielson – Chairman of the Board, EDMC
Brent Richardson – CEO, Dream Center Education Holdings
Randy Barton – Chairman of the Board of the Dream Center Foundation
Dennis Cariello – Counsel to the Independent Board Members of EDMC



Holland, Linda

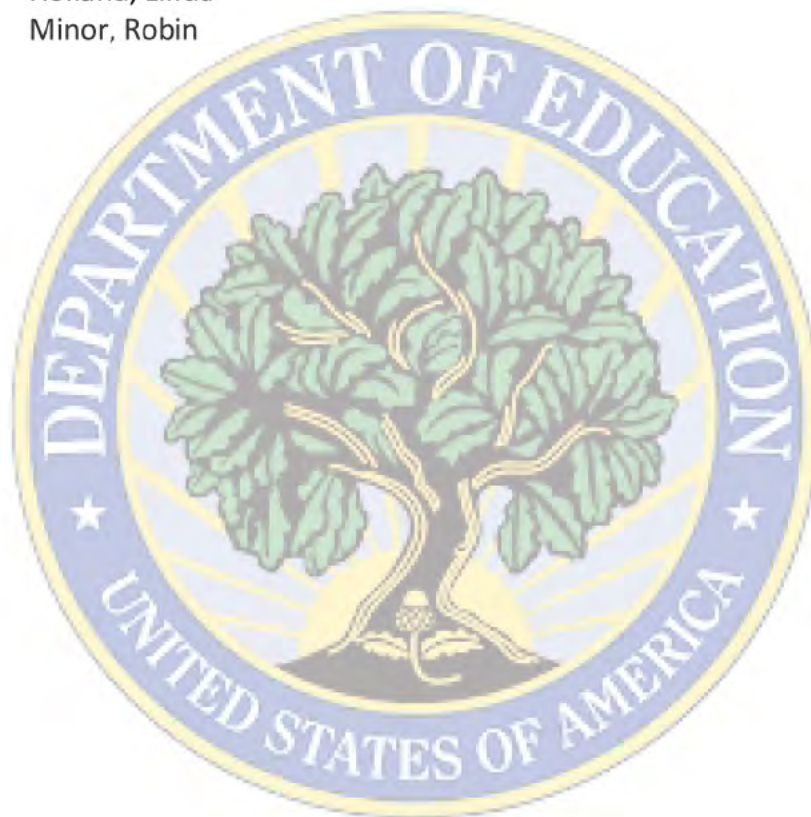
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Start: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:00 PM
End: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentatively accepted

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Holland, Linda
Required Attendees: Minor, Robin



Subject: EDMC Call
Location: 1-877-211-3621; part code 7239089

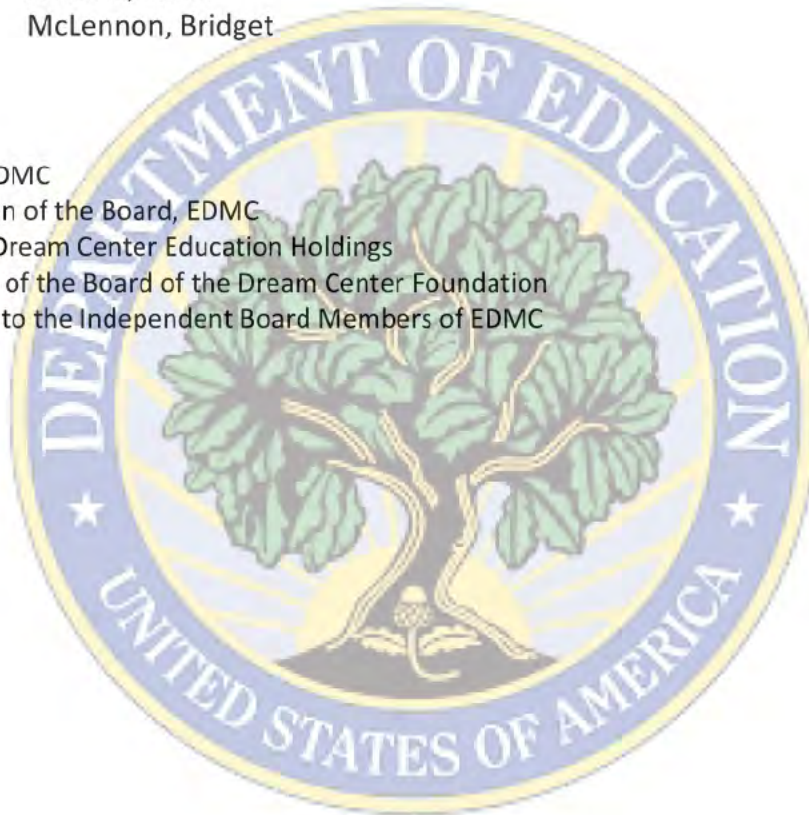
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End: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentatively accepted

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Holland, Linda
Required Attendees: McLennon, Bridget

Mark McEachen – CEO, EDMC
John Danielson – Chairman of the Board, EDMC
Brent Richardson – CEO, Dream Center Education Holdings
Randy Barton – Chairman of the Board of the Dream Center Foundation
Dennis Cariello – Counsel to the Independent Board Members of EDMC



Subject: EDMC Call
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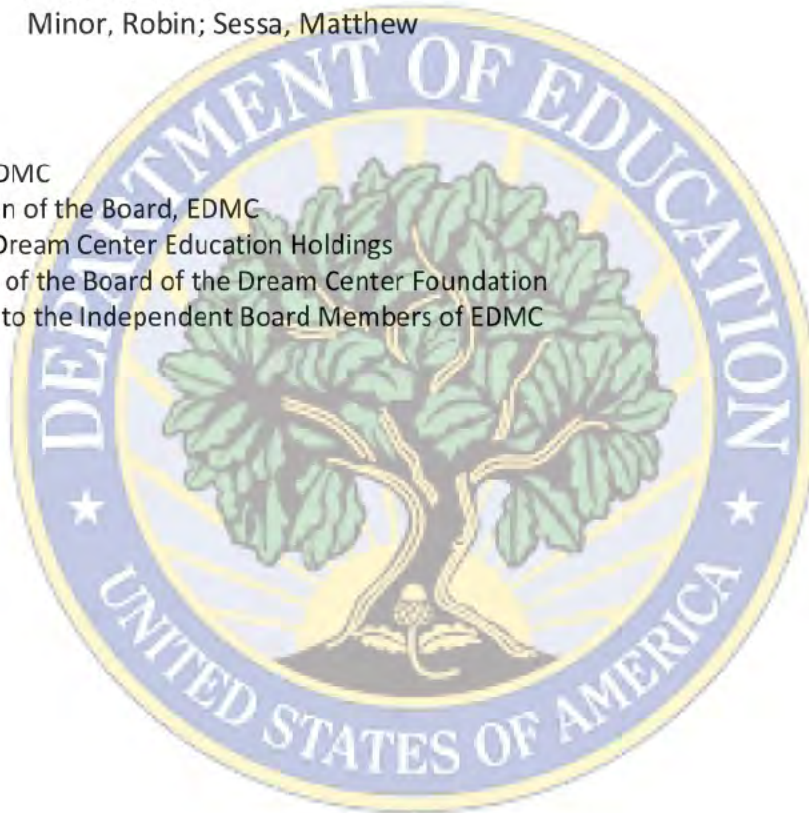
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Show Time As: Tentatively accepted

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Holland, Linda
Required Attendees: Minor, Robin; Sessa, Matthew

Mark McEachen – CEO, EDMC
John Danielson – Chairman of the Board, EDMC
Brent Richardson – CEO, Dream Center Education Holdings
Randy Barton – Chairman of the Board of the Dream Center Foundation
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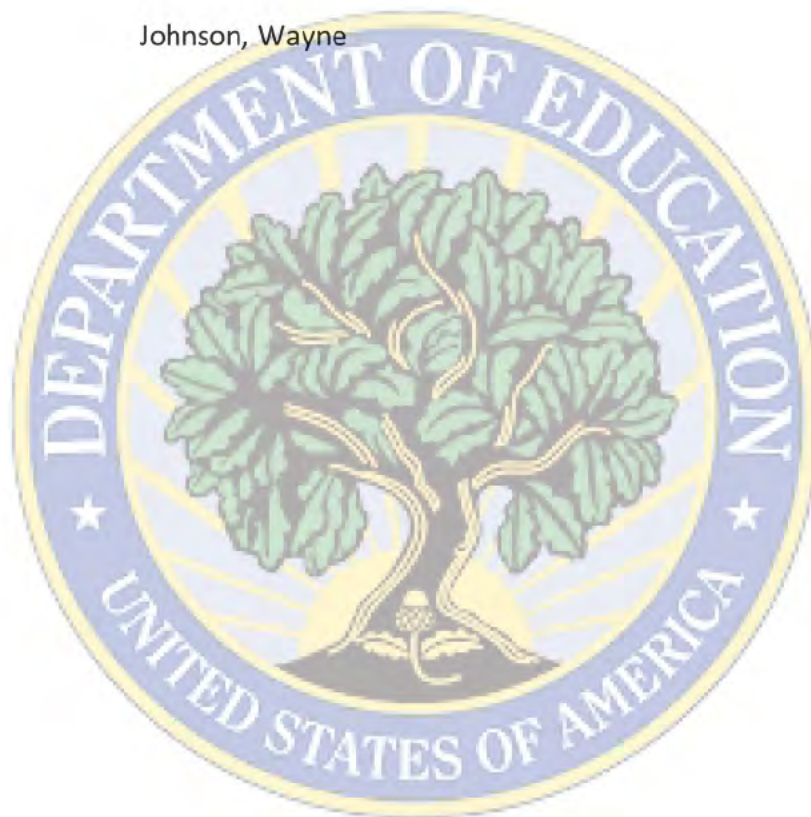
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End: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: No response required

Organizer: Johnson, Wayne



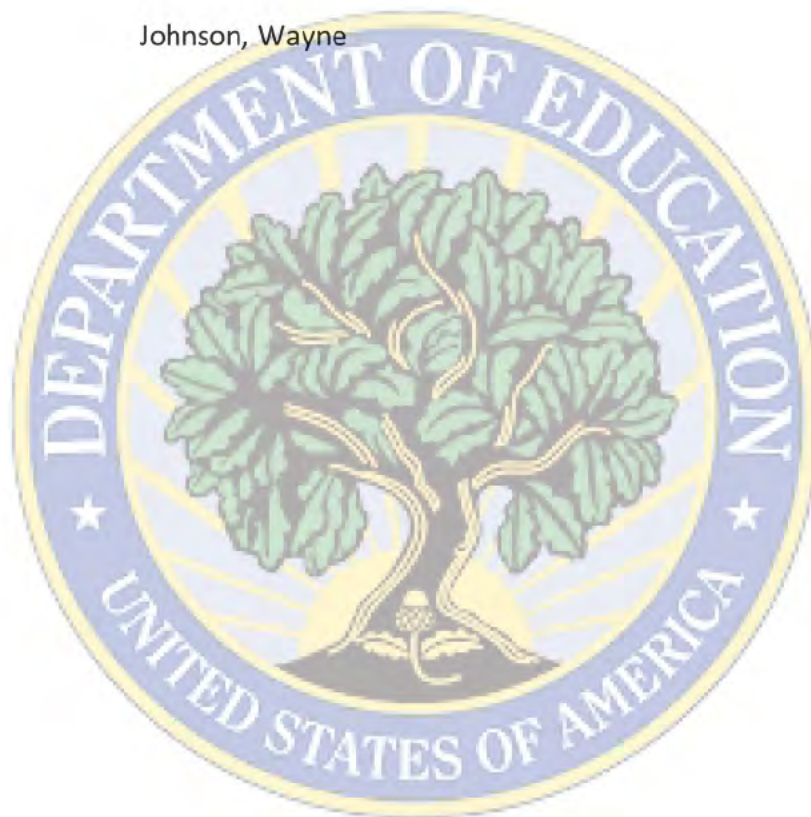
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End: Thursday, September 28, 2017 3:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: No response required

Organizer: Johnson, Wayne





OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Via overnight mail

February 22, 2017

The Honorable Elisabeth DeVos
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Speaker Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
1233 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
233 Cannon H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: How For-profit Schools Have Harmed Student Borrowers: the Need for the Gainful
Employment Rule, Vigorous Federal Oversight of Accreditors, and the Borrower Defense
to Repayment Rule

Dear Secretary DeVos, Speaker Ryan, Senator McConnell, Congresswoman Pelosi, and Senator
Schumer,

We, the undersigned Attorneys General of Illinois, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa,
Kentucky, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North
Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and the District
of Columbia, as well as the Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Protection of Hawaii,
write to express our support for recent federal protections for students and taxpayers in higher

education. We are deeply concerned that rollbacks of these protections would again signal “open season” on students for the worst actors among for-profit post-secondary schools. As the chief consumer law enforcement agencies in our states, our offices handle thousands of complaints concerning higher education every year.¹ We also enforce laws to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive practices perpetrated by higher education providers.

I. Background: The Need for Rules to Protect Students and Taxpayers from Unfair and Deceptive Practices by For-Profit Higher Education Providers

Over the last ten years, student loan debt has soared from \$450 billion to nearly \$1.4 trillion.² A major driver of this increase has been for-profit colleges. Of the top 25 schools where students hold the most student loan debt, over half were for-profit schools in 2014.³ This is up from only one for-profit institution in the top 25 in 2000.⁴

In addition to driving the increase in student loan borrowing, for-profit institutions also have significantly more loan defaults than other types of institutions. Since 2013, for-profit institutions accounted for 35% of all federal student loan defaults, but enrolled just 27% of all borrowers.⁵ Many for-profit schools are almost entirely dependent on federal grants and loans. In December 2016, the U.S. Department of Education (“ED”) found that nearly 200 for-profit schools derive more than 90% of their income from federal sources.⁶ The only reason that many of these institutions are in compliance with the federal 90/10 Rule⁷ is that certain categories of federal money, including GI Bill money, are excluded from the rule and thus count toward the 10% that is supposed to be non-federal money.

Over the past fifteen years, millions of students have been defrauded by unscrupulous for-profit post-secondary schools. With accreditors asleep at the wheel, State Attorneys General Offices have stepped in to stop some of the worst abuses. The list of State Attorney General investigations and enforcement actions against for-profit colleges is long, including actions against: American Career Institute; Ashford University/Bridgepoint Education, Inc.; Corinthian Colleges, Inc.; Career Education Corporation; Education Management Corporation; Daymar College; DeVry University; ITT Tech; National College of Kentucky; and Westwood Colleges, among others. These schools, and others like them, engaged in a variety of deceptive and abusive practices. Some promised prospective students jobs, careers, and further opportunities in education that the schools could not provide. Many schools inflated job placement numbers and/or promised career services resources that did not exist. Many nationally-accredited schools

¹ Illinois alone received 1,523 consumer complaints regarding education in 2015.

²Bricker, Jesse, et al., “How Much Student Debt is Out There?”, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System: accessible data available at: <https://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/notes/feds-notes/2015/how-much-student-debt-is-out-there-accessible-20150807.html#fig1>; <https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/current/#fn11b>

³ Brookings Institute study: https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/ConferenceDraft_LooneyYannelis_StudentLoanDefaults.pdf

⁴ Brookings Institute study: https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/ConferenceDraft_LooneyYannelis_StudentLoanDefaults.pdf

⁵ <https://www2.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/defaultmanagement/schooltyperates.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/new-analysis-finds-many-profits-skirt-federal-funding-limits>

⁷ The 90/10 Rule is a federal regulation that requires for-profit schools to receive at least 10% of their income from non-federal sources. By requiring someone other than the federal government to pay for the programs, such as students, employers, or scholarship providers, the Rule is designed to be an indicator of quality.

promised that their credits would transfer, even though credits from nationally-accredited schools often do not transfer to more rigorous regionally-accredited schools. Many students were placed in loans that the schools knew from experience their graduates could not pay back. The schools were overseen by accreditors who failed to take action to protect students or the taxpayers who funded their federal student loans, despite ample evidence of these and other problems. In short, the entire for-profit education system was failing students and taxpayers. As investigations and prosecutions initiated by our offices shed light on these problems⁸, ED began to take steps to remedy these harms, issuing new regulations and reformulating policies to help protect students and taxpayers.

Three of these recent steps – the Gainful Employment Rule, the policy of vigorous federal oversight of accreditors, and the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule – are essential to protect both consumers and taxpayers from fraudulent actors in the for-profit education sector. The Gainful Employment Rule is a measure of graduates' debt-to-income and is designed to ensure that programs produce graduates that are able to pay back their student loans. Prospectively, the federal government recognizes accreditors who have standards sufficient to show that they schools they accredit provide a quality education and should have access to federal student loans and grants. Finally, where other protections fail and students are defrauded by bad actors, the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule provides a formal process for students to assert a defense to repayment of their federal student loans.

II. Corinthian Colleges: An Example of the Harm Faced by Students and Taxpayers

The egregious conduct of Corinthian Colleges illustrates how each of these three policies is necessary to avoid harm to both students and taxpayers. In March 2016, after an extensive review of published job placement rates at Corinthian campuses nationwide, the Department of Education found that the job placement rates were fraudulent for hundreds of cohorts from 2010 – 2014.⁹ Corinthian was telling the world that far more of its students obtained jobs than actually did, inducing students to enroll. Many of these students were left without jobs in their field of study. Without these jobs, many are saddled with debt they cannot repay, defaulting on loans funded with taxpayer dollars.

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The absence of policies in place to protect prospective students from Corinthian's fraudulent practices also demonstrates the need for an effective process for students to assert a defense to loan repayment. This defense was established in the 1990s when Congress passed legislation allowing students to assert claims against their schools as a defense to repayment of their federal student loans. There was little detail, however, on the process for asserting such claims. The regulations set to take effect on July 1, 2017 give borrower defense to repayment set processes so that students, schools, and taxpayers have an orderly process, and a degree of certainty, moving forward.

Without the Gainful Employment Rule, meaningful oversight of accreditors, and an orderly borrower defense process, we face the prospect of for-profit schools continuing to line their pockets with taxpayer dollars while students and taxpayers experience another crushing wave of defaulted student loan debt.

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ED's gainful employment regulations are designed to further a simple idea – that students who attend career training programs should be able to repay their federal student loans once they graduate. The Rule allows prospective students to compare debt-to-income ratios across schools. By doing this, the Rule creates an incentive for schools to make good on their promises to students, and protects students from programs that will leave them saddled with debt and without job prospects in the careers for which they trained.

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Data released on January 9, 2017 indicate that over 800 programs fail the Department's Gainful Employment metrics.¹⁰ **For-profit institutions are responsible for 98% of the failing programs.** But these 800 programs are only a portion of the for-profit school programs that have failed their students. With the Gainful Employment Rule pending, for-profit institutions have already eliminated hundreds of programs where students did not make enough money to cover

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It is essential that the Gainful Employment Rule be kept in place. Removing the Rule would open students and taxpayers up to the worst excesses of the for-profit higher education sector. It would greatly increase the regulatory and enforcement burden on states and accreditors by removing a central protection from the federal leg of the triad that oversees higher education in the United States.

IV. Vigorous Oversight of Accreditors by ED

The federal government and states need strong partners with specialized knowledge of higher education to provide prospective quality assurance of schools in order to protect students and taxpayers. Accreditors are the organizations tasked with this role. Our experience, however, has shown that without substantive oversight by the federal government, some accreditors are negligent in their role.

The primary example of this dereliction of duty to students and taxpayers is the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS). As noted in our April 8, 2016 comment to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) opposing ACICS's application for renewal of recognition, **a recent study found that only 35% of students enrolled in ACICS accredited programs graduate, the lowest rate for any accreditor.**¹²

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An accreditor's failure to verify program quality at its accredited institutions jeopardizes the effectiveness of state enforcement efforts and regulations, exposing each state's students to subpar educational programs that provide little value, but for which each student may borrow tens of thousands of dollars in student loans, that are nearly impossible to discharge in bankruptcy.

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¹² <https://www.propublica.org/article/accreditors-billions-of-taxpayer-dollars-flowing-to-for-profit-colleges>

¹³ Note that ACICS has sued ED in connection with the Secretary's decision. See *Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools v. United States Department of Education, et al.*, 16-2448 (D.D.C 2016). Several State Attorneys General, including some signatories of this letter, have moved to intervene in the lawsuit.

each for careers they were unable to pursue because many police departments in Illinois, including the Chicago Police Department and the Illinois State Police, did not accept credits from nationally-accredited schools. Graduates of Westwood's criminal justice program have a median salary below the median salary of a 25-year old with a high school diploma, in part because they were locked out of the career they had been promised. This combination of high debt and limited job prospects is a crushing blow not only to students, but to taxpayers who bear the burden of defaults on these loans. Despite the Illinois Attorney General's January 2012 suit against Westwood, ACICS accredited Westwood up to the day it closed its doors in March 2016.

Similarly, on September 8, 2016, a Hennepin County Court found that the Minnesota School of Business and Globe University systematically misrepresented their criminal-justice program as allowing students to pursue careers as Minnesota police officers or probation or parole officers. The Minnesota School of Business and Globe University were accredited by ACICS throughout the time period of the fraud determined by the Court, and their Chief Operating Officer during that time was in fact the Chair of ACICS's board of directors. Terminating ACICS's recognition is a responsible action that will protect students and taxpayers for years to come.

V. The Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule

In order to fairly and efficiently redress the harms suffered by for-profit college students, the borrower defense to repayment rule promulgated by ED must be allowed to take effect on July 1, 2017. As we noted in our August 1, 2016 comment to the proposed rule, students need a fair and transparent process to apply for borrower defense to repayment, and that process is missing from the existing regulation. The regulation finalized by ED also contains significant protections for taxpayers, including the requirement that schools cannot use arbitration agreements to bar students from bringing borrower defense claims directly against the school in court.

It is important to note that these regulations do not create a new defense to repayment. Congress established the borrower defense to repayment in the 1990s.¹⁴ Furthermore, over the last two years, ED has created substantial documentation of what constitutes a valid borrower defense claim under the existing regulation. Not only will the defense continue to be available, but it is likely that claims will continue to be asserted, particularly if regulations surrounding for-profit institutions, such as gainful employment, are loosened, allowing the bad practices of the past to return. Because the defense will continue to exist, a formal, transparent process to assert the defense, as reflected in the new repayment rule, is essential.

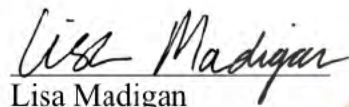
A basic sense of justice requires that the borrower defense to repayment rules be allowed to take effect. Millions of students paid tens of thousands of dollars each in federal student loan money to for-profit schools and received worthless degrees in return. Federal student loan debt is non-dischargeable in bankruptcy. These students cannot be left without a clear recourse. The new borrower defense to repayment regulations provide that recourse and should be allowed to take effect.

Our extensive experience in the higher education field, and our participation in the process of developing these recent policies and regulations, gives us unique insight into the abusive and

¹⁴ 20 U.S.C. § 1087e (h).

deceptive practices of for-profit schools over the last ten years. We cannot overemphasize the harm to students and taxpayers that a rollback of federal protections would cause. Our offices hear from former for-profit students on a daily basis; sadly, many are hopeless. They have little hope of paying off their student loans without the career prospects promised by their schools. They have little hope of continuing their educations without the ability to transfer their credits from the many nationally-accredited for-profits to more rigorous regionally-accredited schools. Allowing for-profit schools unfettered access to federal student loan money without reasonable oversight and accountability is a mistake that American students and taxpayers should not be made to pay for again.

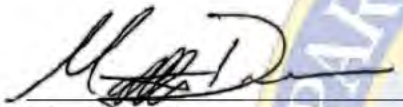
Sincerely,



Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General



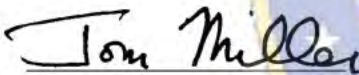
George Jepsen
Connecticut Attorney General



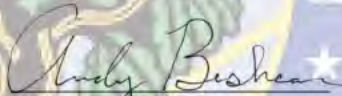
Matthew Denn
Delaware Attorney General



Douglas S. Chin
Hawaii Attorney General



Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General



Andy Beshear
Kentucky Attorney General



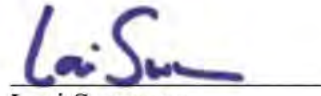
Brian E. Frosh
Maryland Attorney General



Janet T. Mills
Maine Attorney General



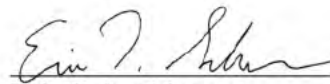
Maura Healy
Massachusetts Attorney General



Lori Swanson
Minnesota Attorney General



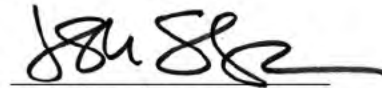
Hector Balderas
New Mexico Attorney General

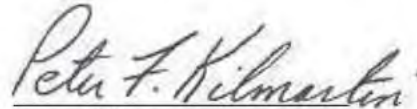


Eric Schneiderman
New York Attorney General

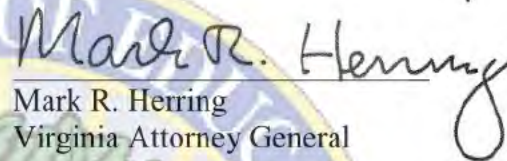

Josh Stein
North Carolina Attorney General

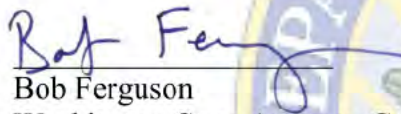

Ellen F. Rosenblum
Oregon Attorney General

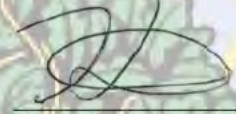

Josh Shapiro
Pennsylvania Attorney General

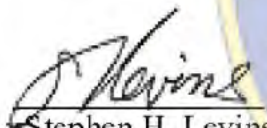

Peter Kilmartin
Rhode Island Attorney General


TJ Donovan
Vermont Attorney General


Mark R. Herring
Virginia Attorney General


Bob Ferguson
Washington State Attorney General


Karl A. Racine
District of Columbia Attorney General


Stephen H. Levins
Executive Director
Hawaii Office of Consumer Protection

Cc via first class mail:

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator
Senate Minority Whip
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator
706 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr
United States Senate
217 Russell Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Ben Cardin
United States Senator
509 Hart Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senator
511 Hart Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator
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The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator
478 Russell
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The Honorable Martin Heinrich
United States Senator
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The Honorable Chris Murphy
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The Honorable Rand Paul
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The Honorable Patrick J. Toomey
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The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
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The Honorable Tom Carper
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The Honorable Chris Coons
United States Senator
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The Honorable Joni Ernst
United States Senator
111 Russell Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Charles Grassley
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The Honorable Ed Markey
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The Honorable Thom Tillis
United States Senator
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
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The Honorable Tom Udall
United States Senator
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Jerry Falwell Jr.
White House Task Force on Deregulating
Higher Education
Liberty University
1971 University Blvd
Lynchburg, VA 24515





OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Via overnight mail

February 22, 2017

The Honorable Elisabeth DeVos
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Speaker Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
1233 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
233 Cannon H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: How For-profit Schools Have Harmed Student Borrowers: the Need for the Gainful
Employment Rule, Vigorous Federal Oversight of Accreditors, and the Borrower Defense
to Repayment Rule

Dear Secretary DeVos, Speaker Ryan, Senator McConnell, Congresswoman Pelosi, and Senator
Schumer,

We, the undersigned Attorneys General of Illinois, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa,
Kentucky, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North
Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and the District
of Columbia, as well as the Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Protection of Hawaii,
write to express our support for recent federal protections for students and taxpayers in higher

education. We are deeply concerned that rollbacks of these protections would again signal “open season” on students for the worst actors among for-profit post-secondary schools. As the chief consumer law enforcement agencies in our states, our offices handle thousands of complaints concerning higher education every year.¹ We also enforce laws to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive practices perpetrated by higher education providers.

I. Background: The Need for Rules to Protect Students and Taxpayers from Unfair and Deceptive Practices by For-Profit Higher Education Providers

Over the last ten years, student loan debt has soared from \$450 billion to nearly \$1.4 trillion.² A major driver of this increase has been for-profit colleges. Of the top 25 schools where students hold the most student loan debt, over half were for-profit schools in 2014.³ This is up from only one for-profit institution in the top 25 in 2000.⁴

In addition to driving the increase in student loan borrowing, for-profit institutions also have significantly more loan defaults than other types of institutions. Since 2013, for-profit institutions accounted for 35% of all federal student loan defaults, but enrolled just 27% of all borrowers.⁵ Many for-profit schools are almost entirely dependent on federal grants and loans. In December 2016, the U.S. Department of Education (“ED”) found that nearly 200 for-profit schools derive more than 90% of their income from federal sources.⁶ The only reason that many of these institutions are in compliance with the federal 90/10 Rule⁷ is that certain categories of federal money, including GI Bill money, are excluded from the rule and thus count toward the 10% that is supposed to be non-federal money.

Over the past fifteen years, millions of students have been defrauded by unscrupulous for-profit post-secondary schools. With accreditors asleep at the wheel, State Attorneys General Offices have stepped in to stop some of the worst abuses. The list of State Attorney General investigations and enforcement actions against for-profit colleges is long, including actions against: American Career Institute; Ashford University/Bridgepoint Education, Inc.; Corinthian Colleges, Inc.; Career Education Corporation; Education Management Corporation; Daymar College; DeVry University; ITT Tech; National College of Kentucky; and Westwood Colleges, among others. These schools, and others like them, engaged in a variety of deceptive and abusive practices. Some promised prospective students jobs, careers, and further opportunities in education that the schools could not provide. Many schools inflated job placement numbers and/or promised career services resources that did not exist. Many nationally-accredited schools

¹ Illinois alone received 1,523 consumer complaints regarding education in 2015.

²Bricker, Jesse, et al., “How Much Student Debt is Out There?”, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System: accessible data available at: <https://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/notes/feds-notes/2015/how-much-student-debt-is-out-there-accessible-20150807.html#fig1>; <https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/current/#fn11b>

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⁶ <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/new-analysis-finds-many-profits-skirt-federal-funding-limits>

⁷ The 90/10 Rule is a federal regulation that requires for-profit schools to receive at least 10% of their income from non-federal sources. By requiring someone other than the federal government to pay for the programs, such as students, employers, or scholarship providers, the Rule is designed to be an indicator of quality.

promised that their credits would transfer, even though credits from nationally-accredited schools often do not transfer to more rigorous regionally-accredited schools. Many students were placed in loans that the schools knew from experience their graduates could not pay back. The schools were overseen by accreditors who failed to take action to protect students or the taxpayers who funded their federal student loans, despite ample evidence of these and other problems. In short, the entire for-profit education system was failing students and taxpayers. As investigations and prosecutions initiated by our offices shed light on these problems⁸, ED began to take steps to remedy these harms, issuing new regulations and reformulating policies to help protect students and taxpayers.

Three of these recent steps – the Gainful Employment Rule, the policy of vigorous federal oversight of accreditors, and the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule – are essential to protect both consumers and taxpayers from fraudulent actors in the for-profit education sector. The Gainful Employment Rule is a measure of graduates' debt-to-income and is designed to ensure that programs produce graduates that are able to pay back their student loans. Prospectively, the federal government recognizes accreditors who have standards sufficient to show that they schools they accredit provide a quality education and should have access to federal student loans and grants. Finally, where other protections fail and students are defrauded by bad actors, the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule provides a formal process for students to assert a defense to repayment of their federal student loans.

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An accreditor's failure to verify program quality at its accredited institutions jeopardizes the effectiveness of state enforcement efforts and regulations, exposing each state's students to subpar educational programs that provide little value, but for which each student may borrow tens of thousands of dollars in student loans, that are nearly impossible to discharge in bankruptcy.

A prime example of the harm that stems from lax accreditation was brought to light by state action against Westwood College. The Illinois Attorney General's Office sued Westwood College for systematically misrepresenting the ability of its criminal justice graduates to pursue careers in law enforcement. Thousands of Westwood students in Illinois borrowed up to \$75,000

¹¹ <http://www.carecred.com/Press-Room/Press-Releases/Career-Education-Corporation/Career-Education-Announces-Strategy-to-Focus-Resources-on-Its-University-Group>; <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/05/07/profit-chains-announce-new-wave-closures-and-sell-offs>; See <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/data-center/school/ge/data>

¹² <https://www.propublica.org/article/accreditors-billions-of-taxpayer-dollars-flowing-to-for-profit-colleges>

¹³ Note that ACICS has sued ED in connection with the Secretary's decision. See *Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools v. United States Department of Education, et al.*, 16-2448 (D.D.C 2016). Several State Attorneys General, including some signatories of this letter, have moved to intervene in the lawsuit.

each for careers they were unable to pursue because many police departments in Illinois, including the Chicago Police Department and the Illinois State Police, did not accept credits from nationally-accredited schools. Graduates of Westwood's criminal justice program have a median salary below the median salary of a 25-year old with a high school diploma, in part because they were locked out of the career they had been promised. This combination of high debt and limited job prospects is a crushing blow not only to students, but to taxpayers who bear the burden of defaults on these loans. Despite the Illinois Attorney General's January 2012 suit against Westwood, ACICS accredited Westwood up to the day it closed its doors in March 2016.

Similarly, on September 8, 2016, a Hennepin County Court found that the Minnesota School of Business and Globe University systematically misrepresented their criminal-justice program as allowing students to pursue careers as Minnesota police officers or probation or parole officers. The Minnesota School of Business and Globe University were accredited by ACICS throughout the time period of the fraud determined by the Court, and their Chief Operating Officer during that time was in fact the Chair of ACICS's board of directors. Terminating ACICS's recognition is a responsible action that will protect students and taxpayers for years to come.

V. The Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule

In order to fairly and efficiently redress the harms suffered by for-profit college students, the borrower defense to repayment rule promulgated by ED must be allowed to take effect on July 1, 2017. As we noted in our August 1, 2016 comment to the proposed rule, students need a fair and transparent process to apply for borrower defense to repayment, and that process is missing from the existing regulation. The regulation finalized by ED also contains significant protections for taxpayers, including the requirement that schools cannot use arbitration agreements to bar students from bringing borrower defense claims directly against the school in court.

It is important to note that these regulations do not create a new defense to repayment. Congress established the borrower defense to repayment in the 1990s.¹⁴ Furthermore, over the last two years, ED has created substantial documentation of what constitutes a valid borrower defense claim under the existing regulation. Not only will the defense continue to be available, but it is likely that claims will continue to be asserted, particularly if regulations surrounding for-profit institutions, such as gainful employment, are loosened, allowing the bad practices of the past to return. Because the defense will continue to exist, a formal, transparent process to assert the defense, as reflected in the new repayment rule, is essential.

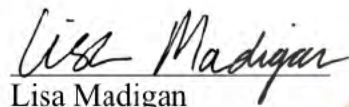
A basic sense of justice requires that the borrower defense to repayment rules be allowed to take effect. Millions of students paid tens of thousands of dollars each in federal student loan money to for-profit schools and received worthless degrees in return. Federal student loan debt is non-dischargeable in bankruptcy. These students cannot be left without a clear recourse. The new borrower defense to repayment regulations provide that recourse and should be allowed to take effect.

Our extensive experience in the higher education field, and our participation in the process of developing these recent policies and regulations, gives us unique insight into the abusive and

¹⁴ 20 U.S.C. § 1087e (h).

deceptive practices of for-profit schools over the last ten years. We cannot overemphasize the harm to students and taxpayers that a rollback of federal protections would cause. Our offices hear from former for-profit students on a daily basis; sadly, many are hopeless. They have little hope of paying off their student loans without the career prospects promised by their schools. They have little hope of continuing their educations without the ability to transfer their credits from the many nationally-accredited for-profits to more rigorous regionally-accredited schools. Allowing for-profit schools unfettered access to federal student loan money without reasonable oversight and accountability is a mistake that American students and taxpayers should not be made to pay for again.

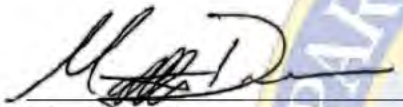
Sincerely,



Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General



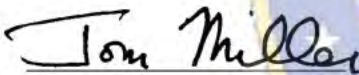
George Jepsen
Connecticut Attorney General



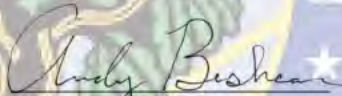
Matthew Denn
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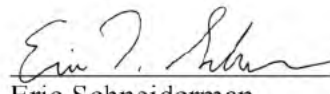
Maura Healy
Massachusetts Attorney General



Lori Swanson
Minnesota Attorney General



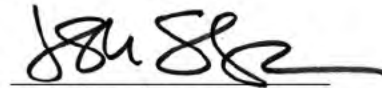
Hector Balderas
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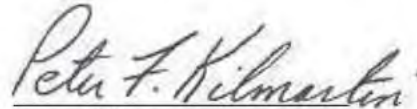


Eric Schneiderman
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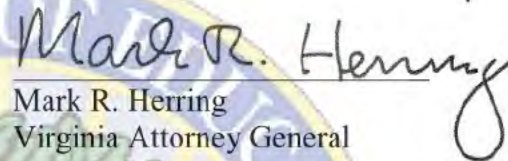

Josh Stein
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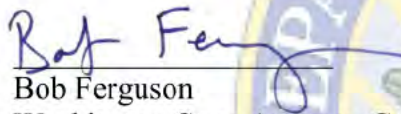

Ellen F. Rosenblum
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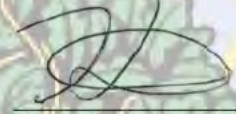

Josh Shapiro
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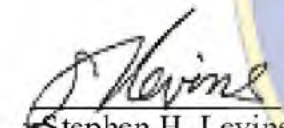

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Subject: The Department of Education News Briefing for September 28, 2017

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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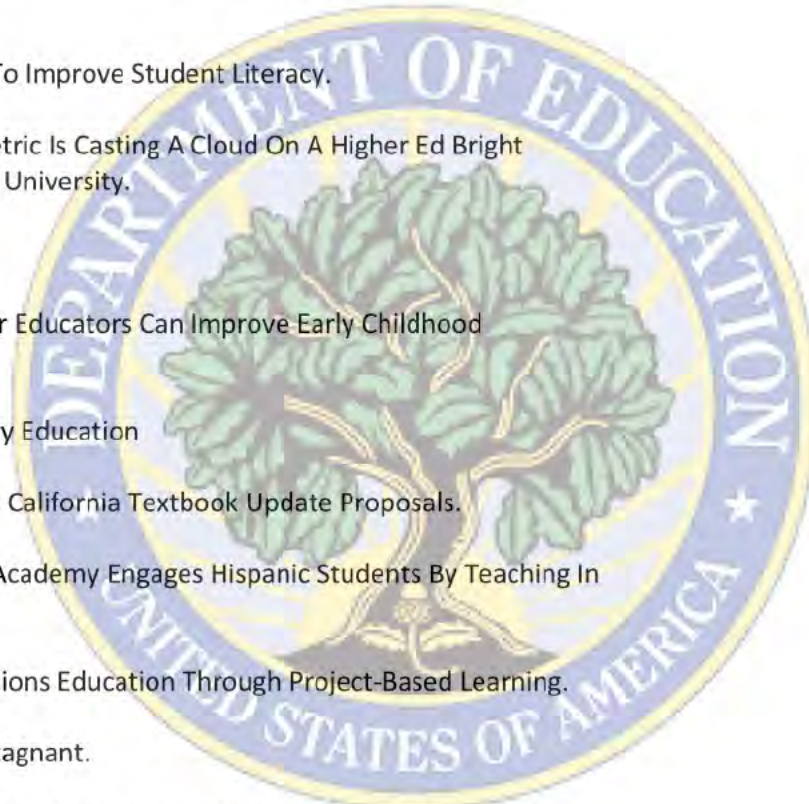
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- Teacher Transferred After Asking For Gender-Neutral Pronouns.
- State Exam Scores Show Math Continues To Be A Struggle For Many Students.

Post-Secondary Education

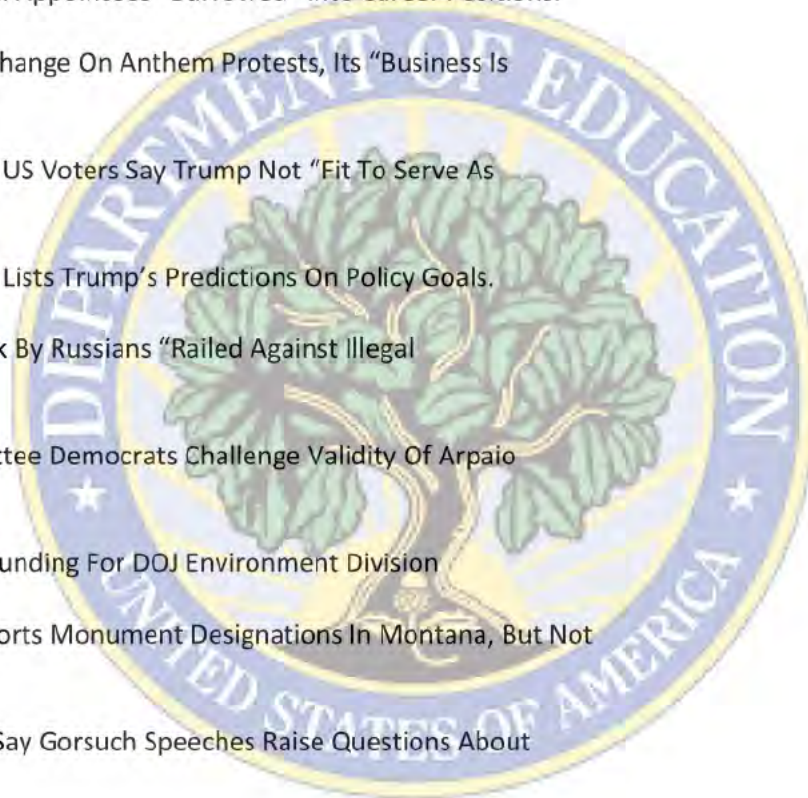
- West Virginia University Launching Land-Grant School Academic Center.
- Ohio State To Cover Remaining Costs For Pell Grant Recipients.
- Study: Nearly All Students In Dual Enrollment Programs Go On To College.
- Column: Graduate Programs Should Be Harder To Finance.

Other Washington News

- Trump Touts Tax Cut Plan In Indianapolis.
- Trump Says He Is "Thinking About" Jones Act Waiver For Puerto Rico.
- Storms Amplified USVI's Economic Crisis.
- Trump To Sign Order Allowing People To Buy Health Insurance Across State Lines.
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- Experts Say ACA Rates Soaring Because Of Lack Of Administration Commitment To Subsidies.
- Programs For Insured, Low-Income Children Set To Expire This Week.
- White House To Lower Refugee Admissions.



- McClatchy Analysis: Surge In Border Crossings Tests Trump On Immigration.
- Contractors Building Border Wall Prototypes.
- Poll Shows Trump Immigration Policies Could Hurt GOP In Texas.
- Canada: Being Denied Asylum In US Does Not Grant Status.
- WPost: Congress Should Grant DACA Recipients Legal Status.
- Trump Suggests He May Consider Firing Price.
- Brownback's Hearing For Ambassador Nomination Slated For October 4.
- GAO: 78 Obama Political Appointees "Burrowed" Into Career Positions.
- Trump: If NFL Doesn't Change On Anthem Protests, Its "Business Is Going To Go To Hell."
- Quinnipiac Poll: 56% Of US Voters Say Trump Not "Fit To Serve As President."
- NYTimes' "The Upshot" Lists Trump's Predictions On Policy Goals.
- Ads Placed On Facebook By Russians "Railed Against Illegal Immigrants."
- House Judiciary Committee Democrats Challenge Validity Of Arpaio Pardon.
- EPA Threatens To End Funding For DOJ Environment Division
- AP Analysis: Zinke Supports Monument Designations In Montana, But Not Elsewhere.
- WPost Analysis: Critics Say Gorsuch Speeches Raise Questions About His Independence.
- Fed Data Show Wealth Gap Widening In US.
- Stocks Closed Up Wednesday.
- Some Economists Believe Fast Food No-Hires Rules Contributing To Wage Stagnation.
- Official Testifies Aide Cited Menendez's Name To Advocate For Melgen.
- Obama Says He Was Moved To Tears When Dropping Off Daughter At Harvard.
- Supreme Court Slated To Hear Arguments On Role Of Partisanship In



Gerrymandering.

- Lawsuits Seek To Change Electoral College's Winner-Take-All System By 2020.
- Brown Signs Bill Moving California's Presidential Primary Up To Early March.
- Michele Obama: Women "Who Voted Against Hillary Clinton Voted Against Their Own Voice."
- Hillary Clinton To Raise Cash For Northam At October 4 Event In New York.
- Media Analyses: Moore's Alabama Victory Is A Defeat For Trump, McConnell, And GOP.
- Raft Of Republicans Likely To Enter 2018 Race To Succeed Corker.
- Florida Chamber Poll: Scott Leads Nelson 47%-45% In Hypothetical Senate Race.
- Poll: Republican Putnam Leads Hypothetical Florida Gubernatorial Primary, General Election.
- WPost Profiles Rock Band Prophets Of Rage.
- Will: District Of Columbia Council's Soda Tax Rejects Statutory Limits, Ignores Consequences.
- Education Advocate: For Sake Of Free Debate, Colleges Must Address Student Violence.

The Big Picture

- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Washington's Schedule

- Today's Events In Washington.

Secretary and Department News

Study: Florida Voucher Program Improves Likelihood Of College Attendance.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=002-8cd&t=c>> (9/27) reports that according to a

new study from the Urban Institute, “low-income students in Florida who attended private schools using a credit scholarship program were more likely to go to college than their peers in public schools.” The AP says these findings “stood in contrast with some of the recent studies of similar private school choice programs that produced mixed results” and are “likely to energize the Trump administration in its effort to expand school choice across the nation, but also to irk critics who believe that such programs are ineffective and may discriminate against students.”

U.S. News & World Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=003-4db&t=c>> (9/27, 1.73M) reports that the research found that the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program, the largest such program in the country, “significantly improves the likelihood that students enroll in college,” providing “positive news for private school choice proponents who have recently endured an onslaught of research showing negative results for students enrolled in similar programs.” The piece explains that the program “provides tax credits as an incentive for corporations to donate to nonprofit organizations that can then provide scholarships for students in families with limited financial resources, allowing them to pay for tuition and fees at an eligible private school or transportation to a public school outside his or her district.”

Noting that Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has praised the program, Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=004-d2c&t=c>> (9/27, 3.55M) reports that authors of the report “estimate participation increases college enrollment rates by 15 percent. Most of the effect is in community colleges, as opposed to four-year universities.”

Student Loan Default Rate Rises.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=005-8ce&t=c>> (9/27, 43K) reports that ED announced Wednesday that the overall three-year cohort default rate for federal student loans rose from 11.3% to 11.5% for the first time since 2013. The article says that the data show that “10 institutions with high cohort default rates are at risk of losing their access to federal student aid.”

Diverse Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=006-146&t=c>> (9/27) reports that the increase is “setting off fears that student loan borrowers may be faring worse in the years to come given the department’s efforts to roll back various protections.” The article quotes Institute for College Access & Success

Executive Vice President Pauline Abernathy saying, "Now is the time to be improving student loan policies and increasing oversight and accountability, but the department is doing the opposite. The Department's rollback of critical protections and enforcement will only lead to more student loan defaults, higher debt burdens, and wasted taxpayer dollars."

ED To Have FAFSA Data Retrieval Tool Back Online By October.

Catherine Gewertz writes at the Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=007-5d4&t=c> (9/27, 127K) "High School and Beyond" blog that ED officials say the "automated tool designed to make it easier to put tax information into financial-aid applications will be back online Oct. 1," explaining that the FAFSA data retrieval tool "was taken down last spring after hackers tried to use it to get personal tax information from the system." The article reports the before revelations about security flaws, "professionals in the counseling and financial-aid worlds hailed it as an important form of help on an application that can be daunting."

ED Says Schools In Hurricane-Affected Areas Will Have Flexibility On Performance Targets.

The Houston Chronicle

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=008-63d&t=c> (9/27, Ellis, 1.97M) reports that ED has announced that districts in areas affected by the recent hurricanes "will have some flexibility to adjust performance targets and potentially transfer grants." ED "urged grantees to reconsider project timelines as schools bounce back from the destruction caused by hurricanes Harvey and Irma over the last month." The Chronicle quotes Education Secretary Betsy DeVos saying, "For children of affected families, returning to school can provide stability in a time of upheaval as they reconstruct their lives. The Department will continue to provide whatever flexibility and support it can to help ensure stakeholders have the resources they need to get these students back into the classroom as quickly as possible."

Congress Faces Saturday Deadline To Act On Perkins Loans, Home Visits.

Politico Morning Education

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=009-d2c&t=c> (9/27, 3.55M) reports Congress has until Saturday to "save two education programs that face expiration," the Perkins Loan program and the federal home visiting program, calling

both “nail-biters.” Though there are bipartisan bills to save the Perkins Loans, they lack the support of House Education and the Workforce Chairwoman Virginia Foxx and Senate HELP Chairman Lamar Alexander. Meanwhile, the home visiting program for poor families with young children, the piece reports, looks to have better chances.

Private School Tax Credit Thus Far Absent From GOP Tax Plan.

Andrew Ujifusa writes at the Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=00a-d17&t=c> (9/27, 127K) “Politics K-12” blog that the tax policy plan released by Republicans in Congress on Wednesday does not contain “a much-discussed boost for school choice.” However, the piece reports, this could change and Republicans could insert “a tax credit for those who make donations to groups sponsoring scholarships to private schools. School choice advocates have pushed for months for Republican lawmakers to include the provision in their tax overhaul, and U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos has long been a supporter of such tax-credit scholarships out the state level.”

Art Contest Financed By DeVos Family Takes On New Political Dimension.

The New York Times

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=00b-7ab&t=c> (9/27, Friess, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the ArtPrize contest, an annual three-week art contest that takes place in Grand Rapids, Michigan, has taken on renewed interest and a new “more politicized flavor” this year because of Betsy DeVos’ rise to education secretary. The Times explains that “Ms. DeVos’s son Rick conceived the competition and initially financed it.” The piece adds that the DeVos family “has long been controversial in Michigan for spending big on conservative political causes, but Betsy DeVos’s elevation brings new national prominence to the clan.”

Many Top ED Positions Remain Unfilled.

The Seventy Four

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=00c-756&t=c> (9/27) reports that while the Trump administration has made up some ground in nominating senior cabinet officials, ED “still lags far behind,” having “the highest vacancy rate of any Cabinet-level agency, with 12 of 15 positions open for which the White House has not announced a nominee or the Senate confirmed an officer.” The piece reports that the Senate HELP Committee has scheduled a vote on Thursday on the nomination of Carlos Muñoz to be the

department's general counsel. The piece reports that Democrats and Obama ED officials "have said the naming of top deputies in the Education Department is particularly critical given DeVos's lack of government experience and her pledge to rely on staff in areas where she needs help."

Presidential Commissions On Minority Students Concerned About Administration's Silence.

Education Week

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=00d-6cf&t=c>> (9/27, Mitchell, 127K) reports that members of the three "long-standing presidential commissions designed to expand educational opportunities for non-white students...say months of silence from the White House has them worried they're about to be dissolved." The presidential advisory commissions on educational excellence for black, Hispanic, and Asian American and Pacific Islander students "are set to expire Saturday" and "have not met since President Donald Trump took office in January. Although members of the groups have reached out, the White House has not responded." Moreover, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos "has not met with the respective chairpersons to discuss the future of the commissions since taking office in February."

Additional Reading

Texas Education Officials Finalize Federal Achievement Plan.

The Houston Chronicle

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=00e-21e&t=c>> (9/27, Carpenter, 1.97M)

\$2.7M Grant To Aid Hispanic Students At Nevada State College.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=00f-a61&t=c>> (9/27, 458K)

SU Defends Obama-era Crackdown On Campus Sex Assault, Rebukes Expelled Student.

The Syracuse (NY) Post-Standard

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=010-f5e&t=c>> (9/27, 690K)

\$21 Million In Funding To Improve Student Literacy.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=011-fc1&t=c>> (9/27)

Outdated Education Metric Is Casting A Cloud On A Higher Ed Bright Spot: Western Governors University.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=012-d99&t=c>> (9/27, Hartle, 10.38M)

Early Learning

Opinion: Tax Reform For Educators Can Improve Early Childhood Education.

Cindy Cisneros, vice president of education programs at the Committee for Economic Development, writes in an op-ed in The Hill <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=013-8a7&t=c>> (9/27, 1.68M) that by implementing tax reform to include credits that will increase child care workers' compensation, educational settings and outcomes for students in turn will improve. She points to the example of Louisiana's School Readiness Tax Credit program, "which include[s] a refundable workforce investment credit that provides an incentive for early care and education workers to increase their knowledge base and skills while acquiring a modest increase in their take-home pay." According to Cisneros, programs such as this show "refundable workforce investment credit is a solution that works."

Elementary and Secondary Education

LGBT Advocates Protest California Textbook Update Proposals.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=014-159&t=c>> (9/27, Cooper) reports a coalition of LGBT rights groups are protesting the California Department of Education's proposed updated textbook recommendations, "saying the books

don't include enough information about the contributions of LGBT Americans." The group is calling for the department to, in the AP's words, "integrate the contributions of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people throughout history" and "said the books should point out when historical or cultural figures had same-sex partners." A California commission is considering which of 12 history and social science textbooks will be recommended for students in kindergarten through eighth grade, with the coalition pushing for "two of the books to be rejected and a third be turned back unless the publisher agrees to make substantial changes."

The Sacramento (CA) Bee

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=015-8ba&t=c> (9/27, 349K) reports that in 2011, California responded to "a wave of gay youth suicides" by requiring "lessons on the historical contributions of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in its K-12 curriculum." The piece reports that "gay rights groups are raising concerns that the textbook options before the state fall far short of the inclusion" sought by legislators. Boston Dual-Language Academy Engages Hispanic Students By Teaching In Spanish.

The Hechinger Report

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=016-4c6&t=c> (9/27, Mathewson) says in a greater than 3,000-word article that Boston's Margarita Muñiz Academy is unique because it is "a first-of-its kind dual-language high school" where Hispanic students, who "were both the most likely to drop out of the city's schools and the least likely to enroll in college when compared to black, white and Asian students," receive instruction in Spanish. While Boston Public Schools have seen the nearly 39 percent of Hispanic high school students classified as "English-language learners...drop out at higher rates than any other major subgroup," the Muñiz Academy in 2016 saw 75 percent of its ELL students graduate, "a rate 14 percentage points higher than the district's average."

Start-Up School Reenvision Education Through Project-Based Learning.

CNN

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=017-1a4&t=c> (9/27, Pisa, 33.59M) reports on its website on the rising trend of teaching students through project-based learning, profiling the Portfolio School in New York's Tribeca where educators emphasize "guided choice and a personalized education" and mix technology with learning activities. The start-up school refers to itself as a "micro-school," which intends "to broaden a child's creativity and is based on the philosophy that children need an interdisciplinary model of learning." CNN reports, "Portfolio says its research-based approach is reinventing everything – from the curriculum,

space design, classroom management, schedule, the role of teachers and a student's engagement with the outside world."

California Test Scores Stagnant.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=018-3cf&t=c>> (9/27, Resmovits, Phillips, 4.49M) reports that while California education experts said that test scores on California's three-year-old new assessments "would improve when students got used to them," the "scores have stagnated — essentially flatlining in English and math." English pass rates rose one point to 49% over last year, while math scores also rose one point to 38%. The year before, "students' scores had improved in both subjects, prompting California's State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson to travel from Sacramento to Los Angeles and hold a news conference to highlight the gains." This year, "Torlakson issued a statement describing the results as sustained progress."

The San Francisco Chronicle

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=019-764&t=c>> (9/27, 3.31M) reports that despite massive effort and investment, "test scores for white, Asian and wealthier students are much higher than those of their black, Latino and low-income peers." Education officials, the Chronicle reports, are "highlighting what they saw as positive news in the data while lamenting the stubborn, and in some cases widening, achievement gap." EdSource <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=01a-8f9&t=c>> (9/27) also covers this story.

Achievement Gap, Low Readiness Steady On Redesigned SAT.

The Seventy Four

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=01b-274&t=c>> (9/27, Cantor) reports that the first set of results from the newly redesigned SAT "don't provide a ton of new information," but "the outlines of student performance were familiar." Only 46% "achieved scores that indicate their college readiness, The College Board's shorthand for an ability to earn a C or higher in an entry-level course." Moreover, "race/ethnicity breakdowns yielded expected disparities: Asian students achieved at higher levels than their peers" while "Hispanic students, who scored 990 on average, and black students, who scored an average of 941, trailed substantially."

Fed's Kashkari Calls For Research Into US Educational "Crisis."

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=01c-660&t=c>> (9/27) reports that on Wednesday, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari "called for more research by the central bank into what he called unacceptably big gaps in educational outcomes by race that keep many Americans out of the workforce." In remarks that did not include comments on monetary policy or economic outlook, Kashkari said, "If the Fed can objectively analyze education models that can help more Americans get and keep good jobs, I believe it is important we do that research and share our findings with other policymakers." He added, "This research may help us achieve maximum employment nationally and in places, such as many tribal communities, where underemployment has been a persistent problem."

Vermont Schools Reach Agreement With Educational Assistants' Union.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=01d-0b0&t=c>> (9/27) reports Vermont school officials reached an agreement with an educational assistants' union following "five hours of negotiations," determining a settlement that "covers 125 paraeducators employed at schools in Barre and Barre Town, Spaulding High School and the Central Vermont Career Center." The details have yet to be released, although the AP says "the issues at the center of discussion were wages, health insurance and the contract length."

Fatal New York High School Stabbing Attributed To Bullying.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=01e-99c&t=c>> (9/27, Nir, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that two students at the Urban Assembly School for Wildlife Conservation in the Bronx were stabbed Wednesday morning, one fatally. The attack "set off a lockdown," and police took a third student into custody. A school official "said the fatal confrontation stemmed from 'bullying,' and at a news conference on Wednesday afternoon Chief Boyce said it appeared the three students had been locked in a running dispute over the first weeks of the school year."

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=01f-05f&t=c>> (9/27, James, 8.62M) reports that "the school does not have metal detectors," and "frightened and angry parents gathered" outside the school "demanding their children be released from inside the school building."

Opinion: Projection Models For Energy-Saving Initiatives At Schools Must Be Updated For "Real World."

Forbes

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=020-3f9&t=c> (9/27, 5.11M) contributor Fiona Burlig writes that she and colleagues at MIT, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, and Northwestern University conducted a study using "a brand-new machine learning approach to measure the effectiveness of energy efficiency upgrades in California schools" and found that while "the upgrades did lower energy consumption at the average school by 3%, freeing up real money to pay for textbooks and supplies," overall, "schools saved only 24% of what was projected." She and the research team found that, "If the school invested \$400,000, expecting that they'd recoup their investment in the form of lower energy bills in 4 years, our estimates imply they might never see it pay off." Burlig suggests the findings indicate policymakers should consider updating projection models because current models "aren't sufficiently benchmarked to the real world." She notes the importance of machine learning in capturing more accurate results.

Puerto Rico Schools Face Uncertainty Following Hurricane Maria.

Education Week

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=021-4eb&t=c> (9/27, Sparks, Superville, 127K) reports on the challenges Puerto Rico's schools are facing in the wake of Hurricane Maria, the "strongest storm" to strike the commonwealth "in decades." On Friday, the US Department of Education "announced it would provide regulatory flexibility during the 2017-18 school year for schools affected by all of the hurricanes this summer" and "suggested ways for schools to use technology to continue students' learning when school buildings cannot be used—though," the article says, "that won't be of much use to students in Puerto Rico for the near future."

Ohio Officials Tentatively Grant Online Charter School Approval As Dropout Prevention School.

The AP

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=022-cfc&t=c> (9/27) reports the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow online charter school recently "received initial approval to be designated a dropout prevention school" after being "locked in a legal fight with" the Ohio Department of Education. The department granted it approval "pending an audit to confirm that most of the school's students are between ages 16 and 21"; the school says 53 percent of students meet that requirement and could be considered

at-risk. With the designation, qualifying schools “get a more lenient state report than traditional schools.”

Rural Students Least Likely Group To Attend College.

The Hechinger Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=023-b59&t=c>> (9/27, Marcus, Krupnick) reports in a greater than 2,000-word article that US students least likely to attend college live in rural areas. According to the Report, fewer students from rural areas attend college than students in other locations not because “rural students aren’t academically prepared” – in fact, they often “score better on the National Assessment of Educational Progress than urban students and graduate from high school at a higher percentage than the national average, the U.S. Department of Education reports” – but rather due to “historic” factors as well as “regional economic competitiveness” and “widening political division.” Many students from small rural towns also face difficulty adjusting to large college settings, and as one policy expert commented, disdain for rural Americans “is the last acceptable prejudice in America.”

York School Department Overspent on Special Education By \$1 Million In 2017.

The Bangor (ME) Daily News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=024-128&t=c>> (9/27, McDermott, 162K) reports the York School Department calculated that fiscal year 2017 spending on special education totaled nearly \$1 million more than allotted in the budget, prompting interim Superintendent Mark McQuillan to observe, “it’s clear we have to do better.” SPED Director Erin Frazier said the “big challenge is that the budget wasn’t developed to meet the needs we were seeing” for the special education student population, while Director of Finance and Operations James Amoroso pointed to spending freezes and reduced transportation costs as contributing to the overspending. Frazier and McQuillan predicted there could be discrepancies in this year’s budget as well, with McQuillan saying the department is “in the middle of a shift and I do believe it will change.”

Additional Reading

Test Scores Jumped In Innovation Schools, But IPS Leaders Aren’t Declaring Victory Just Yet..

Chalkbeat

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=025-163&t=c>> (9/27)

Wisconsin Student Test Results Hold Steady.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=026-ec6&t=c>> (9/27, Bauer, Press)

Test Scores Inch Up In Philly, Pa. Schools.

Philly (PA)

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=027-590&t=c>> (9/27, 1.19M)

Teacher Transferred After Asking For Gender-Neutral Pronouns.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=028-22a&t=c>> (9/27)

State Exam Scores Show Math Continues To Be A Struggle For Many Students.

The Harrisburg (PA) Patriot-News

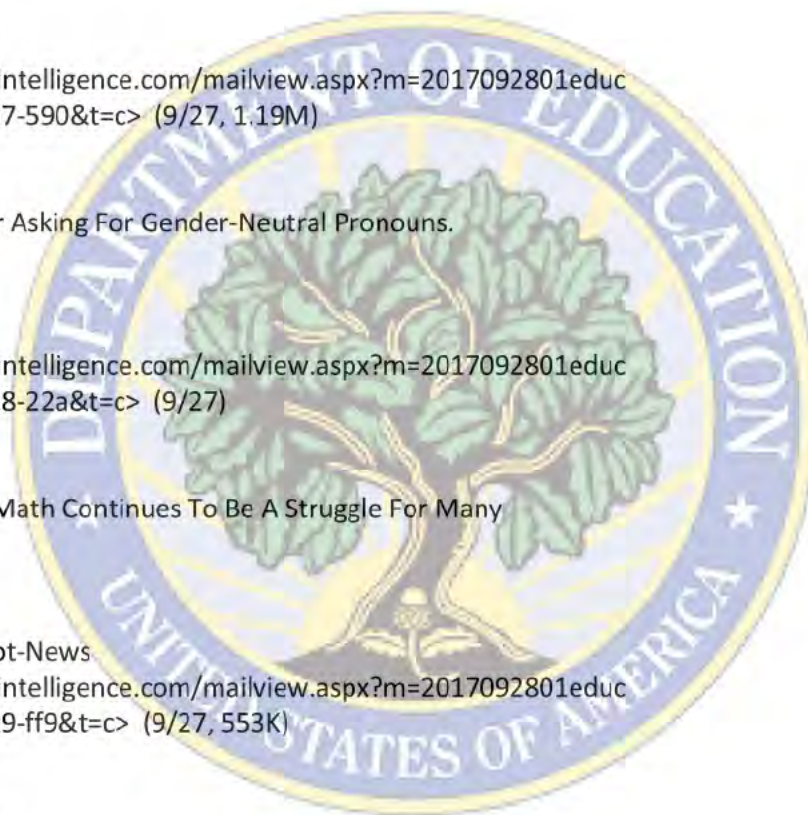
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=029-ff9&t=c>> (9/27, 553K)

Post-Secondary Education

West Virginia University Launching Land-Grant School Academic Center.

Politico Morning Education

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=02a-239&t=c>> (9/27, 3.55M) reports that West Virginia University in Morgantown is launching the Center for the Future of Land-Grant Education, a “new academic center Thursday focused on the nation’s land-grant colleges and universities.” the Center “will be a hub for researchers aimed at providing accessible public higher education.”



Ohio State To Cover Remaining Costs For Pell Grant Recipients.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=02b-a10&t=c>> (9/27, 927K) reports that Ohio State University officials have announced that the school “will cover the remaining cost of tuition and fees for low-income in-state students who receive aid from other sources.” The school says this will cost over \$11 million per year and will benefit students that “are awarded Pell grants, Ohio College Opportunity Grants and any merit awards.” The Plain Dealer reports that “qualifying new, existing and transfer students on the Columbus campus in fall 2018” will be eligible.

The Akron (OH) Beacon Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=02c-767&t=c>> (9/27, 235K) reports , Columbus (OH) Business First

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=02d-42d&t=c>> (9/26, 858K), and WOIO-TV

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=02e-a5d&t=c>> Cleveland (9/27, 14K) also cover this story.

Study: Nearly All Students In Dual Enrollment Programs Go On To College.

The Seventy Four

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=02f-d9f&t=c>> (9/27) reports that according to a new study from the Community College Research Center at Columbia University Teachers College, “an overwhelming majority of high school students who complete dual enrollment courses at local community colleges go on to pursue higher education.” However, there is wide state-to-state variation in “where they enroll after graduation — and how well they perform.” The piece reports that dual enrollment programs have grown in popularity in recent years, but says that “most educators and state leaders have not closely monitored which students participate, where they enroll in college after high school, and how many of those students earn a college degree.”

Column: Graduate Programs Should Be Harder To Finance.

In a Bloomberg View

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=030-4d9&t=c>> (9/27, 4.52M) column, Megan McArdle

writes that demand for graduate-level business schools has made them “cash cows for the universities.” McArdle cites the high cost of MBA programs and says “schools often encourage graduate students’ naïve faith, painting a rosy picture of future employment prospects that is, to say the very least, highly selective.” McArdle calls for “the government [to] get out of the student loan business entirely; I suspect that one reason college now costs so much is simply that it can, thanks to unsecured government loans that cover the growing gap between tuition cost and parental means.” She also calls for “capping graduate school loans at something close to the caps on the loans made to financially independent undergrads.”

Other Washington News

Trump Touts Tax Cut Plan In Indianapolis.

During a speech in Indianapolis on Wednesday, President Trump pitched the tax cut plan negotiated by the Administration and the Republican leadership in both chambers. Media coverage of the plan is heavy, but noticeably lighter than recent coverage of the President’s comments criticizing the NFL. While the coverage almost universally highlights Trump’s call for large cuts to individual and corporate tax rates, much of it is negative in tone, saying the plan leaves many questions unanswered and questioning Trump’s assertion that the wealthy will not benefit.

WISH-TV

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=031-dc0&t=c> Indianapolis (9/27, 5:01 p.m. EDT, 19K) reported that Trump “wasted very little time talking about how his tax plan could benefit the state and the country.” Trump: “Americans waste so much money, billions and billions of dollars and many hours each year with our ridiculous tax code. More than 90 percent of Americans use assistance to prepare their taxes. Under our framework, the vast majority of Americans will be able to file their taxes on a single sheet of paper.”

WTHR-TV

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=032-9fb&t=c> Indianapolis (9/27, 5:04 p.m. EDT, 69K) reported that Trump “called on Americans to support his plan to bring back American jobs, wealth and the American dream.” Trump: “If you demand it, the politicians will listen. They will answer, and they will act and, someday, many years from now, our children and our grandchildren will remember this moment in history as the time when ordinary Americans took control of their destiny and chose a future of American patriotism, prosperity and pride.” In an exclusive interview, WTHR asked Trump how he squares raising the lowest individual tax and lowering the corporate tax. Trump said, “We’re bringing the corporate

tax down to a level where the companies that are leaving this country – they’re going to be hiring a lot of people. It’s all about jobs. So we’re lowering the working people’s – I call it the working people’s tax way down. We’re bringing the corporate tax down so that corporations won’t leave the country and they’ll hire a lot of people.”

To the AP

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=033-84f&t=c> (9/27, Thomas, 1.19M), the President was in “full salesman mode” as he presented the plan, which “seeks to slash the corporate rate from 35 percent to 20 percent and create three individual tax brackets with rates of 12 percent, 25 percent and 35 percent, with a recommended surcharge on the very wealthy.” Townhall <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=034-b49&t=c> (9/27, Pavlich, 523K) reports that Trump “urged voters to call their congressmen in support,” saying, “Call your congressmen, call your senators, let them know you are watching. Let them know you’re waiting. Tell them that today is the day for decision. That now is the time to heal this self-inflicted economic [wound] and that with their action, the future would belong to all of us. ... If you demand it, the politicians will listen. They will answer and they will act.”

The Washington Times

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=035-377&t=c> (9/27, Miller, 541K) reports that Trump “said tax reform hasn’t been a partisan issue in Washington in the past, and it shouldn’t be divisive this time, either.” Trump said, “There is no reason that Democrats and Republicans in Congress should not come together to deliver this giant win for the American people and begin the ‘middle-class miracle’ once again.” Pointing to Democratic Sen. Joe Donnelly, who traveled with him on Air Force One, Trump said, “If Sen. Donnelly doesn’t approve it – you know he’s on the other side – we will come here and campaign against him.” The Indianapolis Star <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=036-373&t=c> (9/27, 479K) reports that Donnelly has called for “a bipartisan effort that will give working and middle-class families greater economic security.”

Other coverage is more negative in tone. For example, USA Today

<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=037-226&t=c> (9/27, Groppe, 8.62M) says Trump is “seeking a much-needed win as he recovers from Republicans’ failure to repeal Obamacare and the loss of Luther Strange, Trump’s chosen candidate in the Alabama Senate primary on Tuesday.” USA Today adds that “many details are still to be worked out, including how much the changes would add to the deficit.” Likewise, the Los Angeles Times <http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=038-a73&t=c> (9/27, Puzzanghera, Mascaro, 4.49M) also says the plan leaves “a lot of unanswered questions.”

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=039-729&t=c>> (9/27, Rubin, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) also points out the political stakes for the White House and congressional Republicans in the wake of their unsuccessful push to repeal the ACA. Republicans, the Journal says, are anxious to post a legislative victory in advance of the 2018 elections. Similarly, the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=03a-10b&t=c>> (9/27, Davis, Rappeport, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says Trump, who is “smarting from the latest defeat” of his efforts to repeal the ACA, “began a full-throttle push to slash taxes and salvage what is left of his foundering legislative agenda in Congress, proposing a politically challenging array of tax cuts for individuals and businesses that would constitute the most sweeping changes to the federal tax code in decades.” The Times adds that Trump “offered few details about how working people might benefit from a plan that has explicit and substantial rewards for wealthy people and corporations.” In an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=03b-5c8&t=c>> (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), David Ricks, chairman and CEO of Eli Lilly & Co., praises the plan, arguing that it will help repair the current tax code which puts American companies at a disadvantage on the world market.

On NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=03c-fd3&t=c>> (9/27, story 4, 2:15, 16.61M), Lester Holt said Trump was “short on specifics on how middle class families would benefit.” Peter Alexander added that “the long-awaited roll-out is lacking key details, leaving many questions unanswered,” and Democrats are “not buying it.” Senate Minority Leader Schumer: “He ain’t walking the walk. This is aimed at the wealthiest people in America. They do far and away the best.” Nancy Cordes said on the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=03d-ed0&t=c>> (9/27, story 3, 2:30, Mason, 11.17M) that Republicans “made a show of unity today, even as analysts warned the plan could reduce government revenue by \$2 trillion or more over the next 10 years.” Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=03e-f72&t=c>> (9/27, Morgan, Cowan, 1.73M) highlights criticism that the plan “could add trillions of dollars to the deficit,” citing warnings from analysts that “huge tax cuts would balloon the federal deficit and debt if economic growth projected by Republicans to offset the costs fails to materialize amid rising interest rates.”

The Houston Chronicle

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=03f-58c&t=c>> (9/27, Diaz, 1.97M) reports that House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady, who will lead the tax reform effort in the House, said the framework is a “starting point for negotiations.” The Chronicle adds that it “immediately came under fire

from one of the top Democrats on the tax-writing committee, Lloyd Doggett,” who said, “The superlatives never match the specifics. ... What President Trump and his Republican cohorts say this plan is, it isn’t. The future of this bill depends upon how quickly the truth can catch up with the lie. From what we can already see, it is a blueprint for red ink.”

White House Director of Legislative Affairs Marc Short said on Fox News Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=040-38f&t=c>> (9/27, 1.53M), “We are confident in this framework. We think it is one that will work. We think it’s best for the American economy. It’s best for the American family providing them significant tax relief but also keeping jobs here in America which is something the last administration suffered through. ... We need to get the economy growing and Congress knows that, the American people know that, and we need tax relief.” Kellyanne Conway said on Fox News’ Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=041-cb8&t=c>> (9/27, 1.64M), “The vision is to make it simpler. Americans spend over six billion man hours a year...just complying with the code. The code currently favors the wealthy and privileged and the connected who can hire attorneys and accountants that can help them navigate and take advantage of these deductions and credits, many of which go away in the Donald Trump legislative plan for tax overhaul.”

House Speaker Ryan said on Fox News’ Hannity

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=042-3b1&t=c>> (9/27, 535K) that tax reform is “one of the most important things we can do to help people in the country. ... This is about economic growth, about bigger paychecks, more jobs, it’s about a fairness system in our tax code so we’re really excited about this. That’s why we spent all this time working with the President and yes working with the Senate and House to make sure we’re on the same page so we work off the common framework to go from here to get this done.” Ryan added, “There are a lot of people in this country working paycheck to paycheck. A lot of people in the country because of the slow growth economy never got the raise. A lot of economic anxiety. It’s about them, letting those hard working taxpayers keep more of their own money and giving them a tax break.”

Roll Call

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=043-26b&t=c>> (9/27, McPherson, 134K) provides more detail on the policies in the framework released by GOP leaders, many of which “are ones included in the House Republicans’ ‘A Better Way’ plan released last year.” Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=044-9d1&t=c>> (9/27, Faler, Bade, 3.6M) says while the plan “is heavy on the GOP’s tax cut desires,” it is “light when it comes to explaining whose taxes will have to go up to help control

costs.” Politico adds that the plan’s cost “would run in the trillions,” and GOP leaders “want to at least partially defray the cost with offsetting tax increases. But their plans for doing that, for the most part, are still a secret.” Republicans plan to “delay spelling out who would have to pay more under their plan, in order to give opponents as little opportunity as possible to mount a counteroffensive.”

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=045-6c3&t=c>> (9/27, Paletta, Debonis, Johnson, 10.38M) similarly reports that the framework “left many key questions unanswered,” and adds that Republicans were “careful not to identify numerous tax breaks they might remove, focusing instead on promises to lower rates.” In Indianapolis, The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=046-938&t=c>> (9/27, Fabian, Jagoda, 1.68M) says Trump promised that the plan is “‘not good’ for wealthy individuals like himself.” He said that “the ‘wealthy and well-connected’ can beg him all they want for a more favorable tax plan, but that ‘it’s not going to help.’”

However, a USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=047-dfa&t=c>> (9/27, Przybyla, 8.62M) analysis says the plan “would eliminate the individual Alternative Minimum Tax and estate taxes” and “tax so-called ‘pass through’ businesses at 25%,” all of which “could greatly benefit Trump and his family’s business empire.” Likewise, a New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=048-0fb&t=c>> (9/27, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis reports that the plan “is a potentially huge windfall for the wealthiest Americans,” citing its call to “sharply reduce taxation of business income,” and eliminate the estate tax, “which affects just a few thousand uber-wealthy families each year, and the alternative minimum tax, a safety net designed to prevent tax avoidance.” A separate New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=049-808&t=c>> (9/27, Qiu, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis says Trump and Republicans offered “several misleading and false claims to bolster their framework for the overhaul.” While Trump said the wealthy will not benefit, Robertson Williams, an analyst at the Tax Policy Center, said they “almost certainly” will as a result of the estate tax and alternative minimum tax repeals. The Times adds that lowering the top marginal income tax rate “would also benefit the wealthy, though the plan does not specify which income levels it would affect.”

In an op-ed for USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=04a-67c&t=c>> (9/27, 8.62M), Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch calls the framework “a major step forward for tax reform” and “a huge win for middle-class families and low-income

taxpayers.” Sen. Cory Gardner said on CNN’s Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=04b-15e&t=c>> (9/27, 554K), “I think there is a lot of merit to this plan. ... I think this is a significant advancement over the complex system we have today. So I like this. I believe I can support something like this. There is a lot of to do in this process yet, a lot of room to continue this debate.”

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=04c-680&t=c>> (9/27, Mauriello, 516K) reports that Sen. Pat Toomey, a member of the Senate Finance Committee who helped develop the framework, told reporters, “The biggest thing people are going to see is a tax deduction for themselves, a simplification in terms of their filing, and I think they’re going to see a very strong economy. They’re going to see more job opportunities, upward pressure on wages, bigger job gains [and] fewer unemployed people.” Toomey “expects a Senate vote on the federal budget in the next two weeks, and that would clear a path for tax reform later this fall.” Toomey “hopes it to be signed into law by year’s end.” However, in the lead story for ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=04d-ab5&t=c>> (9/27, lead story, 2:35, Muir, 14.63M), Jonathan Karl said that is “an extremely ambitious timeline. This will be a heavy lift even to get done by next year. That said, there is immense pressure on Republicans, both here at the White House and on Capitol Hill, to show that they can deliver on this.”

Thursday’s editorial pages are divided over the plan with traditionally conservative outlets voicing support and traditionally liberal outlets criticizing it. A Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=04e-a3c&t=c>> (9/27, 465K) editorial laments that it has taken Republicans so long to offer a plan after taking “unified control of the government” 11 months ago, but says it is “a great start” and expresses hope that it “quickly becomes legislation then law, and thus quickly fosters economic growth and new well-paid jobs.” The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=04f-fa1&t=c>> (9/27, Subscription Publication, 5.45M) says in an editorial that the plan could jump start the economic expansion and increase wages but Republicans must do a better job of promoting it than they did with their healthcare plan and resist special interests as it make its way through Congress.

A USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=050-d06&t=c>> (9/27, 8.62M) editorial takes a different view, saying that the plan’s “call to reduce the top corporate tax rate from 35% to 20%...is sound and overdue,” as is “the effort to simplify what President Trump correctly called the ‘ridiculously complex’ individual income tax code,” but, “a lack of fiscal restraint,

plus two unwarranted giveaways to America's financial elite, make this version unworthy of support." The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=051-b59&t=c>> (9/27, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) also opposes the plan, arguing in an editorial that it would "greatly increase the federal deficit, would not turbocharge economic growth and could leave many middle-class families worse off by ending deductions they rely on." Moreover, it "would do little or nothing to improve the lot of the working class, a group President Trump says he is fighting for" and would "instead provide a windfall to hedge fund managers, corporate executives, real estate developers and other members of the 1 percent."

Home Builders Endorse Plan, Increasing Vulnerability Of The Mortgage-Interest Deduction. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=052-d9a&t=c>> (9/27, Woellert, 3.6M) reports that while members of the housing industry "typically lock arms to defend the mortgage-interest tax deduction," the National Association of Home Builders "split with industry allies" to endorse the plan, "increasing the vulnerability" of the deduction "that was once considered untouchable." Politico adds that while many in the industry "publicly criticized the White House tax plan released Wednesday, many quietly admit they're playing defense."

Politico Analysis: Changing Top Rate Has No "Predictable Effect On Economic Growth." Reporting that the Tax Foundation "argued in its analysis of Trump's 2016 campaign proposal that lowering the top income tax rate would lead to increased job opportunities," a Politico
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=053-89e&t=c>> (9/27, 3.6M) analysis examines "each time the country changed the top income tax rate and the following five years of GDP per capita growth rate" and found that "changing the top income tax rate does not have a predictable effect on economic growth."

LATimes Analysis: Californians Face A "Big Financial Hit" Under GOP Plan. A Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=054-6b3&t=c>> (9/27, Puzzanghera, 4.49M) analysis says the plan would be a "big financial hit" to many Californians due to its elimination of the federal deduction for state and local taxes, which Sen. Dianne Feinstein cited as "one reason the plan was a 'non-starter' for her." The Times also says the plan's "new limits on the deduction for home mortgage interest, which would have a greater effect on states with higher housing costs, such as California and New York," leave "open the possibility of another big hit."

Trump Says He Is "Thinking About" Jones Act Waiver For Puerto Rico.

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=055-14d&t=c>> (9/27, Bowden, 1.68M) reports that President Trump “said Wednesday that he is ‘thinking about’ lifting the rule barring foreign-flagged vessels from delivering goods between American ports to help hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico.” Trump told reporters, “Well, we’re thinking about [temporarily lifting the Jones Act], but we have a lot of shippers, and a lot of people, and a lot of people who work in the shipping industry that don’t want the Jones Act lifted.”

On ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=056-514&t=c>> (9/27, story 3, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M), Eva Pilgrim said, “For Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, a waiver of that act was granted. The President says he’s considering the same for Hurricane Maria, but that a lot of shippers and people who work in the shipping industry don’t want it waived. The President is planning to visit Puerto Rico on Tuesday.”

McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=057-082&t=c>> (9/27, Daugherty, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that both Republicans and Democrats are telling Trump that Puerto Rico “is now a humanitarian crisis.” But the Administration has not yet waived the Jones Act, even though it “was waived in Texas after Hurricane Harvey and in Florida after Hurricane Irma to allow for more efficient fuel delivery.” Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló said that “he expects the Trump administration to eventually waive the law.”

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=058-177&t=c>> (9/27, Andrews, Page, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Sen. John McCain, who has long sought repeal of the Jones Act, wrote in a letter to DHS, “It is unacceptable to force the people of Puerto Rico to pay at least twice as much for food, clean drinking water, supplies and infrastructure due to Jones Act requirements as they work to recover from this disaster. Now, more than ever, it is time to realize the devastating effect of this policy and implement a full repeal of this archaic and burdensome Act.”

Seven House Democrats also signed a letter calling for a Jones Act suspension, and the Washington Examiner

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=059-ad6&t=c>> (9/27, Tritten, 465K) reports that a group of 145 House Democrats is urging Trump to send an aircraft carrier to Puerto Rico. In a Wednesday letter, they wrote, “To fulfill DOD’s mission, we believe the aircraft carrier, USS Abraham Lincoln, should be sent to the region, similar to its deployment to Miami following Hurricane Irma.” Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) said on MSNBC’s Morning Joe <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=05a-0e6&t=c>> (9/27, 959K), “I’m saying to President Trump, you need to quadruple your efforts and have a

coordinated Department of Defense response to this. It's estimated we need at least about 50,000 troops there, even after Haiti we had 20,000."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=05b-9fe&t=c>> (9/27, A1, Hernández, Lamothe, O'Keefe, Achenbach, 10.38M) reports the Administration "is rushing military hardware and personnel to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as it becomes increasingly clear" that the federal response so far "has been inadequate and overmatched by the scale of the disaster." However, the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=05c-058&t=c>> (9/27, Fox, Coto) reports that many on the island are "waiting for help from anyone from the federal or Puerto Rican government. But the scope of the devastation is so broad, and the relief effort so concentrated in San Juan, that many people from outside the capital say they have received little to no help." The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=05d-8fd&t=c>> (9/27, Vives, Hennessy-Fiske, Etehad, 4.49M) reports that "for many in Puerto Rico, Hurricane Maria's aftermath has been even more harrowing than the mighty storm itself." But FEMA has been stressed by communications issues on the island, as well as by the attention still needed in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

Anthony Mason opened the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=05e-5bc&t=c>> (9/27, lead story, 2:35, 11.17M) by reporting, "One week after Hurricane Maria invaded Puerto Rico, frustration is growing. Relief supplies are arriving on the island, but getting them to the nearly 3.5 million people in desperate need is close to impossible. Power is still out, and the FCC said today more than 91 percent of the cell phone sites are out of service." On NBC Nightly News <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=05f-359&t=c>> (9/27, lead story, 2:55, Holt, 16.61M), Gabe Gutierrez reported, "Across the island, supplies still aren't getting where they're supposed to. ... The agonizing lines for gas begin before dawn, stretching for blocks in the sweltering heat. ... They tell you the federal help is coming, but you haven't seen it." Unidentified speaker: "No, we haven't seen anything." The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=060-087&t=c>> (9/27, story 2, 2:10, Mason, 11.17M) had a report on how the island's lack of electricity is exacerbating the growing health crisis.

Rosselló Praises Trump's Response To Maria. Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=061-cab&t=c>> (9/27, Respaut, DiSavino) reports that Rosselló "has strongly praised" Trump's response, "defending the

Republican administration against complaints of being slow to act and showing too little concern." In an interview with the New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=062-680&t=c>> (9/27, Robles, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), Rosselló said, "I have spoken to him at least five times. ... He has been acting proactively. He issued two pre-landfall emergency declarations for Puerto Rico. That had never been done before. He declared Puerto Rico a disaster area practically while the storm was still hitting Puerto Rico."

The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=063-aad&t=c>> (9/27, Nixon, Stevens, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that while "some lawmakers have accused President Trump of failing to respond adequately to the crisis in Puerto Rico," an analysis of his actions "paints a more complicated picture." Trump "approved major disaster declarations and ordered federal aid for the states of Texas and Florida, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico equally quickly – in each case, on the day the hurricane made landfall." But "he was not equally quick to visit each place in the storms' aftermath."

Puerto Rico Bondholders Offer \$1 Billion Loan, Cancellation Of Power Company's Debt. The New York Times <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=064-07c&t=c>> (9/27, Walsh, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the "investors holding the island power company's defaulted bonds...have offered to lend Puerto Rico \$1 billion to pay for urgent repairs and to cancel \$150 million of the power company's outstanding debt in the process." The loan "would not be enough to replace the island's aged electrical system," but the bondholders say that their offer "would allow Puerto Rico to apply for federal grants for long-term rebuilding that would not have to be repaid."

Federal Judge Warns That Exodus From Puerto Rico Would Have Lasting Impact. Second Circuit US Court of Appeals Judge José Cabranes, who was born in Puerto Rico, writes in the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=065-7f1&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M), "A vast internal migration of US citizens is likely in the months ahead, as tens of thousands of Puerto Ricans, possibly 1 million or more over time, choose to move to the US mainland." This would be "an additional, slow-motion disaster inflicted on an island that can ill afford to lose any more of its best and brightest," and it would "accelerate and deepen the social and economic crisis in Puerto Rico."

Maria Returns To Hurricane Status, But No Longer Threatens Land. ABC World News Tonight <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=066-3cd&t=c>> (9/27, story 4, 0:20, Muir, 14.63M) and NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=067-e14&t=c>> (9/27, story 3, 0:20, Holt, 16.61M) both briefly reported that Maria has returned to Category 1 hurricane status, no longer threatening land but causing dangers along the coast off North Carolina.

Storms Amplified USVI's Economic Crisis.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=068-487&t=c>> (9/27, A1, Peters, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that "the one-two punch of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria 14 days later" severely hurt the US Virgin Islands, which even before the storms "had barely enough cash to keep the government funded for three days" and a debt "so large that Wall Street stopped lending it money." As the islands' 103,000 residents "wait for doctors, medicine, fuel and manpower to rebuild the flattened communications and power grid, the economic toll from the storms is only starting to come to light."

Trump To Sign Order Allowing People To Buy Health Insurance Across State Lines.

The New York Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=069-c00&t=c>> (9/27, Fredericks, 4.31M) reports that President Trump said Wednesday that he will sign a "very major" executive order "allowing people to buy health insurance across state lines – a move that would expand consumers' options and possibly lower costs." Trump said he will probably sign the order next week so that "people can go out across state lines, do lots of things, and buy their own healthcare." Sen. Rand Paul revealed the plan Wednesday morning on MSNBC's Morning Joe

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=06a-754&t=c>> (9/27, 959K), saying, "I think there's going to be big news from the White House in the next week or two, something they can do on their own." Paul added that Trump "can legalize on his own the ability of individuals to join a group or a health association across state lines and buy insurance."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=06b-340&t=c>> (9/27, Eilperin, Cunningham, 10.38M) says conservatives have "long championed" allowing insurers to offer plans across state lines, arguing it "would lower premiums by fostering greater competition." The Post adds that Administration officials "are confident that addressing this issue would make Paul more open to backing future health-care legislation."

Trump Says He Has Votes To Pass ACA Repeal.

President Trump on Wednesday pledged to tackle repealing the ACA next year, “suggesting without evidence that he had the votes to pass reform,” Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=06c-cf9&t=c>> (9/27, Mason, Crowell) reports. Trump said another healthcare vote will occur early in 2018 and added that “he would work with Democrats to make the effort more bipartisan.” Trump said, “I am...going to meet with Democrats and I will see if I can get a healthcare plan that’s even better. ... So I will negotiate with Democrats, but from the Republican standpoint, we have the votes. We’ll vote in January, February or March.” However, he “did not explain the discrepancy between his conviction that the votes were there and the fact that not enough Republican senators supported the latest bill.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=06d-214&t=c>> (9/27, Jackson, 8.62M) says Trump’s “vote tally appears to be dependent on a mysterious senator for support.” Trump tweeted

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=06e-ba4&t=c>> Wednesday, “With one Yes vote in hospital & very positive signs from Alaska and two others (McCain is out), we have the HCare Vote, but not for Friday!” However, it “was not immediately clear if any senators are currently in the hospital.” The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=06f-fbd&t=c>> (9/27, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) describes Trump as “unwilling to accept defeat” on the issue, and says his claim to have the votes to repeal the ACA “appeared to be based on some erroneous or optimistic assumptions: That Senator Thad Cochran, Republican of Mississippi, was in the hospital and unavailable to vote, and that other Republican senators, including Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, were ready to vote yes.”

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=070-cec&t=c>> (9/27, Jackson, 8.62M) says “Trump’s prospects for negotiations with the Democrats remain unclear” as Democrats “have said they will not support any plan that makes it harder for people to buy health insurance, effectively cutting them off from coverage.” According to Democrats, “all of Trump’s plans would do just that.”

McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=071-169&t=c>> (9/27, Dumain, 67K) reports that Sen. Lindsey Graham said the President called him Wednesday. Graham said, “He

said, 'We're gonna do this, we're gonna get the votes.' ... He said, 'We're gonna do this next year for the good of the country, the good of the party.' He was really upbeat, and he sent out a nice tweet today." Graham added that he and Trump will meet Thursday at the White House "to plot a strategy to move forward."

Meanwhile, the Wall Street Journal
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=072-8c1&t=c>> (9/27, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Sens. Lamar Alexander and Patty Murray were expected to resume negotiations over ways to stabilize the ACA's insurance markets.

Experts Say ACA Rates Soaring Because Of Lack Of Administration Commitment To Subsidies.

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=073-479&t=c>> (9/27, O'Donnell, 8.62M) reports that according to officials and insurance experts, health insurance rates for those purchasing coverage through the Affordable Care Act are continuing to rise because of the Administration's refusal to offer long-term commitments to "reimbursing insurers for subsidies that reduce out-of-pocket costs, including co-payments and deductibles, for those who earn less than 250% of the poverty limit." Because the Administration has made "more of a monthly announcement" than a fixed policy regarding the subsidies, insurers have been left "unable to plan ahead."

Insurers Make Final Decisions On ACA Plans. The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=074-136&t=c>> (9/27, A1, Mathews, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports health insurers on Wednesday made their final decisions on whether to sign federal agreements to offer ACA plans next year. The Journal observes that so far, despite some major insurers indicating they might want to pull back from the marketplaces, most have offered few signs of a last-minute exodus from the exchanges.

Anthem To Withdraw From ACA Market In Maine. The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=075-6d4&t=c>> (9/27, Howell, 541K) reports that Anthem announced Wednesday it will pull out of the ACA marketplace in Maine next year, "as insurers navigate choppy waters in the wake of the GOP's failure to pass a repeal bill and square away plans to stabilize the markets." Anthem "blamed its latest exit on a 'shrinking and deteriorating' individual market – Obamacare fell short of enrollment targets in the early rounds --and rampant uncertainty from Washington."

Programs For Insured, Low-Income Children Set To Expire This Week.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=076-ed8&t=c>> (9/27, Howatt, 1.27M) reports that "some essential health care programs...will expire unless action is taken by the end of the week." Unless they are reauthorized and funded, "programs that underwrite care for the uninsured and for low-income children" are "set to end on Saturday when the federal fiscal year ends." The Star Tribune adds that "congressional observers" do not expect the programs "to get legislative attention until October, creating uncertainty among health care providers as well leaving a hole in Minnesota's state budget."

White House To Lower Refugee Admissions.

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=077-242&t=c>> (9/27, story 8, 0:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that the Trump Administration wants to reduce the number of refugees entering the country from this year's cap of 110,000 – set by former President Barack Obama – to 45,000 next year, "mostly from Africa and Southeast Asia." Trump reportedly said the reduction is for national security reasons.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=078-7a3&t=c>> (9/27, Bennett, 4.49M) reports that the President "plans to slash the number of refugees allowed in the United States by more than half," as part of his effort "limiting legal immigration and imposing tougher vetting procedures for foreign visitors." The new limit would be "the lowest cap since the 1980s." The Times adds, "The State Department informed the Senate and House judiciary committees of the lower limit Wednesday and, after consultation with Congress, will put the new cap into effect at the end of September." The Times says that some in the White House, mentioning Stephen Miller, wanted a "cap as low as 15,000," but, it adds, "State Department officials and military leaders pushed back." In response, "critics slammed the new cap as insufficient." The AP <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=079-32f&t=c>> (9/27, Lederman) reports in response, the Administration "defended its decision," saying it would "advance national security interests and reflect the United States' capacity to properly screen and take in refugees." The AP adds that the 45,000 will be "broken down into specific numbers of refugees admitted from various geographic regions," and "the State Department conveyed those numbers to Congress on Wednesday."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=07a-0f3&t=c>> (9/27, Zapotosky, Morello, 10.38M) reports that the number came from a planned briefing of Congress by “the State Department and Department of Homeland Security” for Wednesday. An unnamed “White House official” defended the total as being “guided first and foremost by the safety and security of the American people.” The Post says “the ceiling has never gone below 67,000, set by President Reagan in 1986.”

Grassley, Feinstein Criticize Lack Of Consultation. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=07b-efa&t=c>> (9/27, Kim, 3.6M) reports that Sens. Charles Grassley and Dianne Feinstein, the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, “blasted” the Administration “for insufficiently consulting with Congress” on the refugee total. Politico adds the senators met with Secretary of State Tillerson at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, “after details of the administration’s refugee plan had leaked out to the news media.” The statement from Grassley and Feinstein said, “We are incredibly frustrated that the annual consultation for refugee admissions, which is required by law, was finalized just one day in advance.” They added, “It is simply unacceptable to read in the press that the administration had reached its decision on the refugee cap before the mandated meeting with Congress had even been scheduled.”

McClatchy Analysis: Surge In Border Crossings Tests Trump On Immigration.

McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=07c-5dd&t=c>> (9/27, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that DHS oversaw a 60 percent increase over the summer in arrests of migrants illegally trying to enter the country – a “surge in arrests” that also indicates “thousands more people are getting into the country illegally, increasing pressure” on President Trump’s “team to clamp down even harder on the southern border.” Border agents saw apprehensions “climb from 11,125 to nearly 22,300 people in August.”

Contractors Building Border Wall Prototypes.

Mireya Villarreal reported on the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=07d-f39&t=c>> (9/27, story 6, 1:55, Mason, 11.17M) that along the San Diego-Tijuana border, “contractors are racing to build” prototypes of President Trump’s border wall, “the winner potentially taking home two federal contracts totaling \$600 million.” Contractors have a month to build the prototypes, which “will be between 18 feet and 30 feet high and stretching 30 feet long.” The New York

Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=07e-da1&t=c>> (9/27, Medina, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that four of the prototypes “will be made of concrete and four will use ‘other materials.’” Adam Housely reported on Fox News Special Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=07f-7fc&t=c>> (9/27, 1.53M) that Congress has “coughed up the money for the prototypes, but will need to approve billions more in order to use one or more of these designs to complete the wall stretching from the Pacific ocean all the way to the Gulf of Mexico.”

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=080-24c&t=c>> (9/27, Bade, 3.6M) reports that House Republicans on Wednesday “unveiled a plan to provide \$10 billion” for the wall, “a bill unlikely to clear the Senate but which could fuel a shutdown fight in December.” While it “almost certainly won’t pass the Senate,” the measure “foreshadows Republican negotiating positions in the fight over the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.”

Poll Shows Trump Immigration Policies Could Hurt GOP In Texas.

McClatchy

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=081-323&t=c>> (9/27, Drusch, 67K) reports that a new “Democratic” poll from the Latino Victory Project found that Hispanic voters “overwhelmingly disapprove of Trump after his first eight months in office,” with only 24 percent of respondents expressing approval of the President’s performance. The results showed that President Trump’s immigration policies “could take Texas” and other states with large Latino populations “down the same path as reliably Democratic California – if Republicans in Congress don’t support the Dream Act.”

Canada: Being Denied Asylum In US Does Not Grant Status.

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=082-0d7&t=c>> (9/27, Muñoz, Caldwell, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports Canadian officials are telling those in the US who may be deported that they should not expect to be accepted by Canada. While Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has posted messages welcoming immigrants, officials have said that those denied asylum in the US are not likely to be granted asylum in Canada. They also said that those denied asylum may be deported to their country of origin, not the US. Ahmed Hussen, Canada’s Minister of Immigration, Refugees and

Citizenship, said recently, "Not having or losing status in the US is not grounds for an asylum claim."

WPost: Congress Should Grant DACA Recipients Legal Status.

In an editorial, the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=083-9d4&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) writes that Congress should pass legislation that ensures current DACA beneficiaries are safe from deportation. While acknowledging it is "fair to haggle over details of the dreamers' long-term legal status," the Post argues that Dreamers "are regarded with nearly universal sympathy" and deserve to be granted legal status.

Trump Suggests He May Consider Firing Price.

On ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=084-434&t=c>> (9/27, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M), Cecilia Vega reported that President Trump is "making it clear: He is angry with his health secretary's penchant for private planes on the public dime." Trump: "I'll tell you, personally, I am not happy about it. I am not happy about it." Vega said DHS Secretary Price is "under fire for his luxury jet travel, costing taxpayers more than \$400,000. An investigation now under way, and Price says those high-priced trips are on hold." Price: "We've heard the criticism. We've heard the concerns. And we take that very seriously and have taken it to heart." Vega: "But today, the President made it clear: Price's future is in question."

On NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=085-f8d&t=c>> (9/27, story 5, 2:15, Holt, 16.61M), Kristen Welker reported, "Asked if he plans to fire Price, The President only saying, 'We'll see.' Now the pressure's mounting, with Politico reporting today [that] Price took an August charter flight to an exclusive resort in Georgia where he and his wife own property. The stated purpose: a medical conference, but Price arrived a day and a half early. ... Bipartisan congressional investigators are demanding answers." House Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Trey Gowdy: "Whether you're Republican or Democrat, you have a responsibility to be a good steward of the taxpayer dollar."

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=086-f25&t=c>> (9/27, story 9, 0:35, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Gowdy's committee has "requested detailed travel records from 24 departments and agencies." USA Today
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801educ>

ation&r=email-cc64&l=087-514&t=c> (9/27, Collins, 8.62M) reports that Gowdy and ranking member Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) "sent a letter on Tuesday, asking for any information about the use of government-owned planes by unelected officials, or private flights by non-career officials in the executive office of the president. The letter also asks for the departments' policies on this kind of travel." The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=088-78c&t=c>> (9/27, Jamerson, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Cummings said late last week, "Too many Trump Administration officials have an entitled, millionaire mind-set when it comes to squandering taxpayer money that does not belong to them just to support their lavish lifestyles."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=089-f84&t=c>> (9/27, Nakamura, 10.38M) reports that Trump "appeared to suggest that he would considering firing Price." The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=08a-416&t=c>> (9/27, Rogers, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Price "has defended himself by saying he has a busy travel schedule." The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=08b-ab2&t=c>> (9/27, Boyer, 541K) and Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=08c-9f8&t=c>> (9/27, Nelson, 3.6M) also briefly report on the President's remarks.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=08d-1d3&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) says in an editorial, "It's hard to think of someone in Washington these days who might rival Mr. Price for brazen hypocrisy, though, admittedly, the bar is high." As a congressman, Price "piously condemned the federal government's 'reckless spending.' Now it turns out that Mr. Price is as spendthrift a swamp creature as you could find in Washington's marshy environs."

USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=08e-387&t=c>> (9/27, 8.62M) similarly editorializes, "A well-known deficit hawk when he was in Congress, Price once called the government's planned purchase of jetliners for lawmakers' travel 'fiscal irresponsibility run amok.' And he was right. What a difference a Cabinet post makes." But in a responding USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=08f-f61&t=c>> (9/27, 8.62M) op-ed, Price's predecessor, Mike Leavitt, who served in President George W. Bush's second term, writes, "Any former HHS secretary, Republican or Democrat, can relate to the daunting task of trying to respond to a plethora of demands on a daily basis. ... At times, utilizing non-commercial aircraft is not only appropriate but also necessary."

Dana Milbank facetiously writes in his Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=090-f30&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) column, "The critics just don't get it. For America to dream big, its leaders must live large. Rich people are the smartest people, and to lure the best into government service, you have to entice them – with more riches. ... It is time that we drain the swamp of 'watchdogs' at Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington and the US Office of Government Ethics. Send those namby-pambies back to Nambia."

Brownback's Hearing For Ambassador Nomination Slated For October 4.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=091-128&t=c>> (9/27) reports that Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback on Wednesday said "a US Senate committee hearing is set for next week on his nomination for ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom." However, Brownback said "he's not sure how quickly the Senate could vote on his nomination after the Oct. 4 hearing by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee." Brownback, who was nominated for the post in July by President Trump, "said he'll step down as governor when the Senate confirms him." If that happens, Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer (R) would succeed Brownback, who is term-limited in 2018. Colyer has already entered next year's governor's race.

GAO: 78 Obama Political Appointees "Burrowed" Into Career Positions.

According to the GAO, 78 of former President Obama's political appointees "managed to 'burrow' into career government jobs over a six-year period," the Washington Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=092-d11&t=c>> (9/27, Boyer, 541K) reports. A GAO Report obtained by the Times shows that seven Obama political appointees "switched to career jobs without obtaining necessary approval from the Office of Personnel Management." Four "were later denied the jobs by OPM and three left their posts."

Trump: If NFL Doesn't Change On Anthem Protests, Its "Business Is Going To Go To Hell."

President Trump on Wednesday continued to criticize the NFL over its players' protests during the national anthem. USA Today
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=093-eee&t=c>> (9/27, Spain, 8.62M) reports that Trump told reporters "that the league's business 'is going to go to

hell' if players are continued to be allowed to protest during the national anthem." The President "again claimed the NFL's TV ratings were down because of the protests," though "the league reported a 3% increase for Week 3 games compared to last year." Said Trump, "In my opinion, the NFL has to change, or you know what's going to happen? Their business is going to go to hell."

Bloomberg News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=094-03b&t=c>> (9/27, Epstein, 4.52M) further quoted Trump as saying, "I think the NFL is in a box, I think they're in a really bad box." He added, "You look what's happening with their ratings, frankly, the only thing doing well in the NFL is the pregame because everybody wants to see what's going on. You cannot have people disrespecting our national anthem, our flag, our country and that's what they're doing."

In a report that was published Tuesday night, Politico <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=095-142&t=c>> (9/26, Johnson, Isenstadt, 3.6M) said that Trump on Tuesday "defended his view that the National Football League should require athletes to stand for the national anthem." During "a fundraiser for his reelection campaign in midtown Manhattan," Trump – "according to an attendee" – told the gathering, "They have a rule, you can't dance in the end zone, you can't wear pink socks, one guy's mother had breast cancer and they wouldn't let him, you can't do anything! But you're allowed to sit down for the national anthem."

Drawing from Politico's report, the New York Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=096-223&t=c>> (9/27, Moore, 4.31M) said that Trump told the gathering "that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell could have stopped players' protests during the national anthem by suspending former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick when he first took a knee last year, according to a report on Wednesday. 'All Goodell had to do was say there's rules and you can't do it, suspend him for a couple games, you would never have had this,' Trump said." He added, "Now you have this whole thing going and it's a very dangerous thing 'cause we cannot let anyone disrespect our country like that."

Sessions Echoes Trump's Call For NFL Rule Requiring Players To Stand For Anthem. Attorney General Sessions said on Fox News' Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=097-9b2&t=c>> (9/27, 1.99M), "I believe that every American should, as a matter of propriety and love of country, should not place their political views in a situation where you don't stand for the pledge or the national anthem. Everybody should do that. The President is exactly right to say no matter what you think of Hillary Clinton or President Trump, you should stand when the national anthem is played. So he is correct to speak out against that." Sessions added, "I think people should stand. I think it should be a formal rule of the

league. ... They should be able to say to the players, 'If you are on our field, in our game, paid by us, you should respect the flag and the national anthem.'"

On its website, CBS Sports

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=098-dd2&t=c>> (9/27, Wagner-McGough, 2.31M) reported that one day after Trump tweeted "that the NFL should require players to stand for the national anthem," Sessions on Wednesday "said the same thing" during his appearance on Fox News.

Kellyanne Conway said on Fox News' Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=099-43e&t=c>> (9/27, 1.64M), "About 12 percent of the NFL players took a knee and protested the other day. That means 88 percent did not. Many Americans support the President's position on this because the President is supporting the flag and everything that it stands for. ... This is about the President standing for the national anthem and the flag, and I think more importantly showing unity across the country for many people who agree with that."

Rep. Brian Mast (R-FL) said on Fox News' Fox & Friends

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=09a-30a&t=c>> (9/27, 1.64M) that players who kneel during the anthem "are stealing this moment of historic unity, of patriotism, of celebration where you give your buddy a high five and you go out and there have a great day. They have taken that from us, that last moment of unity. And I think we have a right to be upset."

Lankford: "Russians And Their Troll Farms" Trying To Stir Controversy Over Anthem Protests. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=09b-d4b&t=c>> (9/27, Barrett, 10.38M) reports, "Russian Internet trolls are trying to gin up even more controversy over NFL players taking a knee during the national anthem," according to Sen. James Lankford, who on Wednesday warned "that the United States should expect such divisive efforts to escalate in the next election." Lankford made the claim "in a hearing with the heads of the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and the National Counterterrorism Center. Russian trolls, he said, were cynically pushing both sides of the argument over whether players should take a knee at the playing of the national anthem before NFL games." Said Lankford, "We watched even this weekend, the Russians and their troll farms, and their Internet folks, start hash-tagging out 'take a knee' and also hash-tagging out 'Boycott NFL.'" WPost Examines How NFL Teams Responded To Trump's "Son Of A B--" Remarks. Under the headline "Called Out By Trump, NFL Owners Took Different Paths To Present A United Front," the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=09c-6fe&t=c>> (9/27, Clarke, Maske, 10.38M) reports on how the NFL "teams responded – both in tone and timing" – to Trump's Friday remarks that the owners should "fire any 'son of a b----' who took a knee in protest during the national anthem." The Post says the

responses offered insight into “the differences among the franchises that runs counter to the common portrayal of the league as a monolithic enterprise, always in lockstep. The NFL doesn’t like surprises. But Trump’s remarks forced the league to improvise, and the hours and days that followed revealed differences both subtle and large among the owners, in how they do business and perceive their local markets, and in their political leanings.”

Media Analyses: No Evidence NFL Ratings Down Due To Protests, Trump Criticism. On its website, ESPN
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=09d-4d1&t=c>> (9/27, 2.77M) reported, “The Nielsen company said Tuesday that through three weeks, viewership for national telecasts of NFL games was down 11 percent this season compared to 2016.” Writing for The Atlantic
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=09e-836&t=c>> (9/27, 1.64M), Derek Thompson says that Trump “has repeatedly said the NFL’s ratings were ‘WAY DOWN’ due to protests. ... Is the president right? Yes and no. Yes, in that there is little question that football viewership...is in decline.” However, “also no, since it’s not clear that either” Trump “or the protests are the primary culprit.”

Under the headline “Are NFL Player Protests ‘Massively, Massively’ Hurting TV Ratings?”, Mike Snider writes for USA Today
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=09f-54d&t=c>> (9/27, 8.62M) that Trump “has linked the NFL’s ratings, which he called ‘massively, massively’ down, and players kneeling during the anthem, suggesting they were turning fans away. The explanation for why the league’s ratings are down is far more complicated,” as “ratings for a variety of sports broadcasts have declined. NASCAR and the NBA have also drawn fewer TV viewers.” And the “controversy in the past few days doesn’t explain the down drift of ratings during the season’s first two weeks, when any kneeling protest drew little attention, said Bruce Leichtman, president and principal analyst for Leichtman Research Group.”

In Wake Of Trump Remarks, Democrat Green To Submit Articles Of Impeachment. The Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a0-e5e&t=c>> (9/27, Debonis, 10.38M) reports Rep. Al Green (D-TX) last Friday watched “TV coverage of President Trump’s Alabama rally,” where the President said, “Wouldn’t you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, ‘Get that son of a b--- off the field right now?’” Now, Green says “that he plans to introduce articles of impeachment next week and use special House procedures to bring them to a rapid floor vote, marking the first time that Trump would be subjected to an impeachment vote in Congress. The gambit is not expected to succeed, or even attract more than token support from Green’s colleagues.”

Navarro Tweets “Fake Picture” Of LeBron James Wearing

Anti-Trump Shirt. The Daily Caller

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a1-f56&t=c>> (9/27, Hasson, 521K) reported that CNN contributor Ana Navarro “apparently got fooled by a fake picture of Cleveland Cavaliers star LeBron James wearing an explicit anti-Trump shirt.” In a tweet, Navarro “shared a picture of James wearing a shirt with a big middle finger on it above Trump’s name and the phrase ‘U SON OF A B*TCH,’ an apparent reference to Trump’s attack on NFL players who kneel during the national anthem. Navarro captioned the photo: ‘Freedom of expression Makes America Great. Whether u approve or not, we’re free to wear this. Could get u jailed or killed in some places.’” The Daily Caller added, “The image appears to be a photoshopped version of a picture from the 2016 NBA Finals.”

CBS News Highlights Trump’s “Misplays Of The Week.” On the CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a2-0f4&t=c>> (9/27, story 5, 2:20, 11.17M), Anthony Mason referred to what he described as “the misplays of the week” by Trump. CBS’ Dean Reynolds went on to highlight, among other things: Trump’s backing of the losing candidate in Tuesday’s Alabama GOP Senate runoff; the President’s multiple tweets about the NFL amid Puerto Rico’s struggles to recover from the damage suffered at the hands of Hurricane Maria; Trump’s claims that “the US relief effort [in Puerto Rico] was getting great reviews”; and “then today, after the latest congressional failure to repeal Obamacare,” Trump informing “a crowd...in Indiana that repeal could actually have passed.” Reynolds added, “In fact, the repeal effort never had the votes to pass, and yet he tweeted this morning, ‘Virtually no President has accomplished what we have accomplished in the first nine months.’”

Packers Fans Balk At Team’s National Anthem Plans. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a3-9d6&t=c>> (9/27, Ryman, 628K) reports, “A request by Green Bay Packers players for fans to join them in a show of unity during the national anthem before their game Thursday apparently did little to calm the debate. Packers fans on Wednesday continued to blast the NFL, the team and players for what they perceive as showing disrespect for the nation, the flag, the military or the national anthem by sitting, kneeling, remaining in the locker room or locking arms during the national anthem.” Said Packers director of public affairs Aaron Popkey, “We’ve had a steady stream of feedback beginning Monday morning and it continued into Wednesday. We’ve heard on both sides of the matter.” The Journal Sentinel adds, “The Packers play the Chicago Bears at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in a nationally televised game.”

Abdul-Jabbar: Those Upset With Protests “Don’t Like The Message.” USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a4-13d&t=c>> (9/27, Spain, 8.62M) reported that ex-NBA player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on Wednesday “said that the reason

some people are upset over the NFL players taking a knee during the national anthem is that 'they don't like the message, so they're trying to find fault with the messenger.'" Abdul-Jabbar, who penned "a column <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a5-1d0&t=c>> for Hollywood Insider saying that he was proud of how athletes stood up against 'the racist, anti-veteran and anti-American statements by President Donald Trump,' pointed out what [ex-NFL quarterback] Colin Kaepernick was trying to raise awareness for something people don't want to talk about." Appearing on MSNBC, Abdul-Jabbar said that "what Colin was talking about is something that concerns black Americans every day. And you have protests and demonstrations across the country when people end up dead for no good reason. And Colin Kaepernick was using his platform to call attention to that. And people don't want to deal with that subject."

Blasting Anthem Protests, Stewart Rips NFL As "A Cartel." The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a6-b88&t=c>> (9/27, Portnoy, 10.38M) reports that Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chair Corey Stewart (R), who is mounting a 2018 bid to unseat Sen. Tim Kaine, on Wednesday "called the National Football League 'a cartel' for benefiting from federal antitrust protections while supporting players who take a knee during the national anthem." Speaking "in front of a downtown Washington office building that houses the NFL Players Association," Stewart listed "the names of Marines killed recently in Afghanistan and said NFL players – and owners – who take a knee during the national anthem to protest police brutality against minority communities are disrespecting the military." Stewart also called on Congress to repeal the NFL's antitrust protections, saying that if done, "perhaps owners would suffer, adding, 'Frankly I hope that those teams go bankrupt.'"

Guadagno, Murphy Differ On NFL's Anthem Protests. The Asbury Park (NJ) Press

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a7-d5e&t=c>> (9/27, Jordan, 355K) reports that Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno (R), who is battling ex-Goldman Sachs executive Phil Murphy (D) in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Chris Christie, says "it's a 'no-brainer' that NFL players should stand for the playing of the national anthem." However, Murphy, "who has a solid lead over Guadagno and other candidates in New Jersey's race for governor, says he takes 'my hat off to the players who stood tall and exercised their First Amendment rights.'"

Quinnipiac Poll: 56% Of US Voters Say Trump Not "Fit To Serve As President."

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a8-242&t=c>> (9/27, Goldberg, 3.6M) reported that

in a Quinnipiac University poll

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0a9-3ad&t=c>> of 1,412 US voters, taken Sept. 21-26, 56% of those surveyed said President Trump "is not 'fit to serve as president,'" while 42% said that he is fit to be commander in chief. In addition, 51% of those surveyed said "they are embarrassed to have Trump serve as president"; 59% said "Trump is not honest"; 60% said "he does not have good leadership skills"; and 61% said "he does not share their values." By a 69%-26% margin, those surveyed said "that Trump should stop tweeting."

NYTimes' "The Upshot" Lists Trump's Predictions On Policy Goals.

Under the heading "'Soon,' 'Very Soon,' 'Eventually': A Detailed List Of Things Trump Said Would Happen," "The Upshot" blog on the website of the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0aa-cec&t=c>> (9/27, Andrews, Qiu, Quealy, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reported that President Trump "regularly says that his policy goals – an Obamacare repeal, an infrastructure bill, an overhaul of the tax code, a border wall, among others – will happen 'soon,' 'very soon,' 'very, very soon,' 'in the coming weeks' or even 'immediately.' This tendency is perhaps most prominent in Mr. Trump's descriptions of Republicans' efforts to repeal and replace Obamacare." The piece goes on to offer, "in chronological order," a list of "how Mr. Trump has described what would happen to Obamacare" and "several other policy goals since his election."

Ads Placed On Facebook By Russians "Railed Against Illegal Immigrants."

On ABC World News Tonight

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ab-1b0&t=c>> (9/27, story 6, 2:40, Muir, 14.63M), Brian Ross reported on "some of the posts and ads congressional investigators say the Russians planted on Facebook as part of the Kremlin's effort to help get Donald Trump elected. Americans would have no idea what they were reading was written by the Russians. They railed against illegal immigrants. This one warns against 'so-called refugees jeopardizing our national security.' This ad uses a popular cartoon: 'Dora the Explorer knows how easy it is to cross the US border. It's like a children's game.'" Dylan Byers reported on CNN's Situation Room <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ac-2bd&t=c>> (9/27, 554K) that at least one of the Facebook ads bought by a "Russian troll farm" was a Black Lives Matter ad "targeted specifically" to Baltimore, Maryland and Ferguson, Missouri – "two cities which had been the site of some of the largest and most violent protests over police shootings of African-American men."

Sen. Richard Blumenthal said on CNN's Situation Room
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ad-426&t=c>> (9/27, 554K) the ads were "designed to sew discord, divide us," and "destabilize our democracy." When Wolf Blitzer asked how the Russians knew which parts of the US to target, Blumenthal replied, "There is speculation, to be absolutely blunt, that they received that help from the Trump campaign, which had digital information to enable its own targeting."

Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) said on CNN's The Lead
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ae-848&t=c>> (9/27, 320K) that "we have to be on offense as well. ... They are doing the same thing all through Europe. ... There is nothing Vladimir Putin fears more than losing his own election. So I think we need to talk about fighting fire with fire here to some extent as well."

Zuckerberg Says Facebook May Have Been Used To Influence Election. NBC Nightly News
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0af-5d0&t=c>> (9/27, story 10, 0:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported that Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Wednesday "said he was sorry for disputing concerns that Facebook may have been used to influence the outcome of the last election." Zuckerberg stated, "calling that 'crazy' was dismissive, and I regret it." Reuters
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b0-fa7&t=c>> (9/27) reports that President Trump criticized Facebook as "anti-Trump" in a Wednesday tweet, but Zuckerberg denied this.

Twitter, Google Also Under Scrutiny. The New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b1-190&t=c>> (9/27, Wakabayashi, Shane, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "There is evidence that Twitter may have been used even more extensively than Facebook in the Russian influence campaign." In addition to "Russia-linked Twitter accounts that posed as Americans, the platform was also used for large-scale automated messaging, using 'bot' accounts to spread false stories and promote news articles about emails from Democratic operatives that had been obtained by Russian hackers." Politico
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b2-fc8&t=c>> (9/27, Dawsey, Watkins, 3.6M) reports that in addition to Facebook and Twitter, "the Senate Intelligence Committee intends to call Google executives" to testify on "how Russia's government might have exploited American social media and Internet companies during the 2016 campaign."

House Intelligence Committee ranking member Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) said on MSNBC's Morning Joe
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b3-4b5&t=c>> (9/27, 959K), "There is bipartisan interest in having these social media companies, not just Facebook, but

Twitter too, come and testify in open session before our committee. I would like to see us, frankly, have the ability to display these for the public. You really need to see them, I'm convinced, to recognize how cynical an effort this was by the Kremlin, how they sought to accentuate those divisions...and drive American against American."

Feinstein Says Senate Judiciary Committee Will Subpoena Manafort. The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b4-228&t=c>> (9/27, Demirjian, 10.38M) reports that Senate Judiciary Committee ranking Democrat Sen. Dianne Feinstein said on Wednesday that the committee intends to "serve former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort with a subpoena to testify at a hearing in its investigation of Russian interference."

Nunes To Meet With Rosenstein. The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b5-eb2&t=c>> (9/27, Noble, 541K) reports that House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes "will meet Thursday behind closed doors with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein rather than drag the attorney general and FBI director before the committee to testify about their failure to turn over subpoenaed documents related to the ongoing Russia investigation."

Ex-NSA Contractor Winner Told FBI She Smuggled Document In Pantyhose. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b6-7c0&t=c>> (9/27, Gerstein, 3.6M) reports that former National Security Agency contractor Reality Winner, who is "accused of leaking a classified report on Russian hacking" aimed at the 2016 election, told FBI agents that she "smuggled the document out of a high security intelligence facility in her pantyhose." Winner told agents "that she knew the report implicated intelligence sources and methods," but said that she "thought it was likely the flood of leaks and disclosures on the topic...had already exposed those techniques."

House Judiciary Committee Democrats Challenge Validity Of Arpaio Pardon.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b7-10a&t=c>> (9/27, Dinan, 541K) reports that senior House Judiciary Committee Democrats have filed a brief urging a federal judge "to ignore President Trump's pardon" of ex-Maricopa County, Arizona sheriff Joe Arpaio "and carry out sentencing for the controversial lawman." They argue that "only courts can be involved in contempt of court cases, and they said by trying to pardon someone for the offense Mr. Trump is upsetting the careful separation of powers between the branches." However, "experts on presidential pardons say there are myriad examples of pardons or commutations issued in contempt

cases.”

EPA Threatens To End Funding For DOJ Environment Division

. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b8-100&t=c>> (9/27, Savage, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that EPA Administrator Pruitt has “quietly” directed the EPA to threaten to “cut off a major funding source for the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division,” according to budget documents and interviews. The Justice division handles litigation on behalf of the EPA’s Superfund program that addresses pollution, and the EPA “reimburses the Justice Department for that work, paying more than \$20 million annually in recent years.” Pruitt, however, “has signaled that he wants to end those payments, potentially carving a major hole in the division’s budget, in a little-noticed line in the E.P.A.’s budget proposal in the spring.”

AP Analysis: Zinke Supports Monument Designations In Montana, But Not Elsewhere.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0b9-724&t=c>> (9/27, Brown) writes that though Interior Secretary Zinke “has closely followed his boss’ playbook, encouraging mining and drilling on public lands and reducing the size of national monuments,” which President Trump has “called a ‘massive land grab’ by his Democratic predecessors,” in his home state of Montana, where Zinke “has long harbored higher political ambitions [he] is recommending Trump create a new national monument out of the forests bordering Glacier National Park.” Zinke also “wants to curb mining along Montana’s border with Yellowstone National Park. That could discourage development of two proposed mines that supporters say would offer higher paying jobs than tourism.”

WPost Analysis: Critics Say Gorsuch Speeches Raise Questions About His Independence.

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ba-c00&t=c>> (9/27, Barnes, 10.38M) reports, “No member of Congress was more essential to Neil M. Gorsuch’s ascent to the Supreme Court” than Senate Majority Leader McConnell, who blocked President Obama’s “nominee for the job and then spearheaded the confirmation process for Gorsuch.” The Post says that Gorsuch and McConnell last week traveled together in Kentucky “for a tour of the

senator's alma maters. ... Critics likened it to a 'victory lap' for McConnell and said it amplified questions that were already being asked about Gorsuch's independence from the Republicans who supported him in a highly partisan confirmation battle." The Post adds that Gorsuch "has accepted an invitation to speak to a conservative legal scholarship group Thursday at Trump International Hotel in Washington."

Ginsburg Says Sexism Was "Major, Major Factor" In Clinton's Loss To Trump. Meanwhile, in another report, the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0bb-ff5&t=c>> (9/27, Barnes, 10.38M) says that Justice Ginsburg "agreed in an interview Tuesday night sexism was a 'major, major factor' in Hillary Clinton's loss to Donald Trump last November. Appearing before an audience at New York City's 92nd St. Y, Ginsburg was asked by CBS' Charlie Rose whether she thought sexism played a role in the presidential election results." Ginsburg responded, "I have no doubt that it did." Pressed further on the subject, Ginsburg added, "There are so many things that might have been decisive. But that was a major, major factor."

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0bc-c82&t=c>> (9/27, Nelson, 3.6M) reported that Ginsburg, "among the court's reliably liberal members, was critical of...Trump during the 2016 campaign, calling him a 'faker' and telling an interviewer that 'I don't even want to contemplate' the idea of him being elected. She later walked back those statements, calling them 'ill-advised.'"

Fed Data Show Wealth Gap Widening In US.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0bd-1d9&t=c>> (9/27, Casselman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that despite broad wealth growth among Americans families "across racial, educational and economic categories" over the past three years, the "biggest gains continued to flow to the richest Americans," according to Federal Reserve data released Wednesday. The data showed a typical family "had a net worth of \$97,300 in 2016, up 16 percent from 2013 after adjusting for inflation," but wealth also became more "concentrated." The richest 1 percent of households "controlled 38.6 percent of total wealth in 2016, up from 36.3 percent in 2013"; the bottom 90 percent of households "controlled 22.8 percent of all wealth."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0be-e15&t=c>> (9/27, Long, Jan, 10.38M) reports that black households "went from \$13,600 in net worth in 2013 to \$17,600 in 2016," and Hispanic households "went from \$14,200 to \$20,700 over the

same time frame.” Additionally, the median net worth of people with only a high school diploma “jumped almost a quarter to \$67,100.”

Stocks Closed Up Wednesday.

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0bf-2ba&t=c>> (9/27, Mikolajczak) reports that stocks gained on Wednesday, “powered by growing expectations for a December interest rate hike and on hopes” that the Trump Administration “may be making progress on a tax plan.” The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed up 56.39 at 22,340.71, while the S&P 500 was up 10.20 to 2,507.04, and the Nasdaq up 73.10 to 6,453.26.

Some Economists Believe Fast Food No-Hires Rules Contributing To Wage Stagnation.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c0-74d&t=c>> (9/27, Abrams, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that some economists think that an “obscure clause buried in many fast-food franchise agreements” – a clause that prohibits franchisees from hiring workers away from each other – is decreasing worker mobility and contributing to wage stagnation in the country. According to Princeton economist Alan B. Krueger, the no-hires rules “affect more than 70,000 restaurants – or more than a quarter of the fast-food outlets in the United States.”

Official Testifies Aide Cited Menendez’s Name To Advocate For Melgen.

In continuing coverage of the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor, eye doctor Salomon Melgen, the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c1-ec8&t=c>> (9/27, Porter) reports that an aide to Menendez “used his boss’s name to push for the settlement of a multimillion-dollar Medicare dispute involving” Melgen, “a former health administrator testified” yesterday. The aide “was ‘argumentative and persistent’ and said...Melgen was ‘a personal friend of the senator,’ said Louis Jacques of a 2009 phone call. Jacques was an administrator with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and was providing analysis on Melgen’s billing dispute with Medicare.” Jacques testified that the aide said “that ‘bad medicine is not illegal, and Medicare should pay these claims.’ The dispute involved Melgen’s practice of ‘multi-dosing,’ or treating patients with more than one dose from a vial of medicine, a practice Jacques testified he felt could pose a safety

risk for patients.”

Harkin Testifies At Menendez Trial About Meeting With Melgen.

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c2-c53&t=c>> (9/27, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that ex-Sen. Tom Harkin on Wednesday testified that in May of 2011, Menendez asked him to meet with Melgen. Harkin said, “Well, it’s senatorial courtesy. If a senator asks you to meet with someone, you usually meet with them.” Politico added, “The meeting is one of the acts the Department of Justice alleges Menendez took to aid Melgen, in exchange for private jet flights, lavish vacations and hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions.” However, “according to Harkin and a former Harkin staffer who testified after him, nothing ever came of” the meeting, which “was about Melgen’s \$8.9 billing dispute with the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services. ... Harkin at the time chaired the Senate health committee, which oversees CMS.”

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c3-aa0&t=c>> (9/27, Maimon, Barrett, 10.38M) reports, “Much of Harkin’s testimony seemed to undercut a central premise of the government’s case against Menendez – the favors he did for Melgen were proof of criminal corruption, not the regular give-and-take of politics.” During “cross-examination, Harkin said it ‘was quite common’ for Senate colleagues to ask for meetings about health-care issues.” Of his meeting with Melgen, Harkin said, “I just basically listened. ... I don’t remember his asking me to do anything.” Harkin “said he didn’t meet again with Menendez or Melgen to discuss the issue.”

Under the headline “Tom Harkin Recalls Meeting With Menendez And Melgen, And Not Much Else,” the New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c4-0df&t=c>> (9/27, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that of the issue, Harkin “said he instructed his staff to ‘keep tabs on it,’ and that was the extent of his involvement.” The Times says Harkin’s “testimony was neither explosive nor particularly revelatory.”

NYTimes Analysis: Overturned Convictions May Loom Large In Menendez Case. The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c5-9b0&t=c>> (9/27, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that ex-New York legislative leaders Sheldon Silver and Dean Skelos were subjects of “two of the most notable corruption convictions in recent political history,” but “in a span of less than three months, both convictions were overturned. The legal turn of events in the cases against” those two Democrats “is almost certain to resonate in” Menendez’s case. The Times says that the convictions of Silver and Skelos were overturned after the US Supreme Court last year overturned ex-Gov. Bob McDonnell’s conviction. In its ruling the High

Court “severely narrowed the definition of the kinds of official acts a politician must perform to be considered as having partaken in an illegal quid pro quo.”

Obama Says He Was Moved To Tears When Dropping Off Daughter At Harvard.

NBC Nightly News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c6-e24&t=c>> (9/27, story 12, 0:20, Holt, 16.61M) reported that former President Obama “said he was moved to tears” when dropping his daughter Malia off at Harvard for the beginning of the school year last month.

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c7-d60&t=c>> (9/27, Fortin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports Obama described the moment on Monday during a speech for the Beau Biden Foundation for the Protection of Children. Obama said, “I dropped off Malia at college, and I was saying to Joe and Jill that it was a little bit like open-heart surgery, and I was proud that I did not cry in front of her. But on the way back, the Secret Service was all looking straight ahead pretending they weren’t hearing me as I sniffled and blew my nose. It was rough.”

Supreme Court Slated To Hear Arguments On Role Of Partisanship In Gerrymandering.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c8-59e&t=c>> (9/27, Swoyer, 541K) reports that the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments in early October on just how much of a role partisanship can play when state legislatures draw state legislative and congressional district maps in the practice commonly known as gerrymandering. Although the court has long accepted partisanship in the process, opponents of gerrymandering “are demanding the courts to step in and put a stop to it.” The case the court will consider centers on Wisconsin’s General Assembly map, which a low court struck down as too partisan.

Lawsuits Seek To Change Electoral College’s Winner-Take-All System By 2020.

The Washington Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0c9-fb2&t=c>> (9/27, Richardson, 541K) reports that the nonprofit Equal Citizens launched a project on September 14 “aimed

at filing lawsuits on behalf of a Republican voter in a blue state and a Democratic voter in a red state, with the goal of overturning" the US electoral college's "winner-take-all system in time for the 2020 presidential race." Equal Citizens founder Lawrence Lessig said the winner-take-all system – by which a presidential candidate gains all electoral votes from a state – "has reduced the presidential race to a fight over a 'handful of battleground states instead of a national referendum.'" Lessig and others seek "to require states to implement a system in which electors cast ballots based on the percentage of the popular vote."

Brown Signs Bill Moving California's Presidential Primary Up To Early March.

The Los Angeles Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ca-cab&t=c>> (9/27, Myers, 4.49M) reports that Gov. Jerry Brown, supporting "an effort for California to claim a bigger share of the attention from presidential candidates," on Wednesday "signed a bill moving the state's primary elections to early March." California now "will hold its presidential primary on March 3, 2020." The Times adds, "Democrats who embraced the push for an early primary said they were motivated in part by the election of President Trump, whose successful bid for the" GOP "nomination was well on its way to reality by the time California voters cast ballots on June 7, 2016. ... Under current projections, California's primary would come fifth in the presidential nominating process in 2020 – following caucuses in Iowa and Nevada and primaries in New Hampshire and South Carolina."

Reuters

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0cb-c8d&t=c>> (9/27, Bernstein) reports that California, "which voted heavily for Democrat Hillary Clinton in November's presidential election, has traditionally held its primary so late that Democratic and Republican voters in other states had essentially already chosen their parties' candidates." Said California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, "The Golden State will no longer be relegated to last place in the presidential nominating process. Candidates will not be able to ignore the largest, most diverse state in the nation as they seek our country's highest office." The AP <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0cc-455&t=c>> (9/27, Ronayne) reports, "Holding an earlier primary in California, which is expensive to campaign in, could shake up the nominating contests by giving an earlier edge to candidates with more money." The new law "puts the state's primary on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March, often known as 'Super Tuesday,' when as many as a dozen states hold nominating contests."

The Huffington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education>>

ation&r=email-cc64&l=0cd-073&t=c> (9/27, Reilly, 5.74M) reported that California "is an overwhelmingly Democratic state – roughly 45 percent of state voters are registered as Democrats, versus 26 percent as Republicans." The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ce-6f4&t=c>> (9/27, Greenwood, 1.68M) reported, "The Democratic Party could penalize California for moving up its primary by stripping dozens of delegates from the state's overall county. But according to the Sacramento Bee, California would still make up a sizable share of the delegates available up to that point in the nominating process." The Wall Street Journal
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0cf-9ac&t=c>> (9/27, Lazo, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) also reports on the story.

Michele Obama: Women "Who Voted Against Hillary Clinton Voted Against Their Own Voice."

Boston

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d0-bf4&t=c>> (9/27, Dwyer, 760K) reported that ex-first lady Michelle Obama on Wednesday "criticized women who voted for President Donald Trump during a wide-ranging conversation in Boston." Obama, speaking "during a question-and-answer session with author Roxane Gay at Inbound, a marketing conference that has attracted an assortment of famous speakers this week," told the crowd, "Any woman who voted against Hillary Clinton voted against their own voice." The report added that Obama "maintained that she and her husband, former President Barack Obama, still support Trump and want him to be successful."

Drawing from a BBC story

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d1-d39&t=c>> (9/27, 1.61M), the New York Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d2-da3&t=c>> (9/27, Tacopino, 4.31M) reports that Mrs. Obama said "women who backed the GOP nominee chose what they were 'supposed to like.'" While "a majority of white female voters backed [President] Trump, Michelle Obama said 'to me that just says, you don't like your voice. You like the thing you're told to like.'"

Hillary Clinton To Raise Cash For Northam At October 4 Event In New York.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d3-56d&t=c>> (9/27) reports that Hillary Clinton is slated to host a fundraising event next month for Lt. Gov. Ralph

Northam (D), who is battling Ed Gillespie (R) in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe. The AP says an invitation it obtained says the event will be held "in New York on Oct. 4." The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d4-507&t=c>> (9/27, Schneider, 10.38M) reports, "The race has garnered national attention as a proxy for partisan battles in Washington, with Northam attempting to tie Gillespie to President Trump, who remains deeply unpopular in much of Virginia. The state was the only one in the South that went for Clinton in last fall's presidential election, by a healthy 5-point margin."

Media Analyses: Moore's Alabama Victory Is A Defeat For Trump, McConnell, And GOP.

The CBS Evening News

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d5-381&t=c>> (9/27, story 4, 2:05, Mason, 11.17M) reported, "The President's choice in the Republican Senate runoff in Alabama yesterday was defeated. Incumbent Luther Strange lost to Roy Moore, who now faces Democrat Doug Jones in a special election in December." CBS' Chip Reid said that as a judge, Moore "sometimes gave the Bible precedence over the Constitution. ... He's called American Indians 'Reds,' and Asian America 'Yellows.' He's called Islam a false religion. He's said homosexual activity should be illegal. He reportedly said in February that the 9/11 attacks might have been punishment for America's turning away from God."

The New York Times

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d6-324&t=c>> (9/27, Burns, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that "Strange's demise, senior party strategists and conservative activists said Wednesday, makes it likelier that Republican incumbents in the House and Senate will face serious primary challenges in 2018, fueled by anger at the party's apparent ineptitude at wielding power in Washington." Dan Balz of the Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d7-faa&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) writes, "The Republican Party has become an unstable and potentially unsustainable coalition. The danger has been apparent from the day President Trump began his quest for the White House," and Moore's victory "provided the exclamation point." His win "was telling for what it showed: that the Trump message has more power at the grass-roots than the president himself."

The Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d8-795&t=c>> (9/27, Costa, 10.38M) writes on its front page that Strange's defeat leaves Trump "further weakened and

isolated,” and that his “political vitality within his party – counted upon by Republicans who fear primary challenges in next year’s midterm elections – suddenly stands in question.” Breitbart
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0d9-fe9&t=c>> (9/27, Hayward, 2.42M) reports that Steve Bannon, who campaigned for Moore, told Breitbart News Daily, “It was basically grassroots muscle versus corporate cash, and it was a blowout.” In his Washington Post
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0da-8d6&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) column, E.J. Dionne writes that “Bannon defeated Donald Trump” on Tuesday.

David Jackson of USA Today

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0db-a18&t=c>> (9/27, 8.62M) writes, “President Trump is on something of a losing streak, and the Republican Party may be following suit.” Strange’s defeat “came just hours after Senate Republicans announced they could not wrangle enough GOP votes to move forward with an effort to repeal and replace” the Affordable Care Act. Sheryl Gay Stolberg writes in the New York Times
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0dc-5ce&t=c>> (9/27, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) that while Senate Majority Leader McConnell “is not a man who leaves things to chance,” he “gambled – and lost big” – on both Strange and on “the party’s last-ditch attempt” to repeal the ACA, leaving McConnell looking “vulnerable.”

The Wall Street Journal

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0dd-b92&t=c>> (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says in an editorial that Alabama Republicans’ frustrations over McConnell’s inability to get ACA repeal through may have tipped the balance to Moore. But Karl Rove writes in his Wall Street Journal
<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0de-0db&t=c>> (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) column that having Moore in the Senate instead of Strange will make it even harder for the party leadership to get anything done.

Democrats See Chance At Unexpected Senate Pickup. Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0df-069&t=c>> (9/27, Debenedetti, 3.6M) writes, “If Democrats are ever going to have a shot – however remote – at a Senate seat in Alabama, this is it.” Republicans “say Democrats are deluding themselves” if they think they can win in a state that Trump took by 28 points last year. But Democrats say that Moore “provides the perfect contrast” with their nominee, former US attorney Doug Jones. Joe Biden will campaign for Jones next week, and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee is considering whether to invest in the contest.

Raft Of Republicans Likely To Enter 2018 Race To Succeed Corker.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e0-597&t=c>> (9/27, Schelzig) reports that Sen. Bob Corker's Tuesday announcement that he won't seek reelection next year has "set off a frenzy of speculation about who will try to succeed him. Attention quickly turned to" term-limited Gov. Bill Haslam, "a close family friend of Corker's." The AP says, "Tom Ingram, a campaign strategist for both Corker and Haslam, said he expects the governor to give a Senate bid serious consideration." The AP adds that ex-Americans for Prosperity state director Andy Ogles is currently the only announce GOP candidate, though a raft of other Republicans are thought to be mulling runs.

US News & World Report

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e1-a31&t=c>> (9/27, Catanese, 1.73M) reported that Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) "is expected to enter the race," according to "a source familiar with the planning." US News added that state Sen. Mark Green (R), "who was contemplating a Senate bid and consulted with Breitbart News chief Steve Bannon this week, instead will pursue Blackburn's House seat, according to the source." The Tennessean <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e2-a61&t=c>> (9/27, Ebert, 499K) reports that ex-Rep. Stephen Fincher (R) "is planning to decide by the week's end if he wants to" enter the contest. Fincher on Wednesday said, "Hopefully by Friday we will be able to make a firm decision." Fincher "said he met with his family Tuesday night to discuss the idea to ensure that they're on board with whatever decision is made."

More Democrats Now Mulling Runs. The Tennessean

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e3-3f3&t=c>> (9/27, Garrison, 499K) reports that state Sen. Jeff Yarbrow (D) on Wednesday said that "he's considering" a bid to succeed Corker. In a statement, Yarbrow said, "The United States Senate is broken. They're putting party before country and politics ahead of people. No single person can fix Washington, but all of us have to do our part. Over the next few weeks, I'll be talking with my family and meeting with folks across the state to determine what my part should be." The Tennessean adds that Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke (D) and businessman Bill Freeman (D) also "have said they are also considering runs." Attorney James Mackler (D) announced a Senate run earlier this year.

Corker Suggests A 2018 Run For Governor Could Be A Possibility.

The AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e4-7d1&t=c>> (9/27, Schelzig) reports that Corker "gave few hints Wednesday on his political future." though "he appeared to leave the door slightly ajar on a potential run for Tennessee governor next year." Speaking with reporters, Corker said "that he plans to 'serve in some capacity,' but that he's not actively pursuing any

other office at the moment.” Of a potential gubernatorial bid, Corker said, “If that were something that I was going to attempt to pursue, it would have been good to think about that a year ago. ... But over the course of the next 15 months, who knows what might happen?” The AP adds, “The filing deadline for governor’s race is April.”

Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e5-da7&t=c>> (9/27, Everett, 3.6M) reported that Corker on Wednesday said that it is “‘possible’ but not necessarily likely that former NFL quarterback Peyton Manning will” enter the race. Said Corker, “Peyton Manning is the kind of guy that would be great in public office. ... I think it’s possible. Is it likely? I don’t think so.” Manning played football at the University of Tennessee. However, the AP

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e6-4f0&t=c>> (9/27) reports that Manning on Wednesday “ruled out a” run, “saying in a sports radio interview” with WGFX-FM “that he is giving ‘zero consideration’ to running.” Said Manning, “I certainly have an interest in politics and in our country. I just have zero interest in being a politician.”

Rubio Won’t Challenge Risch For Foreign Relations Chairmanship.

Meanwhile, Politico

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e7-5f7&t=c>> (9/27, Kim, Schor, 3.6M) reported that Sen. Marco Rubio “said Wednesday that he has no interest in seeking the chairmanship of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee, clearing the way for” Sen. Jim Risch to succeed Corker as head of the panel. With Corker retiring, Risch “is next in seniority on the panel, although Rubio...could have made a play for it as well. But Rubio responded ‘no’ when asked whether he was interested in vying for the chairmanship in 2019.” Said Rubio, “Jim Risch wants to be chairman. I’ll support him.”

The Hill

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e8-36b&t=c>> (9/27, Carney, 1.68M) reported, “Asked on Wednesday if he wanted to take over after Corker retires, Risch remained tight lipped but noted the Senate Republican Conference has rules that would determine who should succeed Corker. ‘Right now I’m a committee chairman of another committee. I’ve got 15 months left to serve there. I’m totally focused on that. When we’re done with this you all know exactly where this is going,’ Risch told reporters.” The

Washington Post

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0e9-268&t=c>> (9/27, Demirjian, Kane, 10.38M) reports that Risch on Wednesday “stressed that seniority will be the deciding factor” on whom chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee – “meaning if he wants it, he will get it. ‘We have a long, clear history of how these things are resolved in the Senate,’ he said. ‘We will follow that route when we get there.’”

Florida Chamber Poll: Scott Leads Nelson 47%-45% In Hypothetical Senate Race.

Florida Politics

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ea-f16&t=c>> (9/27, Gancarski) reported that a Florida Chamber of Commerce poll of 615 Florida likely voters, taken Sept. 17-24, shows term-limited Gov. Rick Scott leading Sen. Bill Nelson 47%-45% in a hypothetical 2018 Senate race. Nelson is up for reelection next year and Scott is expected to challenge the Democrat. According to the poll, Scott's "fortunes are buoyed by key metrics driven by his handling of Hurricane Irma, which include 56 percent of likely voters thinking Florida is headed in the right direction, and 91 percent of Floridians – including 84 percent of Democrats – approving of his crisis management in the storm." The poll shows President Trump's approval rating at 48%, with 50% disapproving.

Poll: Republican Putnam Leads Hypothetical Florida Gubernatorial Primary, General Election.

In a report on the 2018 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Rick Scott, Florida Politics

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0eb-275&t=c>> (9/27, Gancarski) said that a Florida Chamber of Commerce poll of 256 Florida likely GOP voters, taken Sept. 14-21, shows state Ag Commissioner Adam Putnam leading a hypothetical Republican primary with 26%, followed by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL) at 9%, state Sen. Jack Latvala at 2%, and state House Speaker Richard Corcoran at 1%. Of those tested in the poll, only Putnam and Latvala are announced candidates. In hypothetical general election matchups (615 likely voters), Putnam leads ex-Rep. Gwen Graham (D-FL) 39%-37%; attorney John Morgan 40%-37%; Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum 40%-33%; Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine 40%-32%; and businessman Chris King 40%-31%. Of the Democrats tested, only Levine and Morgan aren't announced candidates.

Poll: Though Not An Announced Candidate, Morgan Leads Hypothetical Democratic Field. In another report, Florida Politics <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ec-206&t=c>> (9/27, Gancarski) said that a Florida Chamber of Commerce poll of 263 Florida likely Democratic voters, taken Sept. 14-21, shows Morgan leading a hypothetical race for the Democratic nomination with 23%, followed by Graham at 15%, Gillum at 6%, Levine at 4% and King at 2%; 44% were undecided.

WPost Profiles Rock Band Prophets Of Rage.

Under the headline “Can Protest Rock Still Make Noise In Trump’s America?”, Chris Richards – writing for the Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ed-b32&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) – profiles the rock band Prophets of Rage. Richards, who heard the band perform recently Washington’s 9:30 Club, writes that the group’s “music left some question marks floating in the air, including: What do we want from a protest song in an era of alternative facts, Russian meddling, white-supremacist tiki torches and Pepe the hate-frog? And what does protest music want from us? Are we sure it should still sound like rock-and-roll? Should it even sound like music?”

Will: District Of Columbia Council’s Soda Tax Rejects Statutory Limits, Ignores Consequences.

In his Washington Post <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ee-cb4&t=c>> (9/27, 10.38M) column, George Will criticizes the District of Columbia Council’s recent decision to impose a tax, effective in 2018, on sugary soft drinks “raising the price of a 2-liter bottle of soda by about \$1.18.” Will argues that University of Washington research into a similar tax by Seattle’s city council “concluded that the costs to low-wage Seattle workers have been three times larger than the benefits,” with 5,000 jobs lost and wages reduced as a result of reduced hours. Will notes that Seattle’s city council now faces a suit challenging the tax, and he concludes that the Council “must hope” that Washington state’s Supreme Court, “which is very liberal, can be persuaded, in a third consideration of unchanging language, to say that constitutional and statutory facts can be made to disappear in a mist of interpretations.”

Education Advocate: For Sake Of Free Debate, Colleges Must Address Student Violence.

In a Wall Street Journal <<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ef-08d&t=c>> (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) op-ed, Foundation for Individual Rights in Education Executive Director Robert Shibley writes that colleges must address the recent growing violence on campuses by student activists and ensure that what he calls the heckler’s veto does not replace reasoned debate.

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

GOP Tax Overhaul Aims For Corporate Cuts, Simpler Code

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f0-02f&t=c>>

SEC Probes Departure Of PepsiCo's Former Top Lawyer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f1-254&t=c>>

Retail Stores Made Elmira, NY, An Unlikely Success— Now They're Gone

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f2-400&t=c>>

Health Insurers Stay In ACA Despite Fears Of Last-Minute Exits

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f3-f48&t=c>>

New York Times:

Trump Proposes The Most Sweeping Tax Overhaul In Decades

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f4-434&t=c>>

Trump Tax Plan Benefits Wealthy, Including Trump

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f5-8a7&t=c>>

Hugh Hefner, Who Built Playboy Empire And Embodied It, Dies At 91

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f6-db2&t=c>>

Roy Moore's Alabama Victory Sets Off Talk Of A GOP Insurrection

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In The Virgin Islands, Hurricane Maria Drowned What Irma Didn't Destroy

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Catalan Officials Squeezed As Madrid Tries To Stop Independence Vote

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0f9-ca7&t=c>>

In College Basketball Scandal, Follow The Money ... And The Shoes

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0fa-30a&t=c>>

North Korea Skaters Seek Olympic Bid, And Diplomats Cheer

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0fb-0f5&t=c>>

Washington Post:

GOP Proposes Deep Tax Cuts With Few Details

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0fc-0d9&t=c>>

Inequality Gaps Persist Despite Widespread Gains

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0fd-40b&t=c>>

'Victory Lap'? Gorsuch's Critics Cry Foul Over Speeches.

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0fe-791&t=c>>

US Sends Military Assets To Aid In Puerto Rico Recovery

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=0ff-a0b&t=c>>

Ala. Loss Leaves Trump Weakened, Isolated

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=100-ed6&t=c>>

Financial Times:

Donald Trump Seeks To Slash US Corporate Tax Rate

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=101-c42&t=c>>

South Africa Trade Union March Demands Zuma Step Down

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=102-6f6&t=c>>

US Move Against Bombardier Risks Reprisals

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=103-a22&t=c>>

Wolfgang Schäuble To Step Down As German Finance Minister

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=104-610&t=c>>

Washington Times:

FBI Pursuing Equal Number Of Domestic Terrorism And Jihadi Threats, Director Says

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=105-301&t=c>>

'Revolutionary Change': Trump Promises Major Tax Relief For American Workers, Businesses

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=106-1da&t=c>>

Lawsuits Aim To Change Winner-Take-All Electoral College System By 2020 Presidential Race

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=107-e4c&t=c>>

Both Sides Make Emotional Pleas As Lawmakers Oppose Physician-Assisted Suicide In D.C.

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=108-848&t=c>>

Bloated Cost, Poor Performance Of U.S.-Made Blimp Result In Rare Rebuke Of Thai Military

<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=109-7ac&t=c>>

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Afghanistan-Rocket Attack; Russia Meddling Investigation-Facebook; NCAA Bribery Scandal; Sacramento Police Standoff; Ukraine Military Base Explosion; Killer Clown Murder Case; Highway Standoff; Southwest-Passenger De-Boarded; Delta-On Flight Texting; Adopted Eastern European Orphans.

CBS: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane-Puerto Rico Health Crisis; White House-Tax Reform; Alabama GOP Senate Runoff; White House-Agenda Misplays; White House-Border Wall; NCAA Bribery Scandal; White House-Refugee Limit; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; Switzerland-Longest Suspension Footbridge.

NBC: Hurricane-Puerto Rico 1; Hurricane-Puerto Rico 2; Hurricane Tracking; White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; NCAA Bribery Scandal; Dead North Korean Prisoner-Parents Interview; Afghanistan-Rocket Attack; Health-Food Allergies; Russia Meddling Investigation-Facebook; Delta-On Flight Texting; Obama-Daughter Goes To College; Disney World-Alligator Attack Aftermath.

Network TV At A Glance:

Hurricane – 12 minutes, 10 seconds

White House-Tax Reform – 7 minutes, 20 seconds

Trump Administration-Excessive Spending – 5 minutes, 10 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; California National Park Accident; Wall Street News.

CBS: White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; New York City-School Stabbing; California National Park Accident.

FOX: White House-Tax Reform; California National Park Accident.

NPR: Hugh Hefner Dies; White House-Tax Reform; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Japan-Parliament Reelection.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Meets with Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke; participates in the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the National Security Council; greets Vice Premier Liu Yandong of the People's Republic of China.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Meets with business leaders and Michigan families to discuss the need for tax reform; delivers formal remarks regarding tax reform; participates in a tour of Weldall Manufacturing, Inc.; meets with local business leaders, community officials, and Wisconsin families to discuss the need for tax reform; participates in a Republican National Committee reception.

US Senate: 9:30 AM Senate Agriculture Committee hearing on rural development, energy programs, and the Farm Bill — Hearing on 'Rural Development and Energy Programs: Perspectives for the 2018 Farm Bill', with testimony from U.S. Department of Agriculture's Anne Hazlett; USDA Rural Housing Service Acting Administrator Richard Davis; USDA Rural Business-Cooperative Service Acting Administrator Chadwick Parker; USDA Rural Utilities Service Acting Administrator Christopher McLean;

Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development Executive Director Aleta Botts; Kansas Rural Water Association General Manager Elmer Ronnebaum; Coweta-Fayette EMC President/CEO Christopher Stephens; Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative CEO Denny Law; Iowa State University NSF Engineering Research Center for Biorenewable Chemicals Director Dr Brent Shanks; and Harvest Energy Solutions President Mark Olinyk
Location: Hart Senate Office Building, Rm 216, Washington, DC
<http://agriculture.senate.gov/>

9:30 AM Senate Judiciary Committee Executive Business Meeting – Executive Business Meeting, with agenda including nominations of Amy Coney Barrett and Joan Louise Larsen to be U.S. Circuit Judges for the Sixth Circuit; Brian Allen Benczkowski to be Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division; Eric Dreiband to be Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division; William Campbell Jr. to be U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee; Thomas Lee Robinson Parker to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee; Halsey Frank to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Maine; D. Michael Hurst Jr. to be U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi; Jeffrey Jensen to be U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri; Thomas Kirsch II to be U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana; and William Powell to be U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of West Virginia, as well as ‘S. 1766, SAFER Act of 2017’
Location: Rm 226, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC
<http://judiciary.senate.gov/>

9:30 AM Senate Banking Committee hearing on North Korea – Hearing on ‘Evaluating Sanctions Enforcement and Policy Options on North Korea: Administration Perspective’, with testimony from Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Crimes Sigal Mandelker; and Acting Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Susan Thornton * Earlier this week, the Department of the Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control designated eight North Korean banks and 26 individuals linked to North Korean financial networks in response to the country’s ‘ongoing development of weapons of mass destruction and continued violations of United Nations Security Council Resolutions’
Location: Rm 538, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC
<http://banking.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Transportation subcommittee hearing on TSA modernization – Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee hearing on ‘TSA Modernization: Improvements to Aviation Security’, with testimony from Springfield-Branson National Airport Director of Aviation Brian Weiler; Cargo Airline Association President Stephen Alterman; Smiths Group Vice President of Government Relations Sissy Pressnell; and International Air Transport Association’s Michael White
Location: Russell Senate Office Building, Rm 253, Washington, DC
<http://commerce.senate.gov> <https://twitter.com/SenateCommerce>

4:00 PM Senate Indian Affairs roundtable on federal permitting and infrastructure project review – Senate Committee on Indian Affairs roundtable discussion on ‘Best Practices in Tribal Consultation and

Stakeholder Engagement: Federal Permitting and Infrastructure Project Review in Indian Country' Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 628, Washington, DC <http://indian.senate.gov>
<https://twitter.com/IndianCommittee>

Senate HELP Committee Executive Session – Executive Session, with agenda including nominations of Patrick Pizzella to be Deputy Secretary of Labor; Janet Dhillon and Dr Daniel Gade to be Equal Employment Opportunity Commission members (with Dhillon to be chair, upon confirmation); and Carlos Muniz to be Department of Education General Counsel Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC
<http://help.senate.gov/>

US House: 9:00 AM House meets for legislative business – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda expected to include completion of consideration of 'H.R. 2792 – Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act of 2017' and 'H.R. 3823 – Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act' Location: Washington, DC
<http://www.house.gov/>

9:00 AM POSTPONED: Hearing on 'Document Production' Location: U.S. Capitol, HVC-210, Washington, DC <http://intelligence.house.gov/>
<https://twitter.com/HouseIntelComm>

9:00 AM Markup hearing on 'H.R. 1159, the United States and Israel Space Cooperation Act' Location: Rm 2318, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://science.house.gov>
<https://twitter.com/HouseScience>

9:30 AM House Space subcommittees joint hearing on the solar eclipse – Research and Technology Subcommittee and Space Subcommittee joint hearing on 'The Great American Eclipse: To Totality and Beyond', with testimony from National Science Foundation Acting Assistant Director for Mathematical & Physical Sciences Dr James Ulvestad; NASA Associate Administrator for the Science Mission Directorate Dr Thomas Zurbuchen; Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy Executive Vice President Dr Heidi Hammel; National Solar Observatory astronomer Dr Matthew Penn; and Adler Planetarium Director of Public Observing Michelle Nichols-Yehling * 21 Aug solar eclipse was the first total solar eclipse to cross the contiguous U.S. since 1918, with a thin path of totality running from Oregon through Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, and North Carolina to South Carolina Location: Rm 2318, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://science.house.gov>
<https://twitter.com/HouseScience>

9:30 AM House Judiciary subcommittee hearing on Congressional Review Act compliance – Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law Subcommittee hearing on 'Rulemakers Must Follow the Rules, Too: Oversight of Agency Compliance with the Congressional Review Act', with testimony from Pacific Legal Foundation DC Center Executive Director Todd Gaziano; Heritage Foundation Institute for Constitutional

Government Senior Legal Research Fellow Paul Larkin Jr.; Virginia Cattlemens Association Executive Director Jason Carter; and University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law Professor Rena Steinzor
Location: Rm 2141, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC
<http://judiciary.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseJudiciary>

9:30 AM House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on insurance for nonprofits – Housing and Insurance Subcommittee hearing on 'Examining Insurance for Nonprofit Organizations', with testimony from Southeast Nonprofit Insurance Programs President Kevin Cothron; Nonprofits Insurance Alliance Group founder and CEO Pamela Davis; Congressional Research Service Specialist in Financial Economics Baird Webel; and American Insurance Association Vice President for Federal Affairs Tom Santos Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2128, Washington, DC <http://financialservices.house.gov>
<https://twitter.com/FinancialCmte>

10:00 AM House Foreign Affairs Committee markup hearing – Markup hearing on 'H. Res. 422, Urging the adherence to the 'one country, two systems' policy as prescribed in the Joint Declaration between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of the Hong Kong', 'H.R. 425, FTO Passport Revocation Act of 2017', 'H.R. 1196, Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2017', 'H.R. 1660, Global Health Innovation Act of 2017', 'H.R. 2658, Venezuela Humanitarian Assistance and Defense of Democratic Governance Act of 2017', 'H.R. 3320, To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes', 'H.R. 3329, Hizballah International Financing Prevention Amendments Act of 2017', 'H.R. 3342, Sanctioning Hizballah's Illicit Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act', and 'H.R. 3445, AGOA and MCA Modernization Act' Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2172, Washington, DC <http://www.hcfa.house.gov>
<https://twitter.com/HouseForeign>

10:45 AM Democratic Leader Pelosi weekly presser – Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi will hold her weekly press conference. Location: HVC Studio A (Enter through HVC-117), Capitol Visitor Center.
<http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

11:00 AM Congressional Task Force on Election Security first public forum – ROOM CHANGE – Congressional Task Force on Election Security holds its first public forum, 'Securing America's Elections: Understanding the Threat', hearing from former Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and former Under Secretary for National Protection and Programs Suzanne Spaulding * Task Force was created to address 'the lack of action to protect electoral infrastructure following Russia interfering and attempting to influence the 2016 presidential election', and is chaired by House Committee on Homeland Security Ranking Member Bennie Thompson and Committee on House Administration Ranking Member Robert Brady Location: Longworth House Office Building, Rm 1302, Washington, DC democrats-homeland.house.gov

<https://twitter.com/HomelandDems>

11:30 AM House Speaker Paul Ryan holds weekly press briefing
Location: HVC Studio A, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC www.speaker.gov
<https://twitter.com/SpeakerRyan>

3:30 PM POSTPONED: Speaker's Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs second hearing – POSTPONED: New Speaker's Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs holds second hearing, 'Are We 'Federalizing' Federalism? A Primer on Federalism, State and Local Government and Interrelations with the Federal Government'. Witnesses include Yale Law School Dean and Professor Heather Gerken, George Mason University Professor of Government Dr Timothy Conlan, and Georgetown University Law Center Professor of Legal Theory Randy Barnett * In May, House Speaker Paul Ryan and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi announced the creation of the bipartisan group of lawmakers focused on balancing the interests between federal and local govts Location: Longworth House Office Building, Rm 1334, Washington, DC <https://robbishop.house.gov/>
<https://twitter.com/RepRobBishop>

Other: 9:00 AM Washington Ideas Forum concludes – Washington Ideas Forum, hosted by The Atlantic in partnership with the Aspen Institute, concludes. 'Leaders from politics and govt to business and culture' convene to 'tackle the issues confronting the country and the world, including politics and policy, economics and trade, race and justice, education, global affairs, technology, and beyond'. Speakers today include Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Sen. Mark Warner, Republican Sen. Jeff Flake, former CIA Director (Gen.) Ret. David Petraeus, Aetna Chairman and CEO Mark Bertolini, Zillow Group CEO Spencer Rascoff, Veritas Genetics Co-founder and CEO Mirza Cifric, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Washington, DC, Mayor Muriel Bowser, The Washington Post National Political Reporter Robert Costa, The New York Times White House Correspondent Maggie Haberman, NBC News Correspondent Katy Tur, and ABC News Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl Location: Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St NW, Washington, DC WashingtonIdeas.com
<https://twitter.com/WashingtonIdeas> #WashingtonIdeas

9:00 AM SEC Chairman Clayton speaks at 'Perspectives on Securities Regulation' event – 'Perspectives on Securities Regulation' Brookings Institution Center on Regulation and Markets event, exploring the opportunities and challenges facing securities markets 10 years after the financial crisis, featuring a conversation with Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Jay Clayton and a panel discussion with SIFMA President and CEO Kenneth Bentsen Jr., Georgetown University Professor of Law Christopher Brummer, Davis Polk & Wardell partner Annette Nazareth, and Nasdaq Executive Vice President for Global Trading & Market Services and CEO Thomas Wittman Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC
<http://www.brookings.edu> <https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst>
#SecuritiesRegs

9:30 AM GOP Rep. Kevin Brady speaks on tax reform at the Heritage Foundation – House Committee on Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady speaks on 'Tax Reform for Middle Class Americans' at the Heritage Foundation, focusing on 'creating Main Street jobs, growing middle-class paychecks, making taxes fairer, and helping hardworking Americans, not Washington special interests' * President Donald Trump yesterday discussed new details on the framework for tax reform, during a speech in Indianapolis Location: Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington, DC www.heritage.org <https://twitter.com/Heritage>

1:00 PM Halcyon Dialogue VIP Robotics Showcase – Halcyon Dialogue VIP Robotics Showcase, including panel discussions on 'Emerging Robotics Technology' and 'Policy Opportunities in the Robotics Age', with speakers include Republican Rep. Will Hurd, former White House Chief Technology Officer Megan Smith and robotics entrepreneur Helen Greiner. American Association for the Advancement of Science CEO Dr Rush Holt discusses findings from the 'Shaping Robotics Policy for the 21st Century' report * Event also features multiple robotics demonstrations * A public event takes place tomorrow Location: Halcyon House, 3400 Prospect St. NW, Washington, DC halcyonhouse.org <https://twitter.com/HalcyonInspires>

1:30 PM GOP Rep. Kevin Brady speaks on tax reform at U.S. Chamber of Commerce – House Committee on Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady speaks on 'the path forward for pro-growth tax reform' at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce * President Donald Trump yesterday discussed new details on the framework for tax reform, via a speech in Indianapolis Location: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H St NW, Washington, DC www.uschamber.com <https://twitter.com/USChamber>

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<<http://mailview.bulletinintelligence.com/mailview.aspx?m=2017092801education&r=email-cc64&l=10b-29f&t=c>> . The Department of Education News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at BulletinIntelligence.com, or called at (703) 483-6100.



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Subject:

The Department of Education News Briefing for September 28, 2017



TO: THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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Secretary and Department News

Study: Florida Voucher Program Improves Likelihood Of College Attendance.

The [AP](#) (9/27) reports that according to a new study from the Urban Institute, "low-income students in Florida who attended private schools using a credit scholarship program were more likely to go to college than their peers in public schools." The AP says these findings "stood in contrast with some of the recent studies of similar private school choice programs that produced mixed results" and are "likely to energize the Trump administration in its effort to expand school choice across the nation, but also to irk critics who believe that such programs are ineffective and may discriminate against students."

[U.S. News & World Report](#) (9/27, 1.73M) reports that the research found that the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program, the largest such program in the country, "significantly improves the likelihood that students enroll in college," providing "positive news for private school choice proponents who have recently endured an onslaught of research showing negative results for students enrolled in similar programs." The piece explains that the program "provides tax credits as an incentive for corporations to donate to nonprofit organizations that can then provide scholarships for students in families with limited financial resources, allowing them to pay for tuition and fees at an eligible private school or transportation to a public school outside his or her district."

Noting that Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has praised the program, [Politico Morning Education](#) (9/27, 3.55M) reports that authors of the report "estimate participation increases college enrollment rates by 15 percent. Most of the effect is in community colleges, as opposed to four-year universities."

Student Loan Default Rate Rises.

The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (9/27, 43K) reports that ED announced Wednesday that the overall three-year cohort default rate for federal student loans rose from 11.3% to 11.5% for the first time since 2013. The article says that the data show that "10 institutions with high cohort default rates are at risk of losing their access to federal student aid."

[Diverse Education](#) (9/27) reports that the increase is "setting off fears that student loan borrowers may be faring worse in the years to come given the department's efforts to roll back various protections." The article quotes Institute for College Access & Success Executive Vice President Pauline Abernathy saying, "Now is the time to be improving student loan policies and increasing oversight and accountability, but the department is doing the opposite. The Department's rollback of critical protections and enforcement will only lead to more student loan defaults, higher debt burdens, and wasted taxpayer dollars."

ED To Have FAFSA Data Retrieval Tool Back Online By October.

Catherine Gewertz writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/27, 127K) "High School and Beyond" blog that ED officials say

the "automated tool designed to make it easier to put tax information into financial-aid applications will be back online Oct. 1," explaining that the FAFSA data retrieval tool "was taken down last spring after hackers tried to use it to get personal tax information from the system." The article reports the before revelations about security flaws, "professionals in the counseling and financial-aid worlds hailed it as an important form of help on an application that can be daunting."

ED Says Schools In Hurricane-Affected Areas Will Have Flexibility On Performance Targets.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (9/27, Ellis, 1.97M) reports that ED has announced that districts in areas affected by the recent hurricanes "will have some flexibility to adjust performance targets and potentially transfer grants." ED "urged grantees to reconsider project timelines as schools bounce back from the destruction caused by hurricanes Harvey and Irma over the last month." The Chronicle quotes Education Secretary Betsy DeVos saying, "For children of affected families, returning to school can provide stability in a time of upheaval as they reconstruct their lives. The Department will continue to provide whatever flexibility and support it can to help ensure stakeholders have the resources they need to get these students back into the classroom as quickly as possible."

Congress Faces Saturday Deadline To Act On Perkins Loans, Home Visits.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/27, 3.55M) reports Congress has until Saturday to "save two education programs that face expiration," the Perkins Loan program and the federal home visiting program, calling both "nail-biters." Though there are bipartisan bills to save the Perkins Loans, they lack the support of House Education and the Workforce Chairwoman Virginia Foxx and Senate HELP Chairman Lamar Alexander. Meanwhile, the home visiting program for poor families with young children, the piece reports, looks to have better chances.

Private School Tax Credit Thus Far Absent From GOP Tax Plan.

Andrew Ujifusa writes at the [Education Week](#) (9/27, 127K) "Politics K-12" blog that the tax policy plan released by Republicans in Congress on Wednesday does not contain "a much-discussed boost for school choice." However, the piece reports, this could change and Republicans could insert "a tax credit for those who make donations to groups sponsoring scholarships to private schools. School choice advocates have pushed for months for Republican lawmakers to include the provision in their tax overhaul, and U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos has long been a supporter of such tax-credit scholarships out the state level."

Art Contest Financed By DeVos Family Takes On New Political Dimension.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Friess, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the ArtPrize contest, an annual three-week art contest that takes place in Grand Rapids, Michigan, has taken on renewed interest and a new "more politicized flavor" this year because of Betsy DeVos' rise to education secretary. The Times explains that "Ms. DeVos's son Rick conceived the competition and initially financed it." The piece adds that the DeVos family "has long been controversial in Michigan for spending big on conservative political causes, but Betsy DeVos's elevation brings new national prominence to the clan."

Many Top ED Positions Remain Unfilled.

The [Seventy Four](#) (9/27) reports that while the Trump administration has made up some ground in nominating senior cabinet officials, ED "still lags far behind," having "the highest vacancy rate of any Cabinet-level agency, with 12 of 15 positions open for which the White House has not announced a nominee or the Senate confirmed an officer." The piece reports that the Senate HELP Committee has scheduled a vote on Thursday on the nomination of Carlos Muñiz to be the department's general counsel. The piece reports that Democrats and Obama ED officials "have said the naming of top deputies in the Education Department is particularly critical given DeVos's lack of government experience and her pledge to rely on staff in areas where she needs help."

Presidential Commissions On Minority Students Concerned About Administration's Silence.

[Education Week](#) (9/27, Mitchell, 127K) reports that members of the three "long-standing presidential commissions designed to expand educational opportunities for non-white students...say months of silence from the White House has them worried they're about to be dissolved." The presidential advisory commissions on educational excellence for black, Hispanic, and Asian American and Pacific Islander students "are set to expire Saturday" and "have not met

since President Donald Trump took office in January. Although members of the groups have reached out, the White House has not responded." Moreover, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos "has not met with the respective chairpersons to discuss the future of the commissions since taking office in February."

Additional Reading

Texas Education Officials Finalize Federal Achievement Plan.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (9/27, Carpenter, 1.97M)

\$2.7M Grant To Aid Hispanic Students At Nevada State College.

The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (9/27, 458K)

SU Defends Obama-era Crackdown On Campus Sex Assault, Rebukes Expelled Student.

The [Syracuse \(NY\) Post-Standard](#) (9/27, 690K)

\$21 Million In Funding To Improve Student Literacy.

The [AP](#) (9/27)

Outdated Education Metric Is Casting A Cloud On A Higher Ed Bright Spot: Western Governors University.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Hartle, 10.38M)

Early Learning

Opinion: Tax Reform For Educators Can Improve Early Childhood Education.

Cindy Cisneros, vice president of education programs at the Committee for Economic Development, writes in an op-ed in [The Hill](#) (9/27, 1.68M) that by implementing tax reform to include credits that will increase child care workers' compensation, educational settings and outcomes for students in turn will improve. She points to the example of Louisiana's School Readiness Tax Credit program, "which include[s] a refundable workforce investment credit that provides an incentive for early care and education workers to increase their knowledge base and skills while acquiring a modest increase in their take-home pay." According to Cisneros, programs such as this show "refundable workforce investment credit is a solution that works."

Elementary and Secondary Education

LGBT Advocates Protest California Textbook Update Proposals.

The [AP](#) (9/27, Cooper) reports a coalition of LGBT rights groups are protesting the California Department of Education's proposed updated textbook recommendations, "saying the books don't include enough information about the contributions of LGBT Americans." The group is calling for the department to, in the AP's words, "integrate the contributions of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people throughout history" and "said the books should point out when historical or cultural figures had same-sex partners." A California commission is considering which of 12 history and social science textbooks will be recommended for students in kindergarten through eighth grade, with the coalition pushing for "two of the books to be rejected and a third be turned back unless the publisher agrees to make substantial changes."

The [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (9/27, 349K) reports that in 2011, California responded to "a wave of gay youth suicides" by requiring "lessons on the historical contributions of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in its K-12 curriculum." The piece reports that "gay rights groups are raising concerns that the textbook options before the state fall far short of the inclusion" sought by legislators.

Boston Dual-Language Academy Engages Hispanic Students By Teaching In Spanish.

The [Hechinger Report](#) (9/27, Mathewson) says in a greater than 3,000-word article that Boston's Margarita Muñiz

Academy is unique because it is “a first-of-its kind dual-language high school” where Hispanic students, who “were both the most likely to drop out of the city’s schools and the least likely to enroll in college when compared to black, white and Asian students,” receive instruction in Spanish. While Boston Public Schools have seen the nearly 39 percent of Hispanic high school students classified as “English-language learners...drop out at higher rates than any other major subgroup,” the Muñiz Academy in 2016 saw 75 percent of its ELL students graduate, “a rate 14 percentage points higher than the district’s average.”

Start-Up School Reenvision Education Through Project-Based Learning.

[CNN](#) (9/27, Pisa, 33.59M) reports on its website on the rising trend of teaching students through project-based learning, profiling the Portfolio School in New York’s Tribeca where educators emphasize “guided choice and a personalized education” and mix technology with learning activities. The start-up school refers to itself as a “micro-school,” which intends “to broaden a child’s creativity and is based on the philosophy that children need an interdisciplinary model of learning.” CNN reports, “Portfolio says its research-based approach is reinventing everything – from the curriculum, space design, classroom management, schedule, the role of teachers and a student’s engagement with the outside world.”

California Test Scores Stagnant.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/27, Resmovits, Phillips, 4.49M) reports that while California education experts said that test scores on California’s three-year-old new assessments “would improve when students got used to them,” the “scores have stagnated — essentially flatlining in English and math.” English pass rates rose one point to 49% over last year, while math scores also rose one point to 38%. The year before, “students’ scores had improved in both subjects, prompting California’s State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson to travel from Sacramento to Los Angeles and hold a news conference to highlight the gains.” This year, “Torlakson issued a statement describing the results as sustained progress.”

The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (9/27, 3.31M) reports that despite massive effort and investment, “test scores for white, Asian and wealthier students are much higher than those of their black, Latino and low-income peers.” Education officials, the Chronicle reports, are “highlighting what they saw as positive news in the data while lamenting the stubborn, and in some cases widening, achievement gap.” [EdSource](#) (9/27) also covers this story.

Achievement Gap, Low Readiness Steady On Redesigned SAT.

The [Seventy Four](#) (9/27, Cantor) reports that the first set of results from the newly redesigned SAT “don’t provide a ton of new information,” but “the outlines of student performance were familiar.” Only 46% “achieved scores that indicate their college readiness, The College Board’s shorthand for an ability to earn a C or higher in an entry-level course.” Moreover, “race/ethnicity breakdowns yielded expected disparities: Asian students achieved at higher levels than their peers” while “Hispanic students, who scored 990 on average, and black students, who scored an average of 941, trailed substantially.”

Fed’s Kashkari Calls For Research Into US Educational “Crisis.”

[Reuters](#) (9/27) reports that on Wednesday, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari “called for more research by the central bank into what he called unacceptably big gaps in educational outcomes by race that keep many Americans out of the workforce.” In remarks that did not include comments on monetary policy or economic outlook, Kashkari said, “If the Fed can objectively analyze education models that can help more Americans get and keep good jobs, I believe it is important we do that research and share our findings with other policymakers.” He added, “This research may help us achieve maximum employment nationally and in places, such as many tribal communities, where underemployment has been a persistent problem.”

Vermont Schools Reach Agreement With Educational Assistants’ Union.

The [AP](#) (9/27) reports Vermont school officials reached an agreement with an educational assistants’ union following “five hours of negotiations,” determining a settlement that “covers 125 paraeducators employed at schools in Barre and Barre Town, Spaulding High School and the Central Vermont Career Center.” The details have yet to be released, although the AP says “the issues at the center of discussion were wages, health insurance and the contract length.”

Fatal New York High School Stabbing Attributed To Bullying.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Nir, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that two students at the Urban Assembly

School for Wildlife Conservation in the Bronx were stabbed Wednesday morning, one fatally. The attack “set off a lockdown,” and police took a third student into custody. A school official “said the fatal confrontation stemmed from ‘bullying,’ and at a news conference on Wednesday afternoon Chief Boyce said it appeared the three students had been locked in a running dispute over the first weeks of the school year.”

[USA Today](#) (9/27, James, 8.62M) reports that “the school does not have metal detectors,” and “frightened and angry parents gathered” outside the school “demanding their children be released from inside the school building.”

Opinion: Projection Models For Energy-Saving Initiatives At Schools Must Be Updated For “Real World.”

[Forbes](#) (9/27, 5.11M) contributor Fiona Burlig writes that she and colleagues at MIT, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, and Northwestern University conducted a study using “a brand-new machine learning approach to measure the effectiveness of energy efficiency upgrades in California schools” and found that while “the upgrades did lower energy consumption at the average school by 3%, freeing up real money to pay for textbooks and supplies,” overall, “schools saved only 24% of what was projected.” She and the research team found that, “If the school invested \$400,000, expecting that they’d recoup their investment in the form of lower energy bills in 4 years, our estimates imply they might never see it pay off.” Burlig suggests the findings indicate policymakers should consider updating projection models because current models “aren’t sufficiently benchmarked to the real world.” She notes the importance of machine learning in capturing more accurate results.

Puerto Rico Schools Face Uncertainty Following Hurricane Maria.

[Education Week](#) (9/27, Sparks, Superville, 127K) reports on the challenges Puerto Rico’s schools are facing in the wake of Hurricane Maria, the “strongest storm” to strike the commonwealth “in decades.” On Friday, the US Department of Education “announced it would provide regulatory flexibility during the 2017-18 school year for schools affected by all of the hurricanes this summer” and “suggested ways for schools to use technology to continue students’ learning when school buildings cannot be used—though,” the article says, “that won’t be of much use to students in Puerto Rico for the near future.”

Ohio Officials Tentatively Grant Online Charter School Approval As Dropout Prevention School.

The [AP](#) (9/27) reports the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow online charter school recently “received initial approval to be designated a dropout prevention school” after being “locked in a legal fight with” the Ohio Department of Education. The department granted it approval “pending an audit to confirm that most of the school’s students are between ages 16 and 21”; the school says 53 percent of students meet that requirement and could be considered at-risk. With the designation, qualifying schools “get a more lenient state report than traditional schools.”

Rural Students Least Likely Group To Attend College.

The [Hechinger Report](#) (9/27, Marcus, Krupnick) reports in a greater than 2,000-word article that US students least likely to attend college live in rural areas. According to the Report, fewer students from rural areas attend college than students in other locations not because “rural students aren’t academically prepared” – in fact, they often “score better on the National Assessment of Educational Progress than urban students and graduate from high school at a higher percentage than the national average, the U.S. Department of Education reports” – but rather due to “historic” factors as well as “regional economic competitiveness” and “widening political division.” Many students from small rural towns also face difficulty adjusting to large college settings, and as one policy expert commented, disdain for rural Americans “is the last acceptable prejudice in America.”

York School Department Overspent on Special Education By \$1 Million In 2017.

The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (9/27, McDermott, 162K) reports the York School Department calculated that fiscal year 2017 spending on special education totaled nearly \$1 million more than allotted in the budget, prompting interim Superintendent Mark McQuillan to observe, “it’s clear we have to do better.” SPED Director Erin Frazier said the “big challenge is that the budget wasn’t developed to meet the needs we were seeing” for the special education student population, while Director of Finance and Operations James Amoroso pointed to spending freezes and reduced transportation costs as contributing to the overspending. Frazier and McQuillan predicted there could be discrepancies in this year’s budget as well, with McQuillan saying the department is “in the middle of a shift and I do believe it will change.”

Additional Reading

Test Scores Jumped In Innovation Schools, But IPS Leaders Aren't Declaring Victory Just Yet..

[Chalkbeat](#) (9/27)

Wisconsin Student Test Results Hold Steady.

The [AP](#) (9/27, Bauer, Press)

Test Scores Inch Up In Philly, Pa. Schools.

[Philly \(PA\)](#) (9/27, 1.19M)

Teacher Transferred After Asking For Gender-Neutral Pronouns.

The [AP](#) (9/27)

State Exam Scores Show Math Continues To Be A Struggle For Many Students.

The [Harrisburg \(PA\) Patriot-News](#) (9/27, 553K)

Post-Secondary Education

West Virginia University Launching Land-Grant School Academic Center.

[Politico Morning Education](#) (9/27, 3.55M) reports that West Virginia University in Morgantown is launching the Center for the Future of Land-Grant Education, a "new academic center Thursday focused on the nation's land-grant colleges and universities." the Center "will be a hub for researchers aimed at providing accessible public higher education."

Ohio State To Cover Remaining Costs For Pell Grant Recipients.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (9/27, 927K) reports that Ohio State University officials have announced that the school "will cover the remaining cost of tuition and fees for low-income in-state students who receive aid from other sources." The school says this will cost over \$11 million per year and will benefit students that "are awarded Pell grants, Ohio College Opportunity Grants and any merit awards." The Plain Dealer reports that "qualifying new, existing and transfer students on the Columbus campus in fall 2018" will be eligible.

The [Akron \(OH\) Beacon Journal](#) (9/27, 235K) reports , [Columbus \(OH\) Business First](#) (9/26, 858K), and [WOIO-TV Cleveland](#) (9/27, 14K) also cover this story.

Study: Nearly All Students In Dual Enrollment Programs Go On To College.

The [Seventy Four](#) (9/27) reports that according to a new study from the Community College Research Center at Columbia University Teachers College, "an overwhelming majority of high school students who complete dual enrollment courses at local community colleges go on to pursue higher education." However, there is wide state-to-state variation in "where they enroll after graduation — and how well they perform." The piece reports that dual enrollment programs have grown in popularity in recent years, but says that "most educators and state leaders have not closely monitored which students participate, where they enroll in college after high school, and how many of those students earn a college degree."

Column: Graduate Programs Should Be Harder To Finance.

In a [Bloomberg View](#) (9/27, 4.52M) column, Megan McArdle writes that demand for graduate-level business schools has made them "cash cows for the universities." McArdle cites the high cost of MBA programs and says "schools often encourage graduate students' naive faith, painting a rosy picture of future employment prospects that is, to say the very least, highly selective." McArdle calls for "the government [to] get out of the student loan business entirely; I suspect that one reason college now costs so much is simply that it can, thanks to unsecured government loans that cover the growing gap between tuition cost and parental means." She also calls for "capping graduate school loans at something close to the caps on the loans made to financially independent undergrads."

Other Washington News

Trump Touts Tax Cut Plan In Indianapolis.

During a speech in Indianapolis on Wednesday, President Trump pitched the tax cut plan negotiated by the Administration and the Republican leadership in both chambers. Media coverage of the plan is heavy, but noticeably lighter than recent coverage of the President's comments criticizing the NFL. While the coverage almost universally highlights Trump's call for large cuts to individual and corporate tax rates, much of it is negative in tone, saying the plan leaves many questions unanswered and questioning Trump's assertion that the wealthy will not benefit.

[WISH-TV](#)  Indianapolis (9/27, 5:01 p.m. EDT, 19K) reported that Trump "wasted very little time talking about how his tax plan could benefit the state and the country." Trump: "Americans waste so much money, billions and billions of dollars and many hours each year with our ridiculous tax code. More than 90 percent of Americans use assistance to prepare their taxes. Under our framework, the vast majority of Americans will be able to file their taxes on a single sheet of paper."

[WTHR-TV](#)  Indianapolis (9/27, 5:04 p.m. EDT, 69K) reported that Trump "called on Americans to support his plan to bring back American jobs, wealth and the American dream." Trump: "If you demand it, the politicians will listen. They will answer, and they will act and, someday, many years from now, our children and our grandchildren will remember this moment in history as the time when ordinary Americans took control of their destiny and chose a future of American patriotism, prosperity and pride." In an exclusive interview, WTHR asked Trump how he squares raising the lowest individual tax and lowering the corporate tax. Trump said, "We're bringing the corporate tax down to a level where the companies that are leaving this country – they're going to be hiring a lot of people. It's all about jobs. So we're lowering the working people's – I call it the working people's tax way down. We're bringing the corporate tax down so that corporations won't leave the country and they'll hire a lot of people."

To the [AP](#) (9/27, Thomas, 1.19M), the President was in "full salesman mode" as he presented the plan, which "seeks to slash the corporate rate from 35 percent to 20 percent and create three individual tax brackets with rates of 12 percent, 25 percent and 35 percent, with a recommended surcharge on the very wealthy." [Townhall](#) (9/27, Paylich, 523K) reports that Trump "urged voters to call their congressmen in support," saying, "Call your congressmen, call your senators, let them know you are watching. Let them know you're waiting. Tell them that today is the day for decision. That now is the time to heal this self-inflicted economic [wound] and that with their action, the future would belong to all of us. ... If you demand it, the politicians will listen. They will answer and they will act."

The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Miller, 541K) reports that Trump "said tax reform hasn't been a partisan issue in Washington in the past, and it shouldn't be divisive this time, either." Trump said, "There is no reason that Democrats and Republicans in Congress should not come together to deliver this giant win for the American people and begin the 'middle-class miracle' once again." Pointing to Democratic Sen. Joe Donnelly, who traveled with him on Air Force One, Trump said, "If Sen. Donnelly doesn't approve it – you know he's on the other side – we will come here and campaign against him." The [Indianapolis Star](#) (9/27, 479K) reports that Donnelly has called for "a bipartisan effort that will give working and middle-class families greater economic security."

Other coverage is more negative in tone. For example, [USA Today](#) (9/27, Groppe, 8.62M) says Trump is "seeking a much-needed win as he recovers from Republicans' failure to repeal Obamacare and the loss of Luther Strange, Trump's chosen candidate in the Alabama Senate primary on Tuesday." USA Today adds that "many details are still to be worked out, including how much the changes would add to the deficit." Likewise, the [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/27, Puzzanghera, Mascaro, 4.49M) also says the plan leaves "a lot of unanswered questions."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Rubin, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) also points out the political stakes for the White House and congressional Republicans in the wake of their unsuccessful push to repeal the ACA. Republicans, the Journal says, are anxious to post a legislative victory in advance of the 2018 elections. Similarly, the [New York Times](#) (9/27, Davis, Rappeport, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) says Trump, who is "smarting from the latest defeat" of his efforts to repeal the ACA, "began a full-throttle push to slash taxes and salvage what is left of his foundering legislative agenda in Congress, proposing a politically challenging array of tax cuts for individuals and businesses that would constitute the most sweeping changes to the federal tax code in decades." The Times adds that Trump "offered few details about how working people might benefit from a plan that has explicit and substantial rewards for wealthy people and corporations." In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M), David Ricks, chairman and CEO of Eli Lilly & Co., praises the plan, arguing that it will help repair the current tax code which puts American companies at a disadvantage on the world market.

On [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/27, story 4, 2:15, 16.61M), Lester Holt said Trump was "short on specifics on

how middle class families would benefit." Peter Alexander added that "the long-awaited roll-out is lacking key details, leaving many questions unanswered," and Democrats are "not buying it." Senate Minority Leader Schumer: "He ain't walking the walk. This is aimed at the wealthiest people in America. They do far and away the best." Nancy Cordes said on the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/27, story 3, 2:30, Mason, 11.17M) that Republicans "made a show of unity today, even as analysts warned the plan could reduce government revenue by \$2 trillion or more over the next 10 years." [Reuters](#) (9/27, Morgan, Cowan, 1.73M) highlights criticism that the plan "could add trillions of dollars to the deficit," citing warnings from analysts that "huge tax cuts would balloon the federal deficit and debt if economic growth projected by Republicans to offset the costs fails to materialize amid rising interest rates."

[The Houston Chronicle](#) (9/27, Diaz, 1.97M) reports that House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady, who will lead the tax reform effort in the House, said the framework is a "starting point for negotiations." The Chronicle adds that it "immediately came under fire from one of the top Democrats on the tax-writing committee, Lloyd Doggett," who said, "The superlatives never match the specifics. ... What President Trump and his Republican cohorts say this plan is, it isn't. The future of this bill depends upon how quickly the truth can catch up with the lie. From what we can already see, it is a blueprint for red ink."

White House Director of Legislative Affairs Marc Short said on [Fox News Special Report](#) (9/27, 1.53M), "We are confident in this framework. We think it is one that will work. We think it's best for the American economy. It's best for the American family providing them significant tax relief but also keeping jobs here in America which is something the last administration suffered through. ... We need to get the economy growing and Congress knows that, the American people know that, and we need tax relief." Kellyanne Conway said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (9/27, 1.64M), "The vision is to make it simpler. Americans spend over six billion man hours a year...just complying with the code. The code currently favors the wealthy and privileged and the connected who can hire attorneys and accountants that can help them navigate and take advantage of these deductions and credits, many of which go away in the Donald Trump legislative plan for tax overhaul."

House Speaker Ryan said on [Fox News' Hannity](#) (9/27, 535K) that tax reform is "one of the most important things we can do to help people in the country. ... This is about economic growth, about bigger paychecks, more jobs, it's about a fairness system in our tax code so we're really excited about this. That's why we spent all this time working with the President and yes working with the Senate and House to make sure we're on the same page so we work off the common framework to go from here to get this done." Ryan added, "There are a lot of people in this country working paycheck to paycheck. A lot of people in the country because of the slow growth economy never got the raise. A lot of economic anxiety. It's about them, letting those hard working taxpayers keep more of their own money and giving them a tax break."

[Roll Call](#) (9/27, McPherson, 134K) provides more detail on the policies in the framework released by GOP leaders, many of which "are ones included in the House Republicans' 'A Better Way' plan released last year." [Politico](#) (9/27, Faler, Bade, 3.6M) says while the plan "is heavy on the GOP's tax cut desires," it is "light when it comes to explaining whose taxes will have to go up to help control costs." Politico adds that the plan's cost "would run in the trillions," and GOP leaders "want to at least partially defray the cost with offsetting tax increases. But their plans for doing that, for the most part, are still a secret." Republicans plan to "delay spelling out who would have to pay more under their plan, in order to give opponents as little opportunity as possible to mount a counteroffensive."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Paletta, Debonis, Johnson, 10.38M) similarly reports that the framework "left many key questions unanswered," and adds that Republicans were "careful not to identify numerous tax breaks they might remove, focusing instead on promises to lower rates." In Indianapolis, [The Hill](#) (9/27, Fabian, Jagoda, 1.68M) says Trump promised that the plan is "'not good' for wealthy individuals like himself." He said that "the 'wealthy and well-connected' can beg him all they want for a more favorable tax plan, but that 'it's not going to help.'"

However, a [USA Today](#) (9/27, Przybyla, 8.62M) analysis says the plan "would eliminate the individual Alternative Minimum Tax and estate taxes" and "tax so-called 'pass through' businesses at 25%," all of which "could greatly benefit Trump and his family's business empire." Likewise, a [New York Times](#) (9/27, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis reports that the plan "is a potentially huge windfall for the wealthiest Americans," citing its call to "sharply reduce taxation of business income," and eliminate the estate tax, "which affects just a few thousand uber-wealthy families each year, and the alternative minimum tax, a safety net designed to prevent tax avoidance." A separate [New York Times](#) (9/27, Qiu, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) analysis says Trump and Republicans offered "several misleading and false claims to bolster their framework for the overhaul." While Trump said the wealthy will not benefit, Robertson Williams, an analyst at the Tax Policy Center, said they "almost certainly" will as a result of the estate tax and alternative minimum tax repeals. The Times adds that lowering the top marginal income tax rate "would also benefit the wealthy, though the plan does not specify which income levels it would

affect.”

In an op-ed for [USA Today](#) (9/27, 8.62M), Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch calls the framework “a major step forward for tax reform” and “a huge win for middle-class families and low-income taxpayers.” Sen. Cory Gardner said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (9/27, 554K), “I think there is a lot of merit to this plan. ... I think this is a significant advancement over the complex system we have today. So I like this. I believe I can support something like this. There is a lot of to do in this process yet, a lot of room to continue this debate.”

The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (9/27, Mauriello, 516K) reports that Sen. Pat Toomey, a member of the Senate Finance Committee who helped develop the framework, told reporters, “The biggest thing people are going to see is a tax deduction for themselves, a simplification in terms of their filing, and I think they’re going to see a very strong economy. They’re going to see more job opportunities, upward pressure on wages, bigger job gains [and] fewer unemployed people.” Toomey “expects a Senate vote on the federal budget in the next two weeks, and that would clear a path for tax reform later this fall.” Toomey “hopes it to be signed into law by year’s end.” However, in the lead story for [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/27, lead story, 2:35, Muir, 14.63M), Jonathan Karl said that is “an extremely ambitious timeline. This will be a heavy lift even to get done by next year. That said, there is immense pressure on Republicans, both here at the White House and on Capitol Hill, to show that they can deliver on this.”

Thursday’s editorial pages are divided over the plan with traditionally conservative outlets voicing support and traditionally liberal outlets criticizing it. A [Washington Examiner](#) (9/27, 465K) editorial laments that it has taken Republicans so long to offer a plan after taking “unified control of the government” 11 months ago, but says it is “a great start” and expresses hope that it “quickly becomes legislation then law, and thus quickly fosters economic growth and new well-paid jobs.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says in an editorial that the plan could jump start the economic expansion and increase wages but Republicans must do a better job of promoting it than they did with their healthcare plan and resist special interests as it make its way through Congress.

A [USA Today](#) (9/27, 8.62M) editorial takes a different view, saying that the plan’s “call to reduce the top corporate tax rate from 35% to 20%...is sound and overdue,” as is “the effort to simplify what President Trump correctly called the ‘ridiculously complex’ individual income tax code,” but, “a lack of fiscal restraint, plus two unwarranted giveaways to America’s financial elite, make this version unworthy of support.” The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) also opposes the plan, arguing in an editorial that it would “greatly increase the federal deficit, would not turbocharge economic growth and could leave many middle-class families worse off by ending deductions they rely on.” Moreover, it “would do little or nothing to improve the lot of the working class, a group President Trump says he is fighting for” and would “instead provide a windfall to hedge fund managers, corporate executives, real estate developers and other members of the 1 percent.”

Home Builders Endorse Plan, Increasing Vulnerability Of The Mortgage-Interest Deduction. [Politico](#) (9/27, Woellert, 3.6M) reports that while members of the housing industry “typically lock arms to defend the mortgage-interest tax deduction,” the National Association of Home Builders “split with industry allies” to endorse the plan, “increasing the vulnerability” of the deduction “that was once considered untouchable.” Politico adds that while many in the industry “publicly criticized the White House tax plan released Wednesday, many quietly admit they’re playing defense.”

Politico Analysis: Changing Top Rate Has No “Predictable Effect On Economic Growth.” Reporting that the Tax Foundation “argued in its analysis of Trump’s 2016 campaign proposal that lowering the top income tax rate would lead to increased job opportunities,” a [Politico](#) (9/27, 3.6M) analysis examines “each time the country changed the top income tax rate and the following five years of GDP per capita growth rate” and found that “changing the top income tax rate does not have a predictable effect on economic growth.”

LATimes Analysis: Californians Face A “Big Financial Hit” Under GOP Plan. A [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/27, Puzanghera, 4.49M) analysis says the plan would be a “big financial hit” to many Californians due to its elimination of the federal deduction for state and local taxes, which Sen. Dianne Feinstein cited as “one reason the plan was a ‘non-starter’ for her.” The Times also says the plan’s “new limits on the deduction for home mortgage interest, which would have a greater effect on states with higher housing costs, such as California and New York,” leave “open the possibility of another big hit.”

Trump Says He Is “Thinking About” Jones Act Waiver For Puerto Rico.

[The Hill](#) (9/27, Bowden, 1.68M) reports that President Trump “said Wednesday that he is ‘thinking about’ lifting the rule barring foreign-flagged vessels from delivering goods between American ports to help hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico.” Trump told reporters, “Well, we’re thinking about [temporarily lifting the Jones Act], but we have a lot of

shippers, and a lot of people, and a lot of people who work in the shipping industry that don't want the Jones Act lifted."

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/27, story 3, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M), Eva Pilgrim said, "For Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, a waiver of that act was granted. The President says he's considering the same for Hurricane Maria, but that a lot of shippers and people who work in the shipping industry don't want it waived. The President is planning to visit Puerto Rico on Tuesday."

[McClatchy](#) (9/27, Daugherty, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that both Republicans and Democrats are telling Trump that Puerto Rico "is now a humanitarian crisis." But the Administration has not yet waived the Jones Act, even though it "was waived in Texas after Hurricane Harvey and in Florida after Hurricane Irma to allow for more efficient fuel delivery." Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló said that "he expects the Trump administration to eventually waive the law."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Andrews, Page, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Sen. John McCain, who has long sought repeal of the Jones Act, wrote in a letter to DHS, "It is unacceptable to force the people of Puerto Rico to pay at least twice as much for food, clean drinking water, supplies and infrastructure due to Jones Act requirements as they work to recover from this disaster. Now, more than ever, it is time to realize the devastating effect of this policy and implement a full repeal of this archaic and burdensome Act."

Seven House Democrats also signed a letter calling for a Jones Act suspension, and the [Washington Examiner](#) (9/27, Tritten, 465K) reports that a group of 145 House Democrats is urging Trump to send an aircraft carrier to Puerto Rico. In a Wednesday letter, they wrote, "To fulfill DOD's mission, we believe the aircraft carrier, USS Abraham Lincoln, should be sent to the region, similar to its deployment to Miami following Hurricane Irma." Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (9/27, 959K), "I'm saying to President Trump, you need to quadruple your efforts and have a coordinated Department of Defense response to this. It's estimated we need at least about 50,000 troops there, even after Haiti we had 20,000."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, A1, Hernández, Lamothe, O'Keefe, Achenbach, 10.38M) reports the Administration "is rushing military hardware and personnel to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as it becomes increasingly clear" that the federal response so far "has been inadequate and overmatched by the scale of the disaster." However, the [AP](#) (9/27, Fox, Coto) reports that many on the island are "waiting for help from anyone from the federal or Puerto Rican government. But the scope of the devastation is so broad, and the relief effort so concentrated in San Juan, that many people from outside the capital say they have received little to no help." The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/27, Vives, Hennessy-Fiske, Etehad, 4.49M) reports that "for many in Puerto Rico, Hurricane Maria's aftermath has been even more harrowing than the mighty storm itself." But FEMA has been stressed by communications issues on the island, as well as by the attention still needed in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

Anthony Mason opened the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/27, lead story, 2:35, 11.17M) by reporting, "One week after Hurricane Maria invaded Puerto Rico, frustration is growing. Relief supplies are arriving on the island, but getting them to the nearly 3.5 million people in desperate need is close to impossible. Power is still out, and the FCC said today more than 91 percent of the cell phone sites are out of service." On [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/27, lead story, 2:55, Holt, 16.61M), Gabe Gutierrez reported, "Across the island, supplies still aren't getting where they're supposed to. ... The agonizing lines for gas begin before dawn, stretching for blocks in the sweltering heat. ... They tell you the federal help is coming, but you haven't seen it." Unidentified speaker: "No, we haven't seen anything." The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/27, story 2, 2:10, Mason, 11.17M) had a report on how the island's lack of electricity is exacerbating the growing health crisis.

Rosselló Praises Trump's Response To Maria. [Reuters](#) (9/27, Respaut, DiSavino) reports that Rosselló "has strongly praised" Trump's response, "defending the Republican administration against complaints of being slow to act and showing too little concern." In an interview with the [New York Times](#) (9/27, Robles, Subscription Publication, 13.56M), Rosselló said, "I have spoken to him at least five times. ... He has been acting proactively. He issued two pre-landfall emergency declarations for Puerto Rico. That had never been done before. He declared Puerto Rico a disaster area practically while the storm was still hitting Puerto Rico."

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Nixon, Stevens, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that while "some lawmakers have accused President Trump of failing to respond adequately to the crisis in Puerto Rico," an analysis of his actions "paints a more complicated picture." Trump "approved major disaster declarations and ordered federal aid for the states of Texas and Florida, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico equally quickly - in each case, on the day the hurricane made landfall." But "he was not equally quick to visit each place in the storms' aftermath."

Puerto Rico Bondholders Offer \$1 Billion Loan, Cancellation Of Power Company's Debt. The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Walsh, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the

"investors holding the island power company's defaulted bonds...have offered to lend Puerto Rico \$1 billion to pay for urgent repairs and to cancel \$150 million of the power company's outstanding debt in the process." The loan "would not be enough to replace the island's aged electrical system," but the bondholders say that their offer "would allow Puerto Rico to apply for federal grants for long-term rebuilding that would not have to be repaid."

Federal Judge Warns That Exodus From Puerto Rico Would Have Lasting

Impact. Second Circuit US Court of Appeals Judge José Cabranes, who was born in Puerto Rico, writes in the [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M), "A vast internal migration of US citizens is likely in the months ahead, as tens of thousands of Puerto Ricans, possibly 1 million or more over time, choose to move to the US mainland." This would be "an additional, slow-motion disaster inflicted on an island that can ill afford to lose any more of its best and brightest," and it would "accelerate and deepen the social and economic crisis in Puerto Rico."

Maria Returns To Hurricane Status, But No Longer Threatens Land. [ABC World News](#)

[Tonight](#) (9/27, story 4, 0:20, Muir, 14.63M) and [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/27, story 3, 0:20, Holt, 16.61M) both briefly reported that Maria has returned to Category 1 hurricane status, no longer threatening land but causing dangers along the coast off North Carolina.

Storms Amplified USVI's Economic Crisis.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, A1, Peters, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that "the one-two punch of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria 14 days later" severely hurt the US Virgin Islands, which even before the storms "had barely enough cash to keep the government funded for three days" and a debt "so large that Wall Street stopped lending it money." As the islands' 103,000 residents "wait for doctors, medicine, fuel and manpower to rebuild the flattened communications and power grid, the economic toll from the storms is only starting to come to light."

Trump To Sign Order Allowing People To Buy Health Insurance Across State Lines.

The [New York Post](#) (9/27, Fredericks, 4.31M) reports that President Trump said Wednesday that he will sign a "very major" executive order "allowing people to buy health insurance across state lines – a move that would expand consumers' options and possibly lower costs." Trump said he will probably sign the order next week so that "people can go out across state lines, do lots of things, and buy their own healthcare." Sen. Rand Paul revealed the plan Wednesday morning on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (9/27, 959K), saying, "I think there's going to be big news from the White House in the next week or two, something they can do on their own." Paul added that Trump "can legalize on his own the ability of individuals to join a group or a health association across state lines and buy insurance."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Eilperin, Cunningham, 10.38M) says conservatives have "long championed" allowing insurers to offer plans across state lines, arguing it "would lower premiums by fostering greater competition." The Post adds that Administration officials "are confident that addressing this issue would make Paul more open to backing future health-care legislation."

Trump Says He Has Votes To Pass ACA Repeal.

President Trump on Wednesday pledged to tackle repealing the ACA next year, "suggesting without evidence that he had the votes to pass reform," [Reuters](#) (9/27, Mason, Crowell) reports. Trump said another healthcare vote will occur early in 2018 and added that "he would work with Democrats to make the effort more bipartisan." Trump said, "I am...going to meet with Democrats and I will see if I can get a healthcare plan that's even better. ... So I will negotiate with Democrats, but from the Republican standpoint, we have the votes. We'll vote in January, February or March." However, he "did not explain the discrepancy between his conviction that the votes were there and the fact that not enough Republican senators supported the latest bill."

[USA Today](#) (9/27, Jackson, 8.62M) says Trump's "vote tally appears to be dependent on a mysterious senator for support." Trump [tweeted](#) Wednesday, "With one Yes vote in hospital & very positive signs from Alaska and two others (McCain is out), we have the HCare Vote, but not for Friday!" However, it "was not immediately clear if any senators are currently in the hospital." The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Pear, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) describes Trump as "unwilling to accept defeat" on the issue, and says his claim to have the votes to repeal the ACA "appeared to be based on some erroneous or optimistic assumptions: That Senator Thad Cochran, Republican of Mississippi, was in the hospital and unavailable to vote, and that other Republican senators, including Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, were ready to vote yes."

[USA Today](#) (9/27, Jackson, 8.62M) says "Trump's prospects for negotiations with the Democrats remain

unclear" as Democrats "have said they will not support any plan that makes it harder for people to buy health insurance, effectively cutting them off from coverage." According to Democrats, "all of Trump's plans would do just that."

[McClatchy](#) (9/27, Dumain, 67K) reports that Sen. Lindsey Graham said the President called him Wednesday. Graham said, "He said, 'We're gonna do this, we're gonna get the votes.' ... He said, 'We're gonna do this next year for the good of the country, the good of the party.' He was really upbeat, and he sent out a nice tweet today." Graham added that he and Trump will meet Thursday at the White House "to plot a strategy to move forward."

Meanwhile, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Sens. Lamar Alexander and Patty Murray were expected to resume negotiations over ways to stabilize the ACA's insurance markets.

Experts Say ACA Rates Soaring Because Of Lack Of Administration Commitment To Subsidies.

[USA Today](#) (9/27, O'Donnell, 8.62M) reports that according to officials and insurance experts, health insurance rates for those purchasing coverage through the Affordable Care Act are continuing to rise because of the Administration's refusal to offer long-term commitments to "reimbursing insurers for subsidies that reduce out-of-pocket costs, including co-payments and deductibles, for those who earn less than 250% of the poverty limit." Because the Administration has made "more of a monthly announcement" than a fixed policy regarding the subsidies, insurers have been left "unable to plan ahead."

Insurers Make Final Decisions On ACA Plans. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, A1, Mathews, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports health insurers on Wednesday made their final decisions on whether to sign federal agreements to offer ACA plans next year. The Journal observes that so far, despite some major insurers indicating they might want to pull back from the marketplaces, most have offered few signs of a last-minute exodus from the exchanges.

Anthem To Withdraw From ACA Market In Maine. The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Howell, 541K) reports that Anthem announced Wednesday it will pull out of the ACA marketplace in Maine next year, "as insurers navigate choppy waters in the wake of the GOP's failure to pass a repeal bill and square away plans to stabilize the markets." Anthem "blamed its latest exit on a 'shrinking and deteriorating' individual market - Obamacare fell short of enrollment targets in the early rounds --and rampant uncertainty from Washington."

Programs For Insured, Low-Income Children Set To Expire This Week.

The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (9/27, Howatt, 1.27M) reports that "some essential health care programs...will expire unless action is taken by the end of the week." Unless they are reauthorized and funded, "programs that underwrite care for the uninsured and for low-income children" are "set to end on Saturday when the federal fiscal year ends." The Star Tribune adds that "congressional observers" do not expect the programs "to get legislative attention until October, creating uncertainty among health care providers as well leaving a hole in Minnesota's state budget."

White House To Lower Refugee Admissions.

The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/27, story 8, 0:20, Mason, 11.17M) reported that the Trump Administration wants to reduce the number of refugees entering the country from this year's cap of 110,000 - set by former President Barack Obama - to 45,000 next year, "mostly from Africa and Southeast Asia." Trump reportedly said the reduction is for national security reasons.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/27, Bennett, 4.49M) reports that the President "plans to slash the number of refugees allowed in the United States by more than half," as part of his effort "limiting legal immigration and imposing tougher vetting procedures for foreign visitors." The new limit would be "the lowest cap since the 1980s." The Times adds, "The State Department informed the Senate and House judiciary committees of the lower limit Wednesday and, after consultation with Congress, will put the new cap into effect at the end of September." The Times says that some in the White House, mentioning Stephen Miller, wanted a "cap as low as 15,000," but, it adds, "State Department officials and military leaders pushed back." In response, "critics slammed the new cap as insufficient." The [AP](#) (9/27, Lederman) reports in response, the Administration "defended its decision," saying it would "advance national security interests and reflect the United States' capacity to properly screen and take in refugees." The AP adds that the 45,000 will be "broken down into specific numbers of refugees admitted from various geographic regions," and "the State Department conveyed those numbers to Congress on Wednesday."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Zapotosky, Morello, 10.38M) reports that the number came from a planned briefing

of Congress by "the State Department and Department of Homeland Security" for Wednesday. An unnamed "White House official" defended the total as being "guided first and foremost by the safety and security of the American people." The Post says "the ceiling has never gone below 67,000, set by President Reagan in 1986."

Grassley, Feinstein Criticize Lack Of Consultation. [Politico](#) (9/27, Kim, 3.6M) reports that Sens. Charles Grassley and Dianne Feinstein, the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, "blasted" the Administration "for insufficiently consulting with Congress" on the refugee total. Politico adds the senators met with Secretary of State Tillerson at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, "after details of the administration's refugee plan had leaked out to the news media." The statement from Grassley and Feinstein said, "We are incredibly frustrated that the annual consultation for refugee admissions, which is required by law, was finalized just one day in advance." They added, "It is simply unacceptable to read in the press that the administration had reached its decision on the refugee cap before the mandated meeting with Congress had even been scheduled."

McClatchy Analysis: Surge In Border Crossings Tests Trump On Immigration.

[McClatchy](#) (9/27, Ordoñez, 67K) reports that DHS oversaw a 60 percent increase over the summer in arrests of migrants illegally trying to enter the country – a "surge in arrests" that also indicates "thousands more people are getting into the country illegally, increasing pressure" on President Trump's "team to clamp down even harder on the southern border." Border agents saw apprehensions "climb from 11,125 to nearly 22,300 people in August."

Contractors Building Border Wall Prototypes.

Mireya Villarreal reported on the [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/27, story 6, 1:55, Mason, 11.17M) that along the San Diego-Tijuana border, "contractors are racing to build" prototypes of President Trump's border wall, "the winner potentially taking home two federal contracts totaling \$600 million." Contractors have a month to build the prototypes, which "will be between 18 feet and 30 feet high and stretching 30 feet long." The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Medina, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that four of the prototypes "will be made of concrete and four will use 'other materials.'" Adam Housely reported on [Fox News Special Report](#)  (9/27, 1.53M) that Congress has "coughed up the money for the prototypes, but will need to approve billions more in order to use one or more of these designs to complete the wall stretching from the Pacific ocean all the way to the Gulf of Mexico."

[Politico](#) (9/27, Bade, 3.6M) reports that House Republicans on Wednesday "unveiled a plan to provide \$10 billion" for the wall, "a bill unlikely to clear the Senate but which could fuel a shutdown fight in December." While it "almost certainly won't pass the Senate," the measure "foreshadows Republican negotiating positions in the fight over the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program."

Poll Shows Trump Immigration Policies Could Hurt GOP In Texas.

[McClatchy](#) (9/27, Drusch, 67K) reports that a new "Democratic" poll from the Latino Victory Project found that Hispanic voters "overwhelmingly disapprove of Trump after his first eight months in office," with only 24 percent of respondents expressing approval of the President's performance. The results showed that President Trump's immigration policies "could take Texas" and other states with large Latino populations "down the same path as reliably Democratic California – if Republicans in Congress don't support the Dream Act."

Canada: Being Denied Asylum In US Does Not Grant Status.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Muñoz, Caldwell, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports Canadian officials are telling those in the US who may be deported that they should not expect to be accepted by Canada. While Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has posted messages welcoming immigrants, officials have said that those denied asylum in the US are not likely to be granted asylum in Canada. They also said that those denied asylum may be deported to their country of origin, not the US. Ahmed Hussen, Canada's Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, said recently, "Not having or losing status in the US is not grounds for an asylum claim."

WPost: Congress Should Grant DACA Recipients Legal Status.

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) writes that Congress should pass legislation that ensures current DACA beneficiaries are safe from deportation. While acknowledging it is "fair to haggle over details of the dreamers' long-term legal status," the Post argues that Dreamers "are regarded with nearly universal sympathy" and deserve to be granted legal status.

Trump Suggests He May Consider Firing Price.

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (9/27, story 2, 2:20, Muir, 14.63M), Cecilia Vega reported that President Trump is "making it clear: He is angry with his health secretary's penchant for private planes on the public dime." Trump: "I'll tell you, personally, I am not happy about it. I am not happy about it." Vega said DHS Secretary Price is "under fire for his luxury jet travel, costing taxpayers more than \$400,000. An investigation now under way, and Price says those high-priced trips are on hold." Price: "We've heard the criticism. We've heard the concerns. And we take that very seriously and have taken it to heart." Vega: "But today, the President made it clear: Price's future is in question."

On [NBC Nightly News](#) (9/27, story 5, 2:15, Holt, 16.61M), Kristen Welker reported, "Asked if he plans to fire Price, The President only saying, 'We'll see.' Now the pressure's mounting, with Politico reporting today [that] Price took an August charter flight to an exclusive resort in Georgia where he and his wife own property. The stated purpose: a medical conference, but Price arrived a day and a half early. ... Bipartisan congressional investigators are demanding answers." House Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Trey Gowdy: "Whether you're Republican or Democrat, you have a responsibility to be a good steward of the taxpayer dollar."

The [CBS Evening News](#) (9/27, story 9, 0:35, Mason, 11.17M) reported that Gowdy's committee has "requested detailed travel records from 24 departments and agencies." [USA Today](#) (9/27, Collins, 8.62M) reports that Gowdy and ranking member Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) "sent a letter on Tuesday, asking for any information about the use of government-owned planes by unelected officials, or private flights by non-career officials in the executive office of the president. The letter also asks for the departments' policies on this kind of travel." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Jamerson, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Cummings said late last week, "Too many Trump Administration officials have an entitled, millionaire mind-set when it comes to squandering taxpayer money that does not belong to them just to support their lavish lifestyles."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Nakamura, 10.38M) reports that Trump "appeared to suggest that he would considering firing Price." The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Rogers, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Price "has defended himself by saying he has a busy travel schedule." The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Boyer, 541K) and [Politico](#) (9/27, Nelson, 3.6M) also briefly report on the President's remarks.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) says in an editorial, "It's hard to think of someone in Washington these days who might rival Mr. Price for brazen hypocrisy, though, admittedly, the bar is high." As a congressman, Price "piously condemned the federal government's 'reckless spending.' Now it turns out that Mr. Price is as spendthrift a swamp creature as you could find in Washington's marshy environs."

[USA Today](#) (9/27, 8.62M) similarly editorializes, "A well-known deficit hawk when he was in Congress, Price once called the government's planned purchase of jetliners for lawmakers' travel 'fiscal irresponsibility run amok.' And he was right. What a difference a Cabinet post makes." But in a responding [USA Today](#) (9/27, 8.62M) op-ed, Price's predecessor, Mike Leavitt, who served in President George W. Bush's second term, writes, "Any former HHS secretary, Republican or Democrat, can relate to the daunting task of trying to respond to a plethora of demands on a daily basis. ... At times, utilizing non-commercial aircraft is not only appropriate but also necessary."

Dana Milbank facetiously writes in his [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) column, "The critics just don't get it. For America to dream big, its leaders must live large. Rich people are the smartest people, and to lure the best into government service, you have to entice them - with more riches. ... It is time that we drain the swamp of 'watchdogs' at Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington and the US Office of Government Ethics. Send those namby-pambies back to Namibia."

Brownback's Hearing For Ambassador Nomination Slated For October 4.

The [AP](#) (9/27) reports that Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback on Wednesday said "a US Senate committee hearing is set for next week on his nomination for ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom." However, Brownback said "he's not sure how quickly the Senate could vote on his nomination after the Oct. 4 hearing by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee." Brownback, who was nominated for the post in July by President Trump, "said he'll step down as governor when the Senate confirms him." If that happens, Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer (R) would succeed Brownback, who is term-limited in 2018. Colyer has already entered next year's governor's race.

GAO: 78 Obama Political Appointees "Burrowed" Into Career Positions.

According to the GAO, 78 of former President Obama's political appointees "managed to 'burrow' into career government jobs over a six-year period," the [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Boyer, 541K) reports. A GAO Report obtained by the Times shows that seven Obama political appointees "switched to career jobs without obtaining necessary

approval from the Office of Personnel Management." Four "were later denied the jobs by OPM and three left their posts."

Trump: If NFL Doesn't Change On Anthem Protests, Its "Business Is Going To Go To Hell."

President Trump on Wednesday continued to criticize the NFL over its players' protests during the national anthem. [USA Today](#) (9/27, Spain, 8.62M) reports that Trump told reporters "that the league's business 'is going to go to hell' if players are continued to be allowed to protest during the national anthem." The President "again claimed the NFL's TV ratings were down because of the protests," though "the league reported a 3% increase for Week 3 games compared to last year." Said Trump, "In my opinion, the NFL has to change, or you know what's going to happen? Their business is going to go to hell."

[Bloomberg News](#) (9/27, Epstein, 4.52M) further quoted Trump as saying, "I think the NFL is in a box, I think they're in a really bad box." He added, "You look what's happening with their ratings, frankly, the only thing doing well in the NFL is the pregame because everybody wants to see what's going on. You cannot have people disrespecting our national anthem, our flag, our country and that's what they're doing."

In a report that was published Tuesday night, [Politico](#) (9/26, Johnson, Isenstadt, 3.6M) said that Trump on Tuesday "defended his view that the National Football League should require athletes to stand for the national anthem." During "a fundraiser for his reelection campaign in midtown Manhattan," Trump – "according to an attendee" – told the gathering, "They have a rule, you can't dance in the end zone, you can't wear pink socks, one guy's mother had breast cancer and they wouldn't let him, you can't do anything! But you're allowed to sit down for the national anthem."

Drawing from Politico's report, the [New York Post](#) (9/27, Moore, 4.31M) said that Trump told the gathering "that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell could have stopped players' protests during the national anthem by suspending former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick when he first took a knee last year, according to a report on Wednesday. 'All Goodell had to do was say there's rules and you can't do it, suspend him for a couple games, you would never have had this,' Trump said." He added, "Now you have this whole thing going and it's a very dangerous thing 'cause we cannot let anyone disrespect our country like that."

Sessions Echoes Trump's Call For NFL Rule Requiring Players To Stand For

Anthem. Attorney General Sessions said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/27, 1.99M), "I believe that every American should, as a matter of propriety and love of country, should not place their political views in a situation where you don't stand for the pledge or the national anthem. Everybody should do that. The President is exactly right to say no matter what you think of Hillary Clinton or President Trump, you should stand when the national anthem is played. So he is correct to speak out against that." Sessions added, "I think people should stand. I think it should be a formal rule of the league. ... They should be able to say to the players, 'If you are on our field, in our game, paid by us, you should respect the flag and the national anthem.'"

On its website, [CBS Sports](#) (9/27, Wagner-McGough, 2.31M) reported that one day after Trump tweeted "that the NFL should require players to stand for the national anthem," Sessions on Wednesday "said the same thing" during his appearance on Fox News.

Kellyanne Conway said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/27, 1.64M), "About 12 percent of the NFL players took a knee and protested the other day. That means 88 percent did not. Many Americans support the President's position on this because the President is supporting the flag and everything that it stands for. ... This is about the President standing for the national anthem and the flag, and I think more importantly showing unity across the country for many people who agree with that."

Rep. Brian Mast (R-FL) said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#)  (9/27, 1.64M) that players who kneel during the anthem "are stealing this moment of historic unity, of patriotism, of celebration where you give your buddy a high five and you go out and there have a great day. They have taken that from us, that last moment of unity. And I think we have a right to be upset."

Lankford: "Russians And Their Troll Farms" Trying To Stir Controversy Over Anthem Protests. The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Barrett, 10.38M) reports, "Russian Internet trolls are trying to gin up even more controversy over NFL players taking a knee during the national anthem," according to Sen. James Lankford, who on Wednesday warned "that the United States should expect such divisive efforts to escalate in the next election." Lankford made the claim "in a hearing with the heads of the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and the National Counterterrorism Center. Russian trolls, he said, were cynically pushing both sides of the argument over whether players should take a knee at the playing of the national anthem before NFL games." Said Lankford,

"We watched even this weekend, the Russians and their troll farms, and their Internet folks, start hash-tagging out 'take a knee' and also hash-tagging out 'Boycott NFL.'"

WPost Examines How NFL Teams Responded To Trump's "Son Of A B--"

Remarks. Under the headline "Called Out By Trump, NFL Owners Took Different Paths To Present A United Front," the [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Clarke, Maske, 10.38M) reports on how the NFL "teams responded – both in tone and timing" – to Trump's Friday remarks that the owners should "fire any 'son of a b----' who took a knee in protest during the national anthem." The Post says the responses offered insight into "the differences among the franchises that runs counter to the common portrayal of the league as a monolithic enterprise, always in lockstep. The NFL doesn't like surprises. But Trump's remarks forced the league to improvise, and the hours and days that followed revealed differences both subtle and large among the owners, in how they do business and perceive their local markets, and in their political leanings."

Media Analyses: No Evidence NFL Ratings Down Due To Protests, Trump

Criticism. On its website, [ESPN](#) (9/27, 2.77M) reported, "The Nielsen company said Tuesday that through three weeks, viewership for national telecasts of NFL games was down 11 percent this season compared to 2016." Writing for [The Atlantic](#) (9/27, 1.64M), Derek Thompson says that Trump "has repeatedly said the NFL's ratings were 'WAY DOWN' due to protests. ... Is the president right? Yes and no. Yes, in that there is little question that football viewership...is in decline." However, "also no, since it's not clear that either" Trump "or the protests are the primary culprit."

Under the headline "Are NFL Player Protests 'Massively, Massively' Hurting TV Ratings?", Mike Snider writes for [USA Today](#) (9/27, 8.62M) that Trump "has linked the NFL's ratings, which he called 'massively, massively' down, and players kneeling during the anthem, suggesting they were turning fans away. The explanation for why the league's ratings are down is far more complicated," as "ratings for a variety of sports broadcasts have declined. NASCAR and the NBA have also drawn fewer TV viewers." And the "controversy in the past few days doesn't explain the down drift of ratings during the season's first two weeks, when any kneeling protest drew little attention, said Bruce Leichtman, president and principal analyst for Leichtman Research Group."

In Wake Of Trump Remarks, Democrat Green To Submit Articles Of

Impeachment. The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Debonis, 10.38M) reports Rep. Al Green (D-TX) last Friday watched "TV coverage of President Trump's Alabama rally," where the President said, "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, 'Get that son of a b---- off the field right now?'" Now, Green says "that he plans to introduce articles of impeachment next week and use special House procedures to bring them to a rapid floor vote, marking the first time that Trump would be subjected to an impeachment vote in Congress. The gambit is not expected to succeed, or even attract more than token support from Green's colleagues."

Navarro Tweets "Fake Picture" Of LeBron James Wearing Anti-Trump Shirt. The [Daily Caller](#) (9/27, Hasson, 521K) reported that CNN contributor Ana Navarro "apparently got fooled by a fake picture of Cleveland Cavaliers star LeBron James wearing an explicit anti-Trump shirt." In a tweet, Navarro "shared a picture of James wearing a shirt with a big middle finger on it above Trump's name and the phrase 'U SON OF A B*TCH,' an apparent reference to Trump's attack on NFL players who kneel during the national anthem. Navarro captioned the photo: 'Freedom of expression Makes America Great. Whether u approve or not, we're free to wear this. Could get u jailed or killed in some places.'" The Daily Caller added, "The image appears to be a photoshopped version of a picture from the 2016 NBA Finals."

CBS News Highlights Trump's "Misplays Of The Week." On the [CBS Evening News](#) (9/27, story 5, 2:20, 11.17M), Anthony Mason referred to what he described as "the misplays of the week" by Trump. CBS' Dean Reynolds went on to highlight, among other things: Trump's backing of the losing candidate in Tuesday's Alabama GOP Senate runoff; the President's multiple tweets about the NFL amid Puerto Rico's struggles to recover from the damage suffered at the hands of Hurricane Maria; Trump's claims that "the US relief effort [in Puerto Rico] was getting great reviews"; and "then today, after the latest congressional failure to repeal Obamacare," Trump informing "a crowd...in Indiana that repeal could actually have passed." Reynolds added, "In fact, the repeal effort never had the votes to pass, and yet he tweeted this morning, 'Virtually no President has accomplished what we have accomplished in the first nine months.'"

Packers Fans Balk At Team's National Anthem Plans. The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (9/27, Ryman, 628K) reports, "A request by Green Bay Packers players for fans to join them in a show of unity during the national anthem before their game Thursday apparently did little to calm the debate. Packers fans on Wednesday continued to blast the NFL, the team and players for what they perceive as showing disrespect for the nation, the flag, the military or the national anthem by sitting, kneeling, remaining in the locker room or locking arms during the national anthem." Said Packers director of public affairs Aaron Popkey, "We've had a steady stream

of feedback beginning Monday morning and it continued into Wednesday. We've heard on both sides of the matter." The Journal Sentinel adds, "The Packers play the Chicago Bears at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in a nationally televised game."

Abdul-Jabbar: Those Upset With Protests "Don't Like The Message." [USA Today](#) (9/27, Spain, 8.62M) reported that ex-NBA player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on Wednesday "said that the reason some people are upset over the NFL players taking a knee during the national anthem is that 'they don't like the message, so they're trying to find fault with the messenger.'" Abdul-Jabbar, who penned "a [column](#) for Hollywood Insider saying that he was proud of how athletes stood up against 'the racist, anti-veteran and anti-American statements by President Donald Trump,' pointed out what [ex-NFL quarterback] Colin Kaepernick was trying to raise awareness for something people don't want to talk about." Appearing on MSNBC, Abdul-Jabbar said that "what Colin was talking about is something that concerns black Americans every day. And you have protests and demonstrations across the country when people end up dead for no good reason. And Colin Kaepernick was using his platform to call attention to that. And people don't want to deal with that subject."

Blasting Anthem Protests, Stewart Rips NFL As "A Cartel." The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Portnoy, 10.38M) reports that Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chair Corey Stewart (R), who is mounting a 2018 bid to unseat Sen. Tim Kaine, on Wednesday "called the National Football League 'a cartel' for benefiting from federal antitrust protections while supporting players who take a knee during the national anthem." Speaking "in front of a downtown Washington office building that houses the NFL Players Association," Stewart listed "the names of Marines killed recently in Afghanistan and said NFL players – and owners – who take a knee during the national anthem to protest police brutality against minority communities are disrespecting the military." Stewart also called on Congress to repeal the NFL's antitrust protections, saying that if done, "perhaps owners would suffer, adding, 'Frankly I hope that those teams go bankrupt.'"

Guadagno, Murphy Differ On NFL's Anthem Protests. The [Asbury Park \(NJ\) Press](#) (9/27, Jordan, 355K) reports that Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno (R), who is battling ex-Goldman Sachs executive Phil Murphy (D) in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Chris Christie, says "it's a 'no-brainer' that NFL players should stand for the playing of the national anthem." However, Murphy, "who has a solid lead over Guadagno and other candidates in New Jersey's race for governor, says he takes 'my hat off to the players who stood tall and exercised their First Amendment rights.'"

Quinnipiac Poll: 56% Of US Voters Say Trump Not "Fit To Serve As President."

[Politico](#) (9/27, Goldberg, 3.6M) reported that in a Quinnipiac University [poll](#) of 1,412 US voters, taken Sept. 21-26, 56% of those surveyed said President Trump "is not 'fit to serve as president,'" while 42% said that he is fit to be commander in chief. In addition, 51% of those surveyed said "they are embarrassed to have Trump serve as president"; 59% said "Trump is not honest"; 60% said "he does not have good leadership skills"; and 61% said "he does not share their values." By a 69%-26% margin, those surveyed said "that Trump should stop tweeting."

NYTimes' "The Upshot" Lists Trump's Predictions On Policy Goals.

Under the heading "'Soon,' 'Very Soon,' 'Eventually': A Detailed List Of Things Trump Said Would Happen," "The Upshot" blog on the website of the [New York Times](#) (9/27, Andrews, Qiu, Quealy, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reported that President Trump "regularly says that his policy goals – an Obamacare repeal, an infrastructure bill, an overhaul of the tax code, a border wall, among others – will happen 'soon,' 'very soon,' 'very, very soon,' 'in the coming weeks' or even 'immediately.' This tendency is perhaps most prominent in Mr. Trump's descriptions of Republicans' efforts to repeal and replace Obamacare." The piece goes on to offer, "in chronological order," a list of "how Mr. Trump has described what would happen to Obamacare" and "several other policy goals since his election."

Ads Placed On Facebook By Russians "Railed Against Illegal Immigrants."

On [ABC World News Tonight](#)  (9/27, story 6, 2:40, Muir, 14.63M), Brian Ross reported on "some of the posts and ads congressional investigators say the Russians planted on Facebook as part of the Kremlin's effort to help get Donald Trump elected. Americans would have no idea what they were reading was written by the Russians. They railed against illegal immigrants. This one warns against 'so-called refugees jeopardizing our national security.' This ad uses a popular cartoon: 'Dora the Explorer knows how easy it is to cross the US border. It's like a children's game.'"

Dylan Byers reported on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/27, 554K) that at least one of the Facebook ads bought by a "Russian troll farm" was a Black Lives Matter ad "targeted specifically" to Baltimore, Maryland and Ferguson, Missouri – "two cities which had been the site of some of the largest and most violent protests over police shootings of

African-American men.”

Sen. Richard Blumenthal said on [CNN's Situation Room](#)  (9/27, 554K) the ads were “designed to sow discord, divide us,” and “destabilize our democracy.” When Wolf Blitzer asked how the Russians knew which parts of the US to target, Blumenthal replied, “There is speculation, to be absolutely blunt, that they received that help from the Trump campaign, which had digital information to enable its own targeting.”

Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) said on [CNN's The Lead](#)  (9/27, 320K) that “we have to be on offense as well. ... They are doing the same thing all through Europe. ... There is nothing Vladimir Putin fears more than losing his own election. So I think we need to talk about fighting fire with fire here to some extent as well.”

Zuckerberg Says Facebook May Have Been Used To Influence Election. [NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/27, story 10, 0:30, Holt, 16.61M) reported that Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Wednesday “said he was sorry for disputing concerns that Facebook may have been used to influence the outcome of the last election.” Zuckerberg stated, “calling that ‘crazy’ was dismissive, and I regret it.” [Reuters](#) (9/27) reports that President Trump criticized Facebook as “anti-Trump” in a Wednesday tweet, but Zuckerberg denied this.

Twitter, Google Also Under Scrutiny. The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Wakabayashi, Shane, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, “There is evidence that Twitter may have been used even more extensively than Facebook in the Russian influence campaign.” In addition to “Russia-linked Twitter accounts that posed as Americans, the platform was also used for large-scale automated messaging, using ‘bot’ accounts to spread false stories and promote news articles about emails from Democratic operatives that had been obtained by Russian hackers.” [Politico](#) (9/27, Dawsey, Watkins, 3.6M) reports that in addition to Facebook and Twitter, “the Senate Intelligence Committee intends to call Google executives” to testify on “how Russia’s government might have exploited American social media and Internet companies during the 2016 campaign.”

House Intelligence Committee ranking member Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#)  (9/27, 959K), “There is bipartisan interest in having these social media companies, not just Facebook, but Twitter too, come and testify in open session before our committee. I would like to see us, frankly, have the ability to display these for the public. You really need to see them, I’m convinced, to recognize how cynical an effort this was by the Kremlin, how they sought to accentuate those divisions...and drive American against American.”

Feinstein Says Senate Judiciary Committee Will Subpoena Manafort. The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Demirjian, 10.38M) reports that Senate Judiciary Committee ranking Democrat Sen. Dianne Feinstein said on Wednesday that the committee intends to “serve former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort with a subpoena to testify at a hearing in its investigation of Russian interference.”

Nunes To Meet With Rosenstein. The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Noble, 541K) reports that House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes “will meet Thursday behind closed doors with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein rather than drag the attorney general and FBI director before the committee to testify about their failure to turn over subpoenaed documents related to the ongoing Russia investigation.”

Ex-NSA Contractor Winner Told FBI She Smuggled Document In Pantyhose. [Politico](#) (9/27, Gerstein, 3.6M) reports that former National Security Agency contractor Reality Winner, who is “accused of leaking a classified report on Russian hacking” aimed at the 2016 election, told FBI agents that she “smuggled the document out of a high security intelligence facility in her pantyhose.” Winner told agents “that she knew the report implicated intelligence sources and methods,” but said that she “thought it was likely the flood of leaks and disclosures on the topic...had already exposed those techniques.”

House Judiciary Committee Democrats Challenge Validity Of Arpaio Pardon.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Dinan, 541K) reports that senior House Judiciary Committee Democrats have filed a brief urging a federal judge “to ignore President Trump’s pardon” of ex-Maricopa County, Arizona sheriff Joe Arpaio “and carry out sentencing for the controversial lawman.” They argue that “only courts can be involved in contempt of court cases, and they said by trying to pardon someone for the offense Mr. Trump is upsetting the careful separation of powers between the branches.” However, “experts on presidential pardons say there are myriad examples of pardons or commutations issued in contempt cases.”

EPA Threatens To End Funding For DOJ Environment Division

. The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Savage, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that EPA Administrator Pruitt has “quietly” directed the EPA to threaten to “cut off a major funding source for the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division,” according to budget documents and interviews. The Justice division handles

litigation on behalf of the EPA's Superfund program that addresses pollution, and the EPA "reimburses the Justice Department for that work, paying more than \$20 million annually in recent years." Pruitt, however, "has signaled that he wants to end those payments, potentially carving a major hole in the division's budget, in a little-noticed line in the E.P.A.'s budget proposal in the spring."

AP Analysis: Zinke Supports Monument Designations In Montana, But Not Elsewhere.

The [AP](#) (9/27, Brown) writes that though Interior Secretary Zinke "has closely followed his boss' playbook, encouraging mining and drilling on public lands and reducing the size of national monuments," which President Trump has "called a 'massive land grab' by his Democratic predecessors," in his home state of Montana, where Zinke "has long harbored higher political ambitions [he] is recommending Trump create a new national monument out of the forests bordering Glacier National Park." Zinke also "wants to curb mining along Montana's border with Yellowstone National Park. That could discourage development of two proposed mines that supporters say would offer higher paying jobs than tourism."

WPost Analysis: Critics Say Gorsuch Speeches Raise Questions About His Independence.

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Barnes, 10.38M) reports, "No member of Congress was more essential to Neil M. Gorsuch's ascent to the Supreme Court" than Senate Majority Leader McConnell, who blocked President Obama's "nominee for the job and then spearheaded the confirmation process for Gorsuch." The Post says that Gorsuch and McConnell last week traveled together in Kentucky "for a tour of the senator's alma maters. ... Critics likened it to a 'victory lap' for McConnell and said it amplified questions that were already being asked about Gorsuch's independence from the Republicans who supported him in a highly partisan confirmation battle." The Post adds that Gorsuch "has accepted an invitation to speak to a conservative legal scholarship group Thursday at Trump International Hotel in Washington."

Ginsburg Says Sexism Was "Major, Major Factor" In Clinton's Loss To Trump.

Meanwhile, in another report, the [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Barnes, 10.38M) says that Justice Ginsburg "agreed in an interview Tuesday night sexism was a 'major, major factor' in Hillary Clinton's loss to Donald Trump last November. Appearing before an audience at New York City's 92nd St. Y, Ginsburg was asked by CBS' Charlie Rose whether she thought sexism played a role in the presidential election results." Ginsburg responded, "I have no doubt that it did." Pressed further on the subject, Ginsburg added, "There are so many things that might have been decisive. But that was a major, major factor."

[Politico](#) (9/27, Nelson, 3.6M) reported that Ginsburg, "among the court's reliably liberal members, was critical of...Trump during the 2016 campaign, calling him a 'faker' and telling an interviewer that 'I don't even want to contemplate' the idea of him being elected. She later walked back those statements, calling them 'ill-advised.'"

Fed Data Show Wealth Gap Widening In US.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Casselman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that despite broad wealth growth among Americans families "across racial, educational and economic categories" over the past three years, the "biggest gains continued to flow to the richest Americans," according to Federal Reserve data released Wednesday. The data showed a typical family "had a net worth of \$97,300 in 2016, up 16 percent from 2013 after adjusting for inflation," but wealth also became more "concentrated." The richest 1 percent of households "controlled 38.6 percent of total wealth in 2016, up from 36.3 percent in 2013"; the bottom 90 percent off households "controlled 22.8 percent of all wealth."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Long, Jan, 10.38M) reports that black households "went from \$13,600 in net worth in 2013 to \$17,600 in 2016," and Hispanic households "went from \$14,200 to \$20,700 over the same time frame." Additionally, the median net worth of people with only a high school diploma "jumped almost a quarter to \$67,100."

Stocks Closed Up Wednesday.

[Reuters](#) (9/27, Mikolajczak) reports that stocks gained on Wednesday, "powered by growing expectations for a December interest rate hike and on hopes" that the Trump Administration "may be making progress on a tax plan." The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed up 56.39 at 22,340.71, while the S&P 500 was up 10.20 to 2,507.04, and the Nasdaq up 73.10 to 6,453.26.

Some Economists Believe Fast Food No-Hires Rules Contributing To Wage Stagnation.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Abrams, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that some economists think that an "obscure clause buried in many fast-food franchise agreements" – a clause that prohibits franchisees from hiring workers away from each other – is decreasing worker mobility and contributing to wage stagnation in the country. According to Princeton economist Alan B. Krueger, the no-hires rules "affect more than 70,000 restaurants – or more than a quarter of the fast-food outlets in the United States."

Official Testifies Aide Cited Menendez's Name To Advocate For Melgen.

In continuing coverage of the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez and his longtime friend and donor, eye doctor Salomon Melgen, the [AP](#) (9/27, Porter) reports that an aide to Menendez "used his boss's name to push for the settlement of a multimillion-dollar Medicare dispute involving" Melgen, "a former health administrator testified" yesterday. The aide "was 'argumentative and persistent' and said...Melgen was 'a personal friend of the senator,' said Louis Jacques of a 2009 phone call. Jacques was an administrator with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and was providing analysis on Melgen's billing dispute with Medicare." Jacques testified that the aide said "that 'bad medicine is not illegal, and Medicare should pay these claims.' The dispute involved Melgen's practice of 'multi-dosing,' or treating patients with more than one dose from a vial of medicine, a practice Jacques testified he felt could pose a safety risk for patients."

Harkin Testifies At Menendez Trial About Meeting With Melgen. [Politico](#) (9/27, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that ex-Sen. Tom Harkin on Wednesday testified that in May of 2011, Menendez asked him to meet with Melgen. Harkin said, "Well, it's senatorial courtesy. If a senator asks you to meet with someone, you usually meet with them." Politico added, "The meeting is one of the acts the Department of Justice alleges Menendez took to aid Melgen, in exchange for private jet flights, lavish vacations and hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions." However, "according to Harkin and a former Harkin staffer who testified after him, nothing ever came of" the meeting, which "was about Melgen's \$8.9 billing dispute with the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services. ... Harkin at the time chaired the Senate health committee, which oversees CMS."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Maimon, Barrett, 10.38M) reports, "Much of Harkin's testimony seemed to undercut a central premise of the government's case against Menendez – the favors he did for Melgen were proof of criminal corruption, not the regular give-and-take of politics." During "cross-examination, Harkin said it 'was quite common' for Senate colleagues to ask for meetings about health-care issues." Of his meeting with Melgen, Harkin said, "I just basically listened. ... I don't remember his asking me to do anything." Harkin "said he didn't meet again with Menendez or Melgen to discuss the issue."

Under the headline "Tom Harkin Recalls Meeting With Menendez And Melgen, And Not Much Else," the [New York Times](#) (9/27, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that of the issue, Harkin "said he instructed his staff to 'keep tabs on it,' and that was the extent of his involvement." The Times says Harkin's "testimony was neither explosive nor particularly revelatory."

NYTimes Analysis: Overturned Convictions May Loom Large In Menendez Case.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Corasaniti, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that ex-New York legislative leaders Sheldon Silver and Dean Skelos were subjects of "two of the most notable corruption convictions in recent political history," but "in a span of less than three months, both convictions were overturned. The legal turn of events in the cases against" those two Democrats "is almost certain to resonate in" Menendez's case. The Times says that the convictions of Silver and Skelos were overturned after the US Supreme Court last year overturned ex-Gov. Bob McDonnell's conviction. In its ruling the High Court "severely narrowed the definition of the kinds of official acts a politician must perform to be considered as having partaken in an illegal quid pro quo."

Obama Says He Was Moved To Tears When Dropping Off Daughter At Harvard.

[NBC Nightly News](#)  (9/27, story 12, 0:20, Holt, 16.61M) reported that former President Obama "said he was moved to tears" when dropping his daughter Malia off at Harvard for the beginning of the school year last month.

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Fortin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports Obama described the moment on Monday during a speech for the Beau Biden Foundation for the Protection of Children. Obama said, "I dropped off Malia at college, and I was saying to Joe and Jill that it was a little bit like open-heart surgery, and I was proud that I did not cry in front of her. But on the way back, the Secret Service was all looking straight ahead pretending they weren't hearing me as I sniffled and blew my nose. It was rough."

Supreme Court Slated To Hear Arguments On Role Of Partisanship In Gerrymandering.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Swoyer, 541K) reports that the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments in early October on just how much of a role partisanship can play when state legislatures draw state legislative and congressional district maps in the practice commonly known as gerrymandering. Although the court has long accepted partisanship in the process, opponents of gerrymandering "are demanding the courts to step in and put a stop to it." The case the court will consider centers on Wisconsin's General Assembly map, which a low court struck down as too partisan.

Lawsuits Seek To Change Electoral College's Winner-Take-All System By 2020.

The [Washington Times](#) (9/27, Richardson, 541K) reports that the nonprofit Equal Citizens launched a project on September 14 "aimed at filing lawsuits on behalf of a Republican voter in a blue state and a Democratic voter in a red state, with the goal of overturning" the US electoral college's "winner-take-all system in time for the 2020 presidential race." Equal Citizens founder Lawrence Lessig said the winner-take-all system – by which a presidential candidate gains all electoral votes from a state – "has reduced the presidential race to a fight over a 'handful of battleground states instead of a national referendum.'" Lessig and others seek "to require states to implement a system in which electors cast ballots based on the percentage of the popular vote."

Brown Signs Bill Moving California's Presidential Primary Up To Early March.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (9/27, Myers, 4.49M) reports that Gov. Jerry Brown, supporting "an effort for California to claim a bigger share of the attention from presidential candidates," on Wednesday "signed a bill moving the state's primary elections to early March." California now "will hold its presidential primary on March 3, 2020." The Times adds, "Democrats who embraced the push for an early primary said they were motivated in part by the election of President Trump, whose successful bid for the" GOP "nomination was well on its way to reality by the time California voters cast ballots on June 7, 2016. ... Under current projections, California's primary would come fifth in the presidential nominating process in 2020 – following caucuses in Iowa and Nevada and primaries in New Hampshire and South Carolina."

[Reuters](#) (9/27, Bernstein) reports that California, "which voted heavily for Democrat Hillary Clinton in November's presidential election, has traditionally held its primary so late that Democratic and Republican voters in other states had essentially already chosen their parties' candidates." Said California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, "The Golden State will no longer be relegated to last place in the presidential nominating process. Candidates will not be able to ignore the largest, most diverse state in the nation as they seek our country's highest office." The [AP](#) (9/27, Ronayne) reports, "Holding an earlier primary in California, which is expensive to campaign in, could shake up the nominating contests by giving an earlier edge to candidates with more money." The new law "puts the state's primary on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March, often known as 'Super Tuesday,' when as many as a dozen states hold nominating contests."

The [Huffington Post](#) (9/27, Reilly, 5.74M) reported that California "is an overwhelmingly Democratic state – roughly 45 percent of state voters are registered as Democrats, versus 26 percent as Republicans." [The Hill](#) (9/27, Greenwood, 1.68M) reported, "The Democratic Party could penalize California for moving up its primary by stripping dozens of delegates from the state's overall count. But according to the Sacramento Bee, California would still make up a sizable share of the delegates available up to that point in the nominating process." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Lazo, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) also reports on the story.

Michele Obama: Women "Who Voted Against Hillary Clinton Voted Against Their Own Voice."

[Boston](#) (9/27, Dwyer, 760K) reported that ex-first lady Michelle Obama on Wednesday "criticized women who voted for President Donald Trump during a wide-ranging conversation in Boston." Obama, speaking "during a question-and-answer session with author Roxane Gay at Inbound, a marketing conference that has attracted an assortment of famous speakers this week," told the crowd, "Any woman who voted against Hillary Clinton voted against their own voice." The report added that Obama "maintained that she and her husband, former President Barack Obama, still support Trump and want him to be successful."

Drawing from a BBC [story](#) (9/27, 1.61M), the [New York Post](#) (9/27, Tacopino, 4.31M) reports that Mrs. Obama said "women who backed the GOP nominee chose what they were 'supposed to like.'" While "a majority of white female voters backed [President] Trump, Michelle Obama said 'to me that just says, you don't like your voice. You like

the thing you're told to like."

Hillary Clinton To Raise Cash For Northam At October 4 Event In New York.

The [AP](#) (9/27) reports that Hillary Clinton is slated to host a fundraising event next month for Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D), who is battling Ed Gillespie (R) in this fall's race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe. The AP says an invitation it obtained says the event will be held "in New York on Oct. 4." The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Schneider, 10.38M) reports, "The race has garnered national attention as a proxy for partisan battles in Washington, with Northam attempting to tie Gillespie to President Trump, who remains deeply unpopular in much of Virginia. The state was the only one in the South that went for Clinton in last fall's presidential election, by a healthy 5-point margin."

Media Analyses: Moore's Alabama Victory Is A Defeat For Trump, McConnell, And GOP.

The [CBS Evening News](#)  (9/27, story 4, 2:05, Mason, 11.17M) reported, "The President's choice in the Republican Senate runoff in Alabama yesterday was defeated. Incumbent Luther Strange lost to Roy Moore, who now faces Democrat Doug Jones in a special election in December." CBS' Chip Reid said that as a judge, Moore "sometimes gave the Bible precedence over the Constitution. ... He's called American Indians 'Reds,' and Asian America 'Yellows.' He's called Islam a false religion. He's said homosexual activity should be illegal. He reportedly said in February that the 9/11 attacks might have been punishment for America's turning away from God."

The [New York Times](#) (9/27, Burns, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) writes that "Strange's demise, senior party strategists and conservative activists said Wednesday, makes it likelier that Republican incumbents in the House and Senate will face serious primary challenges in 2018, fueled by anger at the party's apparent ineptitude at wielding power in Washington." Dan Balz of the [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) writes, "The Republican Party has become an unstable and potentially unsustainable coalition. The danger has been apparent from the day President Trump began his quest for the White House," and Moore's victory "provided the exclamation point." His win "was telling for what it showed: that the Trump message has more power at the grass-roots than the president himself."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/27, Costa, 10.38M) writes on its front page that Strange's defeat leaves Trump "further weakened and isolated," and that his "political vitality within his party – counted upon by Republicans who fear primary challenges in next year's midterm elections – suddenly stands in question." [Breitbart](#) (9/27, Hayward, 2.42M) reports that Steve Bannon, who campaigned for Moore, told Breitbart News Daily, "It was basically grassroots muscle versus corporate cash, and it was a blowout." In his [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) column, E.J. Dionne writes that "Bannon defeated Donald Trump" on Tuesday.

David Jackson of [USA Today](#) (9/27, 8.62M) writes, "President Trump is on something of a losing streak, and the Republican Party may be following suit." Strange's defeat "came just hours after Senate Republicans announced they could not wrangle enough GOP votes to move forward with an effort to repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act. Sheryl Gay Stolberg writes in the [New York Times](#) (9/27, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) that while Senate Majority Leader McConnell "is not a man who leaves things to chance," he "gambled – and lost big" – on both Strange and on "the party's last-ditch attempt" to repeal the ACA, leaving McConnell looking "vulnerable."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) says in an editorial that Alabama Republicans' frustrations over McConnell's inability to get ACA repeal through may have tipped the balance to Moore. But Karl Rove writes in his [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) column that having Moore in the Senate instead of Strange will make it even harder for the party leadership to get anything done.

Democrats See Chance At Unexpected Senate Pickup. [Politico](#) (9/27, DeBenedetti, 3.6M) writes, "If Democrats are ever going to have a shot – however remote – at a Senate seat in Alabama, this is it." Republicans "say Democrats are deluding themselves" if they think they can win in a state that Trump took by 28 points last year. But Democrats say that Moore "provides the perfect contrast" with their nominee, former US attorney Doug Jones. Joe Biden will campaign for Jones next week, and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee is considering whether to invest in the contest.

Raft Of Republicans Likely To Enter 2018 Race To Succeed Corker.

The [AP](#) (9/27, Schelzig) reports that Sen. Bob Corker's Tuesday announcement that he won't seek reelection next year has "set off a frenzy of speculation about who will try to succeed him. Attention quickly turned to" term-limited Gov. Bill Haslam, "a close family friend of Corker's." The AP says, "Tom Ingram, a campaign strategist for both Corker

and Haslam, said he expects the governor to give a Senate bid serious consideration." The AP adds that ex-Americans for Prosperity state director Andy Ogles is currently the only announce GOP candidate, though a raft of other Republicans are thought to be mulling runs.

US News & World Report (9/27, Catanese, 1.73M) reported that Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) "is expected to enter the race," according to "a source familiar with the planning." US News added that state Sen. Mark Green (R), "who was contemplating a Senate bid and consulted with Breitbart News chief Steve Bannon this week, instead will pursue Blackburn's House seat, according to the source." The Tennessean (9/27, Ebert, 499K) reports that ex-Rep. Stephen Fincher (R) "is planning to decide by the week's end if he wants to" enter the contest. Fincher on Wednesday said, "Hopefully by Friday we will be able to make a firm decision." Fincher "said he met with his family Tuesday night to discuss the idea to ensure that they're on board with whatever decision is made."

More Democrats Now Mulling Runs. The Tennessean (9/27, Garrison, 499K) reports that state Sen. Jeff Yarbrow (D) on Wednesday said that "he's considering" a bid to succeed Corker. In a statement, Yarbrow said, "The United States Senate is broken. They're putting party before country and politics ahead of people. No single person can fix Washington, but all of us have to do our part. Over the next few weeks, I'll be talking with my family and meeting with folks across the state to determine what my part should be." The Tennessean adds that Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke (D) and businessman Bill Freeman (D) also "have said they are also considering runs." Attorney James Mackler (D) announced a Senate run earlier this year.

Corker Suggests A 2018 Run For Governor Could Be A Possibility. The AP (9/27, Schelzig) reports that Corker "gave few hints Wednesday on his political future," though "he appeared to leave the door slightly ajar on a potential run for Tennessee governor next year." Speaking with reporters, Corker said "that he plans to 'serve in some capacity,' but that he's not actively pursuing any other office at the moment." Of a potential gubernatorial bid, Corker said, "If that were something that I was going to attempt to pursue, it would have been good to think about that a year ago. ... But over the course of the next 15 months, who knows what might happen?" The AP adds, "The filing deadline for governor's race is April."

Politico (9/27, Everett, 3.6M) reported that Corker on Wednesday said that it is "'possible' but not necessarily likely that former NFL quarterback Peyton Manning will" enter the race. Said Corker, "Peyton Manning is the kind of guy that would be great in public office. ... I think it's possible. Is it likely? I don't think so." Manning played football at the University of Tennessee. However, the AP (9/27) reports that Manning on Wednesday "ruled out a" run, "saying in a sports radio interview" with WGFX-FM "that he is giving 'zero consideration' to running." Said Manning, "I certainly have an interest in politics and in our country. I just have zero interest in being a politician."

Rubio Won't Challenge Risch For Foreign Relations Chairmanship. Meanwhile, Politico (9/27, Kim, Schor, 3.6M) reported that Sen. Marco Rubio "said Wednesday that he has no interest in seeking the chairmanship of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee, clearing the way for" Sen. Jim Risch to succeed Corker as head of the panel. With Corker retiring, Risch "is next in seniority on the panel, although Rubio...could have made a play for it as well. But Rubio responded 'no' when asked whether he was interested in vying for the chairmanship in 2019." Said Rubio, "Jim Risch wants to be chairman. I'll support him."

The Hill (9/27, Carney, 1.68M) reported, "Asked on Wednesday if he wanted to take over after Corker retires, Risch remained tight lipped but noted the Senate Republican Conference has rules that would determine who should succeed Corker. 'Right now I'm a committee chairman of another committee. I've got 15 months left to serve there. I'm totally focused on that. When we're done with this you all know exactly where this is going,' Risch told reporters." The Washington Post (9/27, Demirjian, Kane, 10.38M) reports that Risch on Wednesday "stressed that seniority will be the deciding factor" on whom chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee - "meaning if he wants it, he will get it. 'We have a long, clear history of how these things are resolved in the Senate,' he said. 'We will follow that route when we get there.'"

Florida Chamber Poll: Scott Leads Nelson 47%-45% In Hypothetical Senate Race.

Florida Politics (9/27, Gancarski) reported that a Florida Chamber of Commerce poll of 615 Florida likely voters, taken Sept. 17-24, shows term-limited Gov. Rick Scott leading Sen. Bill Nelson 47%-45% in a hypothetical 2018 Senate race. Nelson is up for reelection next year and Scott is expected to challenge the Democrat. According to the poll, Scott's "fortunes are buoyed by key metrics driven by his handling of Hurricane Irma, which include 56 percent of likely voters thinking Florida is headed in the right direction, and 91 percent of Floridians - including 84 percent of Democrats - approving of his crisis management in the storm." The poll shows President Trump's approval rating at 48%, with 50% disapproving.

Poll: Republican Putnam Leads Hypothetical Florida Gubernatorial Primary, General Election.

In a report on the 2018 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Rick Scott, [Florida Politics](#) (9/27, Gancarski) said that a Florida Chamber of Commerce poll of 256 Florida likely GOP voters, taken Sept. 14-21, shows state Ag Commissioner Adam Putnam leading a hypothetical Republican primary with 26%, followed by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL) at 9%, state Sen. Jack Latvala at 2%, and state House Speaker Richard Corcoran at 1%. Of those tested in the poll, only Putnam and Latvala are announced candidates. In hypothetical general election matchups (615 likely voters), Putnam leads ex-Rep. Gwen Graham (D-FL) 39%-37%; attorney John Morgan 40%-37%; Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum 40%-33%; Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine 40%-32%; and businessman Chris King 40%-31%. Of the Democrats tested, only Levine and Morgan aren't announced candidates.

Poll: Though Not An Announced Candidate, Morgan Leads Hypothetical Democratic Field. In another report, [Florida Politics](#) (9/27, Gancarski) said that a Florida Chamber of Commerce poll of 263 Florida likely Democratic voters, taken Sept. 14-21, shows Morgan leading a hypothetical race for the Democratic nomination with 23%, followed by Graham at 15%, Gillum at 6%, Levine at 4% and King at 2%; 44% were undecided.

WPost Profiles Rock Band Prophets Of Rage.

Under the headline "Can Protest Rock Still Make Noise In Trump's America?", Chris Richards – writing for the [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) – profiles the rock band Prophets of Rage. Richards, who heard the band perform recently Washington's 9:30 Club, writes that the group's "music left some question marks floating in the air, including: What do we want from a protest song in an era of alternative facts, Russian meddling, white-supremacist tiki torches and Pepe the hate-frog? And what does protest music want from us? Are we sure it should still sound like rock-and-roll? Should it even sound like music?"

Will: District Of Columbia Council's Soda Tax Rejects Statutory Limits, Ignores Consequences.

In his [Washington Post](#) (9/27, 10.38M) column, George Will criticizes the District of Columbia Council's recent decision to impose a tax, effective in 2018, on sugary soft drinks "raising the price of a 2-liter bottle of soda by about \$1.18." Will argues that University of Washington research into a similar tax by Seattle's city council "concluded that the costs to low-wage Seattle workers have been three times larger than the benefits," with 5,000 jobs lost and wages reduced as a result of reduced hours. Will notes that Seattle's city council now faces a suit challenging the tax, and he concludes that the Council "must hope" that Washington state's Supreme Court, "which is very liberal, can be persuaded, in a third consideration of unchanging language, to say that constitutional and statutory facts can be made to disappear in a mist of interpretations."

Education Advocate: For Sake Of Free Debate, Colleges Must Address Student Violence.

In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/27, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) op-ed, Foundation for Individual Rights in Education Executive Director Robert Shibley writes that colleges must address the recent growing violence on campuses by student activists and ensure that what he calls the heckler's veto does not replace reasoned debate.

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[GOP Tax Overhaul Aims For Corporate Cuts, Simpler Code](#)
[SEC Probes Departure Of PepsiCo's Former Top Lawyer](#)
[Retail Stores Made Elmira, NY, An Unlikely Success—Now They're Gone](#)
[Health Insurers Stay In ACA Despite Fears Of Last-Minute Exits](#)

New York Times:

[Trump Proposes The Most Sweeping Tax Overhaul In Decades](#)

[Trump Tax Plan Benefits Wealthy, Including Trump](#)
[Hugh Hefner, Who Built Playboy Empire And Embodied It, Dies At 91](#)
[Roy Moore's Alabama Victory Sets Off Talk Of A GOP Insurrection](#)
[In The Virgin Islands, Hurricane Maria Drowned What Irma Didn't Destroy](#)
[Catalan Officials Squeezed As Madrid Tries To Stop Independence Vote](#)
[In College Basketball Scandal, Follow The Money ... And The Shoes](#)
[North Korea Skaters Seek Olympic Bid, And Diplomats Cheer](#)

Washington Post:

[GOP Proposes Deep Tax Cuts With Few Details](#)
[Inequality Gaps Persist Despite Widespread Gains](#)
['Victory Lap'? Gorsuch's Critics Cry Foul Over Speeches](#)
[US Sends Military Assets To Aid In Puerto Rico Recovery](#)
[Ala. Loss Leaves Trump Weakened, Isolated](#)

Financial Times:

[Donald Trump Seeks To Slash US Corporate Tax Rate](#)
[South Africa Trade Union March Demands Zuma Step Down](#)
[US Move Against Bombardier Risks Reprisals](#)
[Wolfgang Schäuble To Step Down As German Finance Minister](#)

Washington Times:

[FBI Pursuing Equal Number Of Domestic Terrorism And Jihadi Threats, Director Says](#)
['Revolutionary Change': Trump Promises Major Tax Relief For American Workers, Businesses](#)
[Lawsuits Aim To Change Winner-Take-All Electoral College System By 2020 Presidential Race](#)
[Both Sides Make Emotional Pleas As Lawmakers Oppose Physician-Assisted Suicide In D.C.](#)
[Bloated Cost, Poor Performance Of U.S.-Made Blimp Result In Rare Rebuke Of Thai Military](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane Tracking; Afghanistan-Rocket Attack; Russia Meddling Investigation-Facebook; NCAA Bribery Scandal; Sacramento Police Standoff; Ukraine Military Base Explosion; Killer Clown Murder Case; Highway Standoff; Southwest-Passenger De-Boarded; Delta-On Flight Texting; Adopted Eastern European Orphans.
CBS: Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Hurricane-Puerto Rico Health Crisis; White House-Tax Reform; Alabama GOP Senate Runoff; White House-Agenda Misplays; White House-Border Wall; NCAA Bribery Scandal; White House-Refugee Limit; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; Switzerland-Longest Suspension Footbridge.
NBC: Hurricane-Puerto Rico 1; Hurricane-Puerto Rico 2; Hurricane Tracking; White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; NCAA Bribery Scandal; Dead North Korean Prisoner-Parents Interview; Afghanistan-Rocket Attack; Health-Food Allergies; Russia Meddling Investigation-Facebook; Delta-On Flight Texting; Obama-Daughter Goes To College; Disney World-Alligator Attack Aftermath.

Network TV At A Glance:

Hurricane – 12 minutes, 10 seconds
White House-Tax Reform – 7 minutes, 20 seconds
Trump Administration-Excessive Spending – 5 minutes, 10 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; California National Park Accident; Wall Street News.
CBS: White House-Tax Reform; Trump Administration-Excessive Spending; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; New York City-School Stabbing; California National Park Accident.
FOX: White House-Tax Reform; California National Park Accident.
NPR: Hugh Hefner Dies; White House-Tax Reform; Hurricane-Puerto Rico; Japan-Parliament Reelection.

Washington's Schedule

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Meets with Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke; participates in the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the National Security Council; greets Vice Premier Liu Yandong of the People's Republic of China.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Meets with business leaders and Michigan families to discuss the need for tax reform; delivers formal remarks regarding tax reform; participates in a tour of Weldall Manufacturing, Inc.; meets with local business leaders, community officials, and Wisconsin families to discuss the need for tax reform; participates in a Republican National Committee reception.

US Senate: 9:30 AM Senate Agriculture Committee hearing on rural development, energy programs, and the Farm Bill – Hearing on 'Rural Development and Energy Programs: Perspectives for the 2018 Farm Bill', with testimony from U.S. Department of Agriculture's Anne Hazlett; USDA Rural Housing Service Acting Administrator Richard Davis; USDA Rural Business-Cooperative Service Acting Administrator Chadwick Parker; USDA Rural Utilities Service Acting Administrator Christopher McLean; Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development Executive Director Aleta Botts; Kansas Rural Water Association General Manager Elmer Ronnebaum; Coweta-Fayette EMC President/CEO Christopher Stephens; Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative CEO Denny Law; Iowa State University NSF Engineering Research Center for Biorenewable Chemicals Director Dr Brent Shanks; and Harvest Energy Solutions President Mark Olinyk Location: Hart Senate Office Building, Rm 216, Washington, DC <http://agriculture.senate.gov/>

9:30 AM Senate Judiciary Committee Executive Business Meeting – Executive Business Meeting, with agenda including nominations of Amy Coney Barrett and Joan Louise Larsen to be U.S. Circuit Judges for the Sixth Circuit; Brian Allen Benczkowski to be Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division; Eric Dreiband to be Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division; William Campbell Jr. to be U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee; Thomas Lee Robinson Parker to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee; Halsey Frank to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Maine; D. Michael Hurst Jr. to be U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi; Jeffrey Jensen to be U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri; Thomas Kirsch II to be U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana; and William Powell to be U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of West Virginia, as well as 'S. 1766, SAFER Act of 2017' Location: Rm 226, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://judiciary.senate.gov/>

9:30 AM Senate Banking Committee hearing on North Korea – Hearing on 'Evaluating Sanctions Enforcement and Policy Options on North Korea: Administration Perspective', with testimony from Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Crimes Sigal Mandelker; and Acting Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Susan Thornton * Earlier this week, the Department of the Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control designated eight North Korean banks and 26 individuals linked to North Korean financial networks in response to the country's 'ongoing development of weapons of mass destruction and continued violations of United Nations Security Council Resolutions' Location: Rm 538, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://banking.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Transportation subcommittee hearing on TSA modernization – Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee hearing on 'TSA Modernization: Improvements to Aviation Security', with testimony from Springfield-Branson National Airport Director of Aviation Brian Weller; Cargo Airline Association President Stephen Alterman; Smiths Group Vice President of Government Relations Sissy Pressnell; and International Air Transport Association's Michael White Location: Russell Senate Office Building, Rm 253, Washington, DC <http://commerce.senate.gov> <https://twitter.com/SenateCommerce>

4:00 PM Senate Indian Affairs roundtable on federal permitting and infrastructure project review – Senate Committee on Indian Affairs roundtable discussion on 'Best Practices in Tribal Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement: Federal Permitting and Infrastructure Project Review in Indian Country' Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, Rm 628, Washington, DC <http://indian.senate.gov> <https://twitter.com/IndianCommittee>

Senate HELP Committee Executive Session – Executive Session, with agenda including nominations of Patrick Pizzella to be Deputy Secretary of Labor; Janet Dhillon and Dr Daniel Gade to be Equal Employment Opportunity Commission members (with Dhillon to be chair, upon confirmation); and Carlos Muniz to be Department of Education General Counsel Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC <http://help.senate.gov/>

US House: 9:00 AM House meets for legislative business – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda expected to include completion of consideration of 'H.R. 2792 – Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act of 2017' and 'H.R. 3823 – Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act' Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

9:00 AM POSTPONED: Hearing on 'Document Production' Location: U.S. Capitol, HVC-210, Washington, DC <http://intelligence.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseIntelComm>

9:00 AM Markup hearing on 'H.R. 1159, the United States and Israel Space Cooperation Act' Location: Rm 2318, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://science.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HouseScience>

9:30 AM House Space subcommittees joint hearing on the solar eclipse – Research and Technology Subcommittee and Space Subcommittee joint hearing on 'The Great American Eclipse: To Totality and Beyond', with testimony from National Science Foundation Acting Assistant Director for Mathematical & Physical Sciences Dr James Ulvestad; NASA Associate Administrator for the Science Mission Directorate Dr Thomas Zurbuchen; Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy Executive Vice President Dr Heidi Hammel; National Solar Observatory astronomer Dr Matthew Penn; and Adler Planetarium Director of Public Observing Michelle Nichols-Yehling * 21 Aug solar eclipse was the first total solar eclipse to cross the contiguous U.S. since 1918, with a thin path of totality running from Oregon through Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, and North Carolina to South Carolina Location: Rm 2318, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://science.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HouseScience>

9:30 AM House Judiciary subcommittee hearing on Congressional Review Act compliance – Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law Subcommittee hearing on 'Rulemakers Must Follow the Rules, Too: Oversight of Agency Compliance with the Congressional Review Act', with testimony from Pacific Legal Foundation DC Center Executive Director Todd Gaziano; Heritage Foundation Institute for Constitutional Government Senior Legal Research Fellow Paul Larkin Jr.; Virginia Cattlemens Association Executive Director Jason Carter; and University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law Professor Rena Steinzor Location: Rm 2141, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://judiciary.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseJudiciary>

9:30 AM House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on insurance for nonprofits – Housing and Insurance Subcommittee hearing on 'Examining Insurance for Nonprofit Organizations', with testimony from Southeast Nonprofit Insurance Programs President Kevin Cothron; Nonprofits Insurance Alliance Group founder and CEO Pamela Davis; Congressional Research Service Specialist in Financial Economics Baird Webel; and American Insurance Association Vice President for Federal Affairs Tom Santos Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2128, Washington, DC <http://financialservices.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/FinancialCmte>

10:00 AM House Foreign Affairs Committee markup hearing – Markup hearing on 'H. Res. 422, Urging the adherence to the 'one country, two systems' policy as prescribed in the Joint Declaration between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of the Hong Kong', 'H.R. 425, FTO Passport Revocation Act of 2017', 'H.R. 1196, Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2017', 'H.R. 1660, Global Health Innovation Act of 2017', 'H.R. 2658, Venezuela Humanitarian Assistance and Defense of Democratic Governance Act of 2017', 'H.R. 3320, To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes', 'H.R. 3329, Hizballah International Financing Prevention Amendments Act of 2017', 'H.R. 3342, Sanctioning Hizballah's Illicit Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act', and 'H.R. 3445, AGOA and MCA Modernization Act' Location: Rayburn House Office Building, Rm 2172, Washington, DC <http://www.hcfa.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HouseForeign>

10:45 AM Democratic Leader Pelosi weekly presser – Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi will hold her weekly press conference. Location: HVC Studio A (Enter through HVC-117), Capitol Visitor Center. <http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>

11:00 AM Congressional Task Force on Election Security first public forum – ROOM CHANGE – Congressional Task Force on Election Security holds its first public forum, 'Securing America's Elections: Understanding the Threat', hearing from former Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and former Under Secretary for National Protection and Programs Suzanne Spaulding * Task Force was created to address 'the lack of action to protect electoral infrastructure following Russia interfering and attempting to influence the 2016 presidential election', and is chaired by House Committee on Homeland Security Ranking Member Bennie Thompson and Committee on House Administration Ranking Member Robert Brady Location: Longworth House Office Building, Rm 1302, Washington, DC democrats-homeland.house.gov <https://twitter.com/HomelandDems>

11:30 AM House Speaker Paul Ryan holds weekly press briefing Location: HVC Studio A, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC www.speaker.gov <https://twitter.com/SpeakerRyan>

3:30 PM POSTPONED: Speaker's Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs second hearing – POSTPONED: New Speaker's Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs holds second hearing, 'Are We 'Federalizing' Federalism? A Primer on Federalism, State and Local Government and Interrelations with the Federal Government'. Witnesses include Yale Law School Dean and Professor Heather Gerken, George Mason University Professor of Government Dr Timothy Conlan, and Georgetown University Law Center Professor of Legal Theory Randy Barnett * In May, House Speaker Paul Ryan and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi announced the creation of the bipartisan group of lawmakers focused on balancing the interests between federal and local govts Location: Longworth House Office Building, Rm 1334,

Washington, DC <https://robbishop.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/RepRobBishop>

Other: 9:00 AM Washington Ideas Forum concludes – Washington Ideas Forum, hosted by The Atlantic in partnership with the Aspen Institute, concludes. 'Leaders from politics and govt to business and culture' convene to 'tackle the issues confronting the country and the world, including politics and policy, economics and trade, race and justice, education, global affairs, technology, and beyond'. Speakers today include Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Sen. Mark Warner, Republican Sen. Jeff Flake, former CIA Director (Gen.) Ret. David Petraeus, Aetna Chairman and CEO Mark Bertolini, Zillow Group CEO Spencer Rascoff, Veritas Genetics Co-founder and CEO Mirza Cifric, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Washington, DC, Mayor Muriel Bowser, The Washington Post National Political Reporter Robert Costa, The New York Times White House Correspondent Maggie Haberman, NBC News Correspondent Katy Tur, and ABC News Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl Location: Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St NW, Washington, DC WashingtonIdeas.com <https://twitter.com/WashingtonIdeas> #WashingtonIdeas

9:00 AM SEC Chairman Clayton speaks at 'Perspectives on Securities Regulation' event – 'Perspectives on Securities Regulation' Brookings Institution Center on Regulation and Markets event, exploring the opportunities and challenges facing securities markets 10 years after the financial crisis, featuring a conversation with Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Jay Clayton and a panel discussion with SIFMA President and CEO Kenneth Bentsen Jr, Georgetown University Professor of Law Christopher Brummer, Davis Polk & Wardell partner Annette Nazareth, and Nasdaq Executive Vice President for Global Trading & Market Services and CEO Thomas Wittman Location: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.brookings.edu> <https://twitter.com/BrookingsInst> #SecuritiesRegs

9:30 AM GOP Rep. Kevin Brady speaks on tax reform at the Heritage Foundation – House Committee on Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady speaks on 'Tax Reform for Middle Class Americans' at the Heritage Foundation, focusing on 'creating Main Street jobs, growing middle-class paychecks, making taxes fairer, and helping hardworking Americans, not Washington special interests' * President Donald Trump yesterday discussed new details on the framework for tax reform, during a speech in Indianapolis Location: Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington, DC www.heritage.org <https://twitter.com/Heritage>

1:00 PM Halcyon Dialogue VIP Robotics Showcase – Halcyon Dialogue VIP Robotics Showcase, including panel discussions on 'Emerging Robotics Technology' and 'Policy Opportunities in the Robotics Age', with speakers include Republican Rep. Will Hurd, former White House Chief Technology Officer Megan Smith and robotics entrepreneur Helen Greiner. American Association for the Advancement of Science CEO Dr Rush Holt discusses findings from the 'Shaping Robotics Policy for the 21st Century' report * Event also features multiple robotics demonstrations * A public event takes place tomorrow Location: Halcyon House, 3400 Prospect St. NW, Washington, DC halcyonhouse.org <https://twitter.com/HalcyonInspires>

1:30 PM GOP Rep. Kevin Brady speaks on tax reform at U.S. Chamber of Commerce – House Committee on Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady speaks on 'the path forward for pro-growth tax reform' at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce * President Donald Trump yesterday discussed new details on the framework for tax reform, via a speech in Indianapolis Location: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H St NW, Washington, DC www.uschamber.com <https://twitter.com/USChamber>

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Hill, Paula

Subject: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting
Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

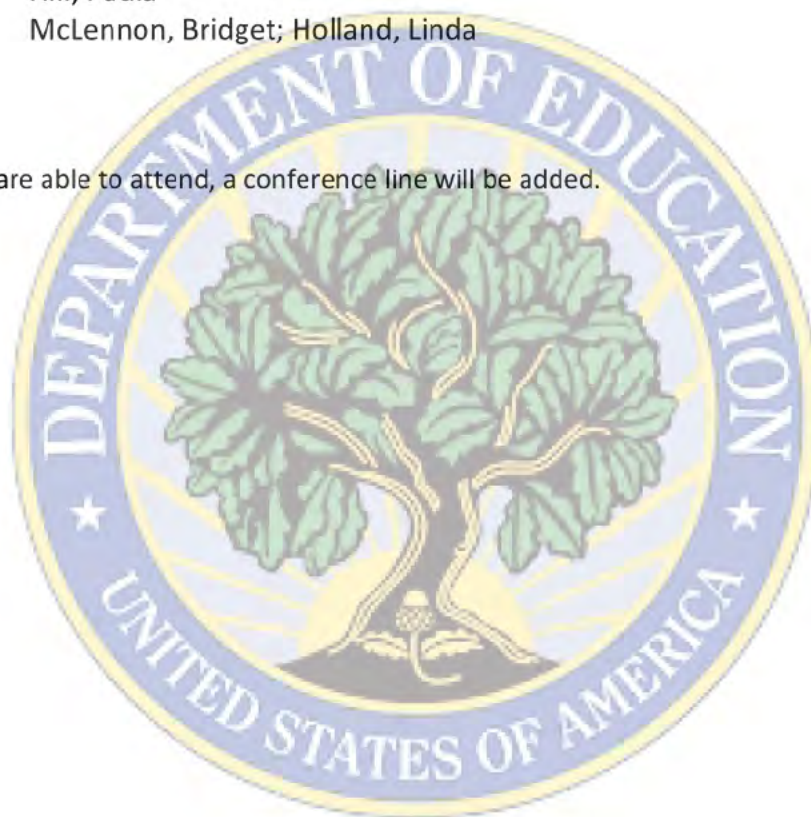
Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM
End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentatively accepted

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Hill, Paula
Required Attendees: McLennon, Bridget; Holland, Linda

Please let us know if you are able to attend, a conference line will be added.



Hill, Paula

Subject: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting

Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM

End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Show Time As: Tentatively accepted

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Hill, Paula

Required Attendees: Smith, Kathleen; Johnson, Wayne; Riemer, Jeffrey (Justin);
Finley, Steve; Mangold, Donna; Minor, Robin

Please let us know if you are able to attend, a conference line will be added.



Rierner, Jeffrey (Justin)

Subject: Accepted: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting

Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM

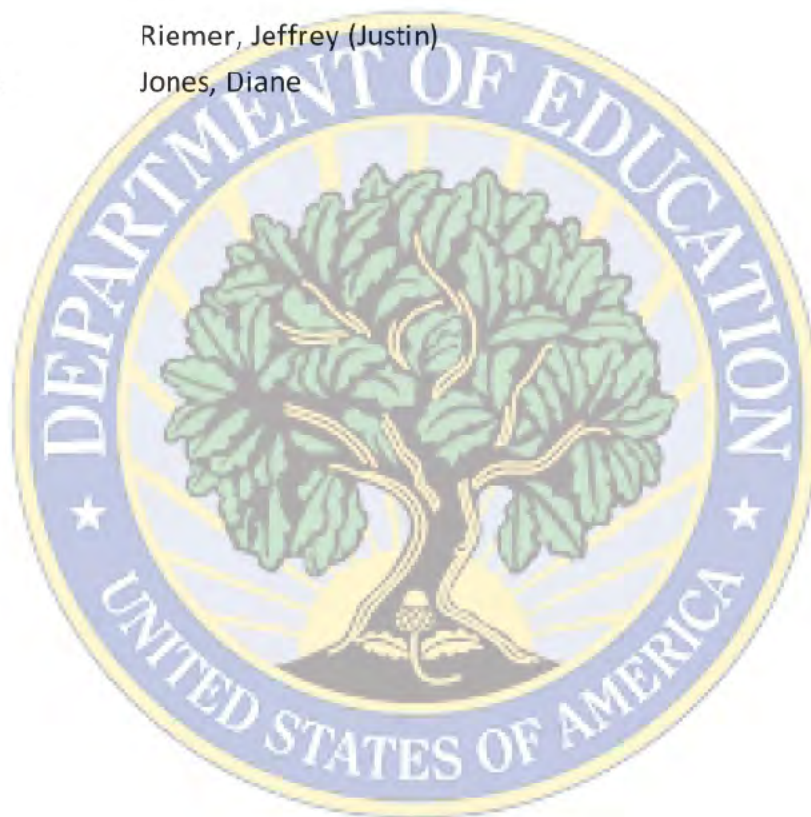
End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: No response required

Organizer: Rierner, Jeffrey (Justin)

Required Attendees: Jones, Diane



Subject: Accepted: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting - will call in.
Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM
End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: No response required

Organizer: Mangold, Donna

Required Attendees: Jones, Diane

I will attend, but will need to call in (I will be working at FSA-Chicago next week).



Finley, Steve

Subject: Accepted: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting

Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM

End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: No response required

Organizer: Finley, Steve

Required Attendees: Jones, Diane



Minor, Robin

Subject: Accepted: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting
Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM
End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: No response required

Organizer: Minor, Robin

Required Attendees: Jones, Diane



Subject: Accepted: Dream Center Bi-Weekly Meeting
Location: OUS Conference Room 7E307

Start: Thursday, August 9, 2018 11:00 AM
End: Thursday, August 9, 2018 12:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: Johnson, Wayne

Required Attendees: Jones, Diane



Murphy, Shelly M.

From: Murphy, Shelly M.
Sent: Wednesday, August 1, 2018 10:45 AM
To: Jones, Diane
Subject: RE: Student Scholarships
Attachments: Teach Out Executive Summary.pdf; South University Campus Teach Out Plans.zip; Art Institutes Campus Teach Out Plans.zip; DCEH Comms Playbook 07 30 18.doc; Argosy University Campus Teach Out Plans.zip; Student Signature Forms.zip; DCEH Potential Transfer Partners 07 19 18.pdf

Hi Diane,

My apologies for getting this to you mid-week. I asked the team to put together all communication. Attached are the teach-out plans for each of the schools and student communication. We have stopped enrolling at the AI Online as well. I also attached the matrix of transfer schools and the transfer fairs are all scheduled as well.

Additionally, the paper you gave me with the list of items due on behalf of the accrediting bodies seemed confusing. It was titled "Sequence of events on NPRMs" I'm not sure if that was the correct paper, if so I may need some clarification.

Thanks -shelly

Shelly Murphy
Chief Officer Regulatory and Government Affairs



1255 South Spectrum Boulevard | Chandler, Arizona 85286
Mobile: (480) 650-4249
smurphy@dcedh.org

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From: Jones, Diane [mailto:Diane.Jones@ed.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 29, 2018 6:25 AM
To: Murphy, Shelly M.
Subject: RE: Student Scholarships

Hi Shelly,

I missed the release form when I reviewed the other attachments this morning, so I am sending this additional email.

The release form needs to conform with the requirements I laid out in my earlier email this morning about online transfer options. You may not offer AI online as a transfer option now that it is on show cause. Also, you must provide students with the transfer options you have identified for each program.

Also, you may not require the students to sign the indemnification clause. Students cannot be required to waive any of their rights in order to receive the \$5000 scholarship.

Finally, I see that you required the students to make a decision by July 3rd, which is unreasonable since you haven't even provided us with the list of transfer options yet. You need to provide those transfer options to students,

ED000575

although you cannot limit students to those options, and you need to work with each institution you identify to determine how many of the credits from your programs will transfer to the new program. This is also information that you need to provide to students for the transfers you identify. This will likely mean that your campus leaders must reach out to the transfer partners to work through all of this. It is important that your campus leaders work with the transfer institutions – not corporate personnel. In instances in which all credits will not transfer, you need to explain this to students and determine whether or not you will reimburse students for credits that won't transfer.

Please provide me with corrected forms. Also, how many students have received the incorrect forms? How will you get new forms to these students?

Thanks,
Diane

From: Murphy, Shelly M. [<mailto:smurphy@dcedh.org>]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2018 2:07 AM
To: Jones, Diane
Subject: RE: Student Scholarships

Hi Diane,

Attached are the agreements. Let me know your thoughts.

Shelly Murphy
Chief Officer Regulatory and Government Affairs

 DREAM CENTER
EDUCATION HOLDINGS, LLC

1255 South Spectrum Boulevard | Chandler, Arizona 85286

Mobile: (480) 650-4249

smurphy@dcedh.org

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From: Jones, Diane [<mailto:Diane.Jones@ed.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 7:48 AM
To: Murphy, Shelly M. <smurphy@dcedh.org>
Subject: Student Scholarships

Hi Shelly,

Just wanted to follow up to see how close you are to providing us with the additional materials we asked for during our recent meeting.

Also, we've heard that there is a lengthy agreement that students are being asked to sign if they accept the \$5000 scholarship. Has this been approved by your accreditors? We also need to take a look at it. You cannot attach a bunch of strings to the scholarship since the point of the scholarship is to help facilitate student transitions to a new school. Please share a copy with us.

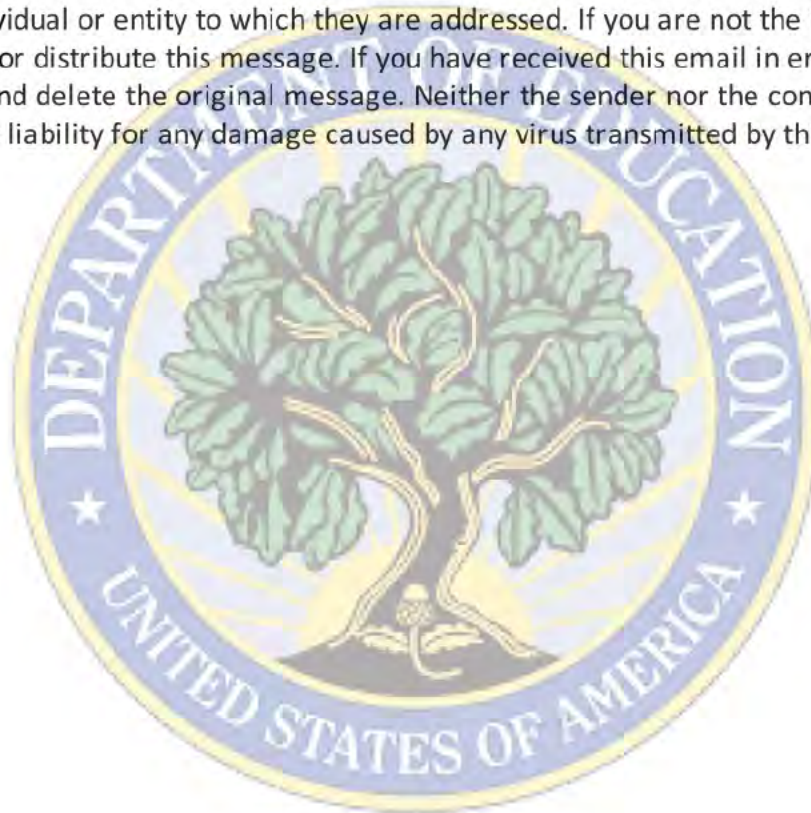
Thanks,
Diane

Diane Auer Jones
Principal Deputy Under Secretary

Delegated to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20202
202-453-7333
Diane.jones@ed.gov

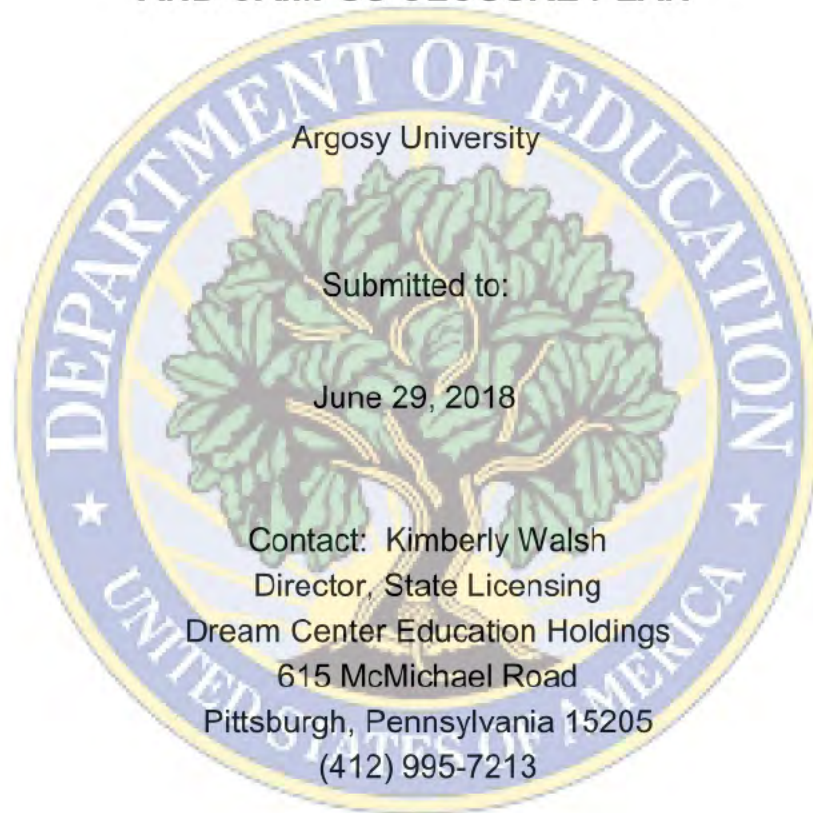
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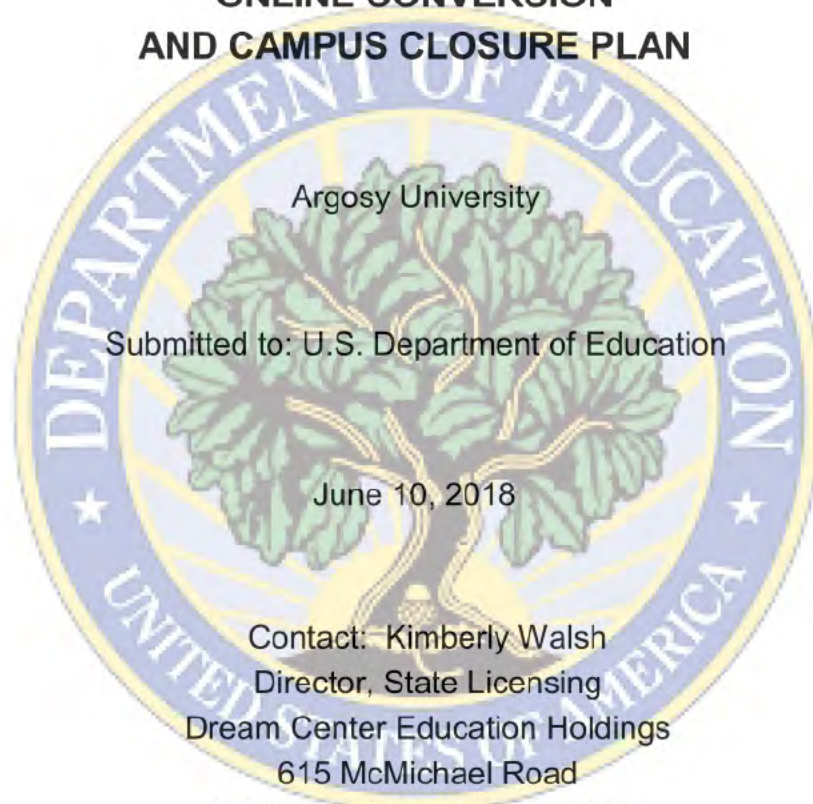


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
- 8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18**
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

Argosy University – Sarasota
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Sarasota - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	5	2	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	8	2	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - DBA	14	4	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - MBA	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling - Master	78	15	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - EDD	21	7	✓	✓	✓
Counselor Education & Supervision - EDD	40	8		✓	✓
Criminal Justice - Bachelors	5	3	✓	✓	✓
Curriculum & Instruction - EDD	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Curriculum & Instruction - MA Ed	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Educational Administration - MAEd	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Educational Leadership - EDD	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Educational Psychology - Master	11	3	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology - Master	8	3	✓	✓	✓
Higher & Postsecondary Education - EDD	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Human Resource Management - Master	2	2	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Associate	3	0	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Initial Educational Administration - EDD	1	0		✓	✓
Initial Educational Administration - EDS	3	3		✓	✓
Marriage & Family Therapy - Master	4	0		✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	7	1	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Pastoral Community Counseling - EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓

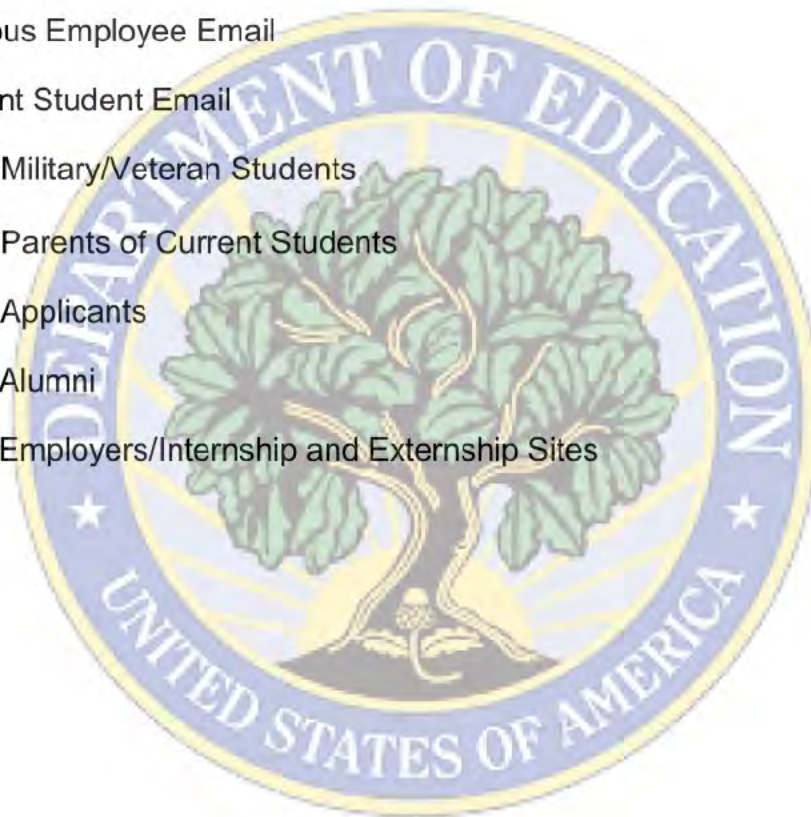
Psychology - Associate	15	5	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Bachelor	20	3	✓	✓	✓
Public Health - Master	1	1	✓	✓	✓
School Counseling - Master	5	2		✓	✓
School Psychology - Doctorate	17	3		✓	✓
School Psychology - EDS	15	0		✓	✓
Totals	309	78			



COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

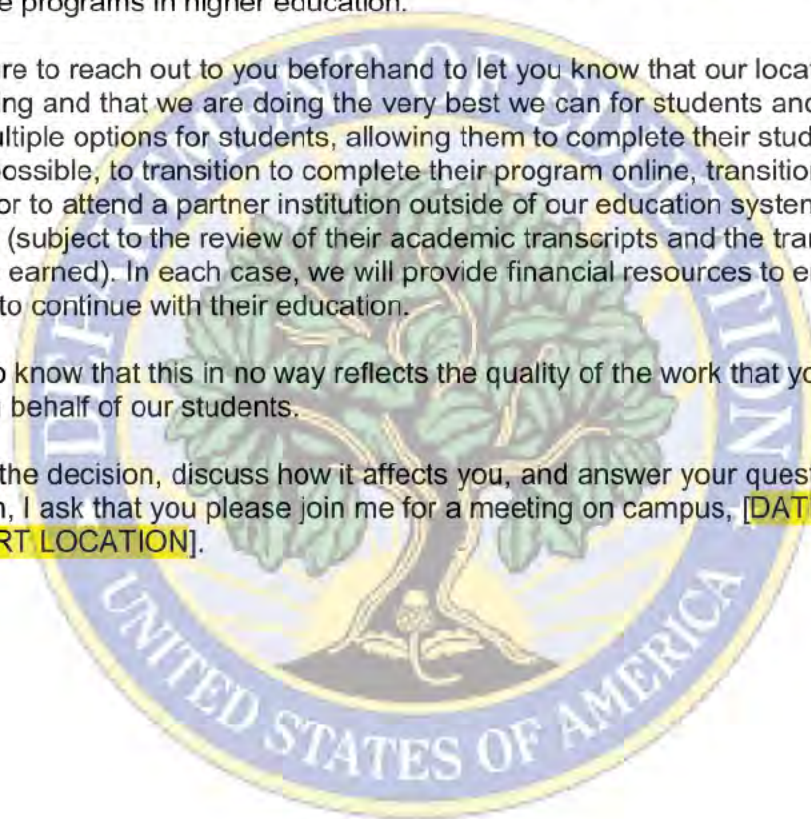
We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]



LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

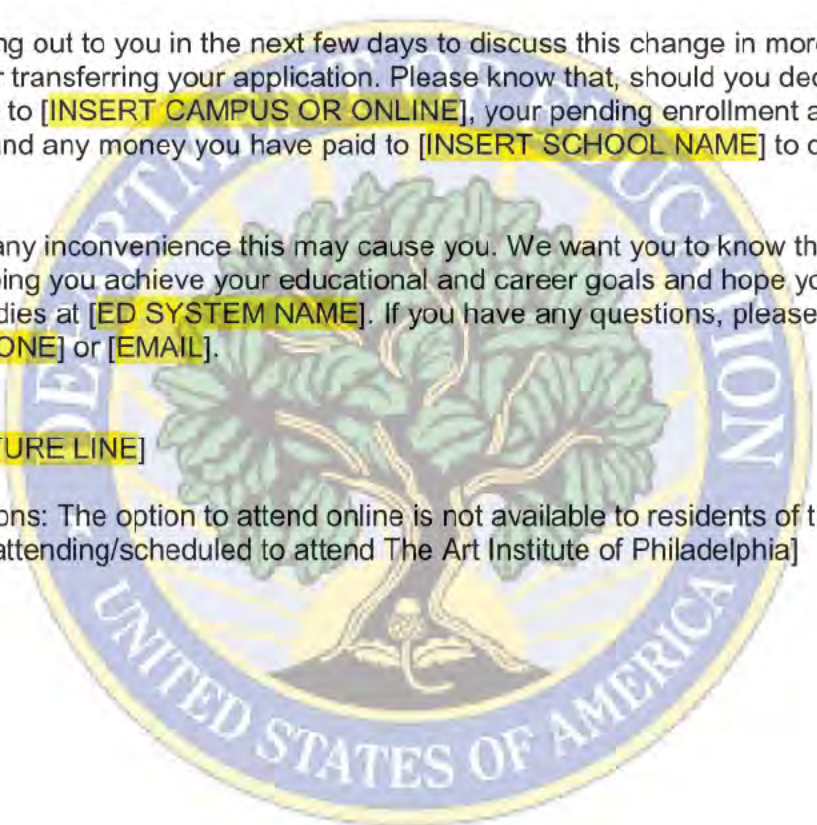
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

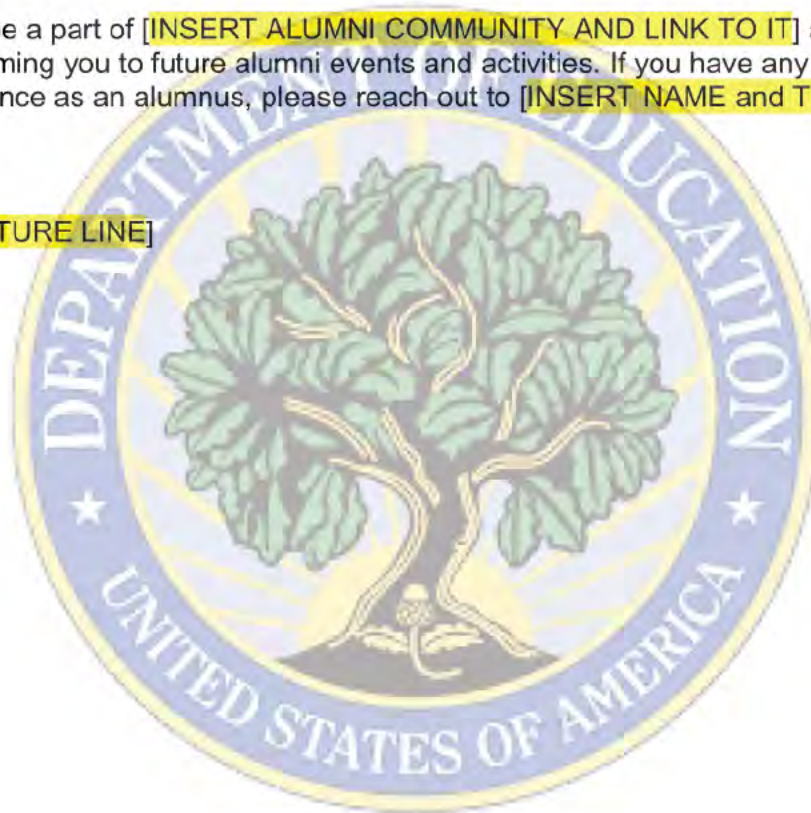
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

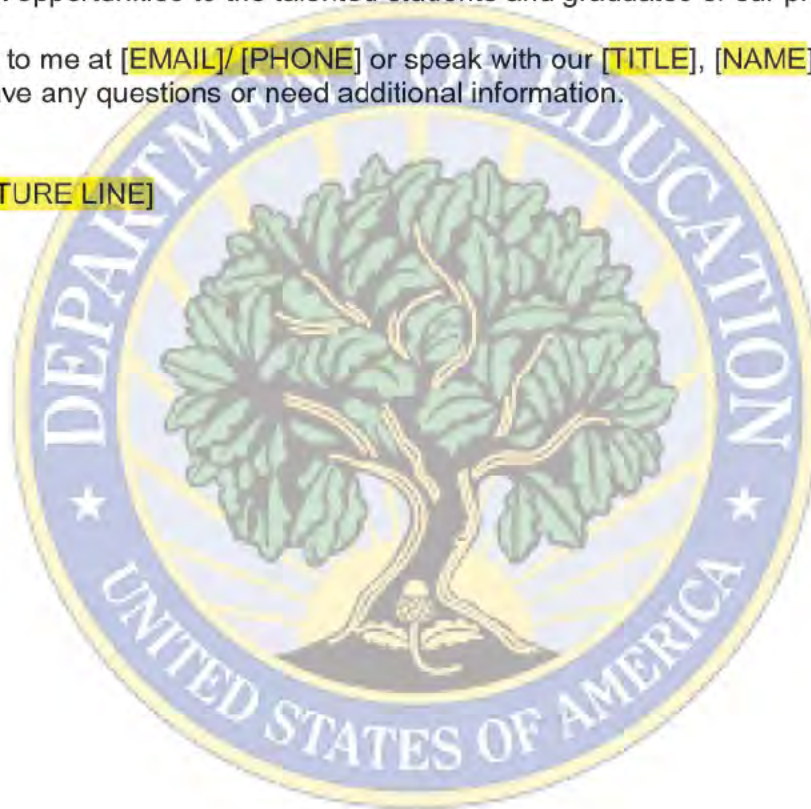
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

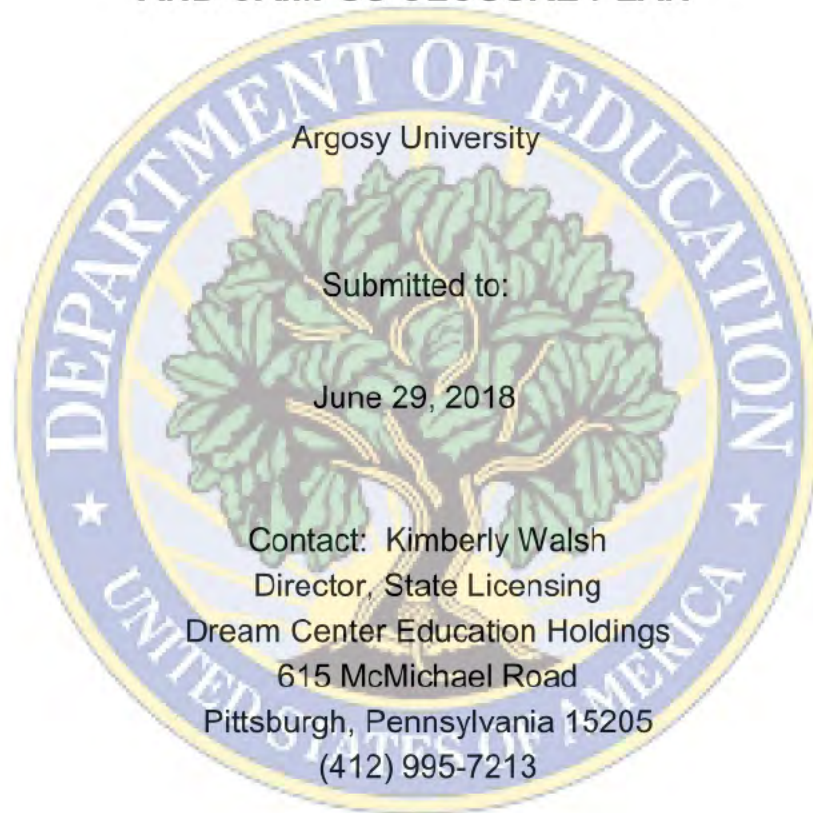
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



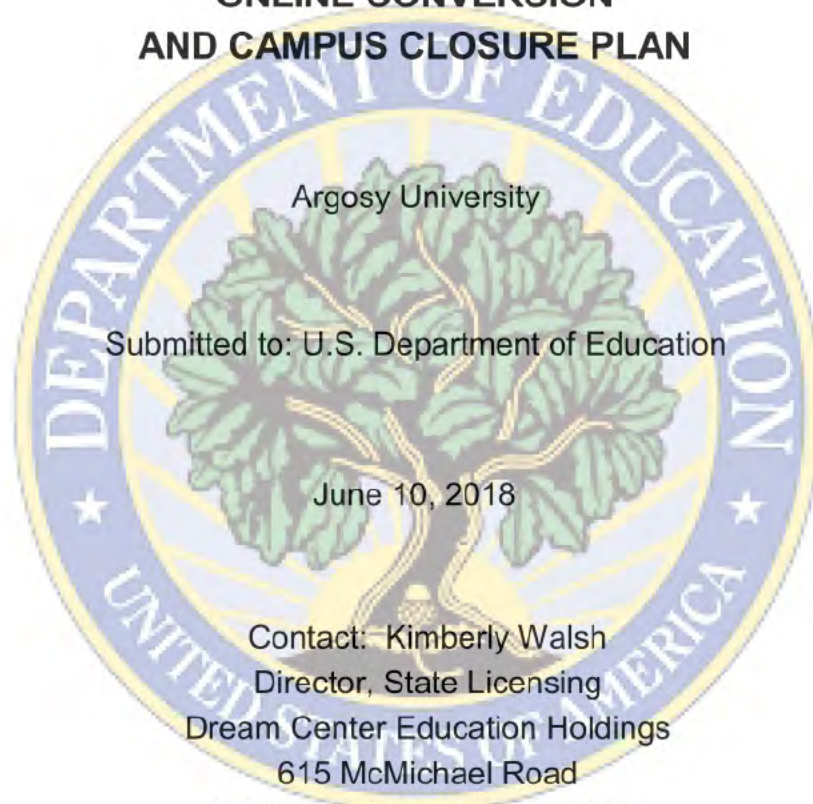


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. **Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19**
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

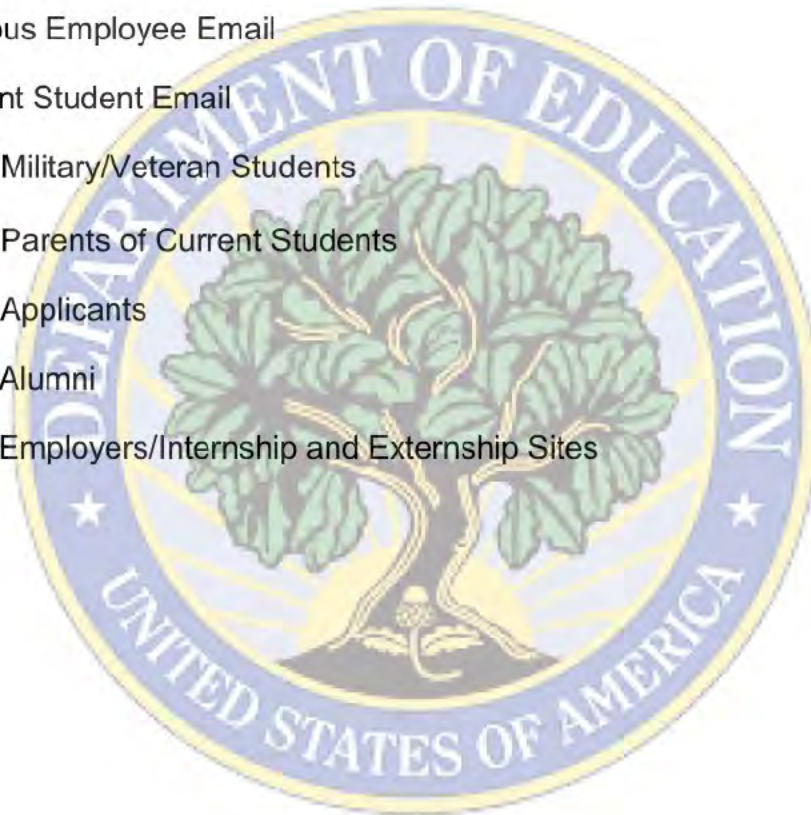
Argosy University – Dallas
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Dallas - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	18	1	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	32	5	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration – DBA	9	2	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration – MBA	11	2	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling – Master	31	8	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Psychology – Master	1	0		✓	✓
Counselor Education & Supervision – EDD	3	0		✓	✓
Criminal Justice – Bachelors	27	5	✓	✓	✓
Educational Administration – MAEd	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology – Master	19	6	✓	✓	✓
Higher & Postsecondary Education – EDD	6	2	✓	✓	✓
Histotechnology – Associate	17	6		✓	✓
Human Resource Management – Master	5	3	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	6	2	✓	✓	✓
Industrial Organizational Psychology – Master	2	2	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Associate	4	0	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Liberal Arts – Bachelor	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Management – Master	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Medical Laboratory Technology – Associate	12	4		✓	✓
Medical Technology – Bachelor	4	0		✓	✓
Nursing – Bachelor	2	0		✓	✓
Organizational Leadership – EDD	14	4	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	5	0	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Associate	37	11	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Bachelor	41	3	✓	✓	✓
Public Health – Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Teaching & Learning – EDD	9	3	✓	✓	✓
Teaching & Learning – MAEd	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Totals	324	72			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

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3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

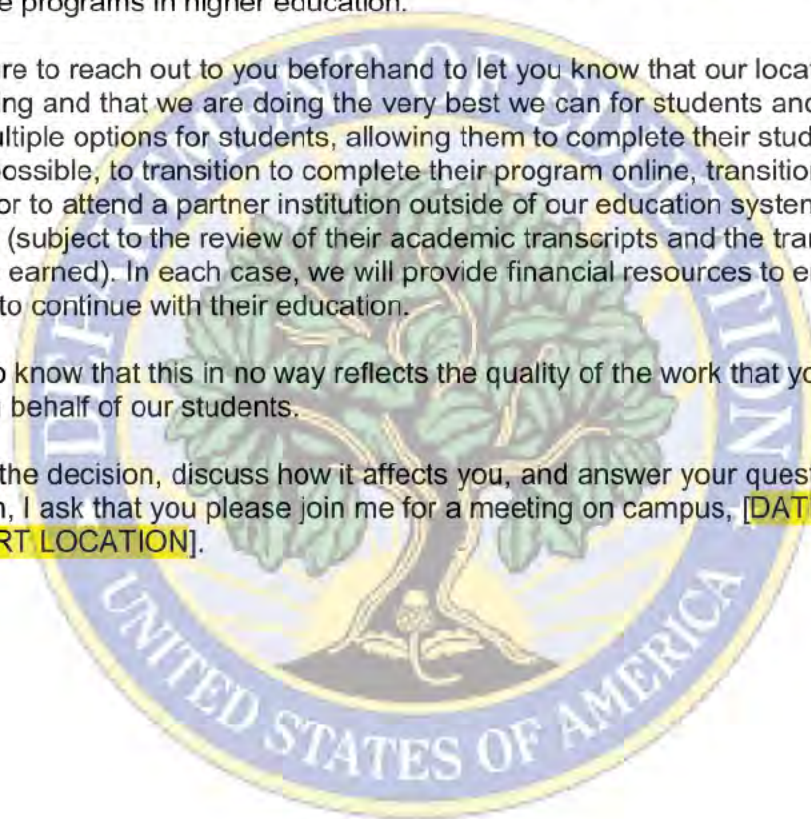
We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]



LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

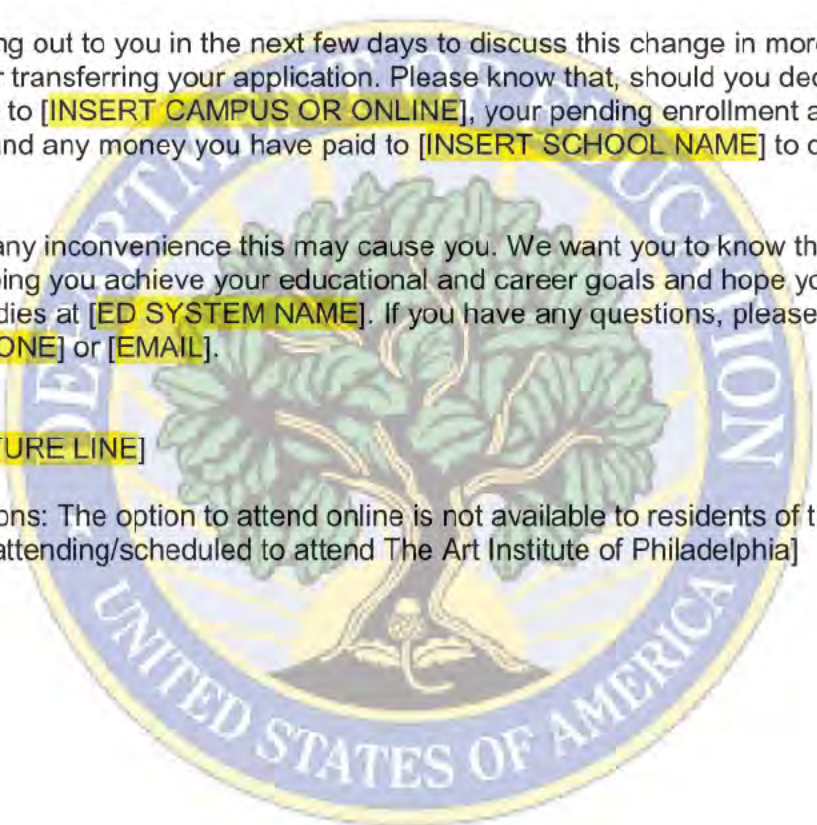
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

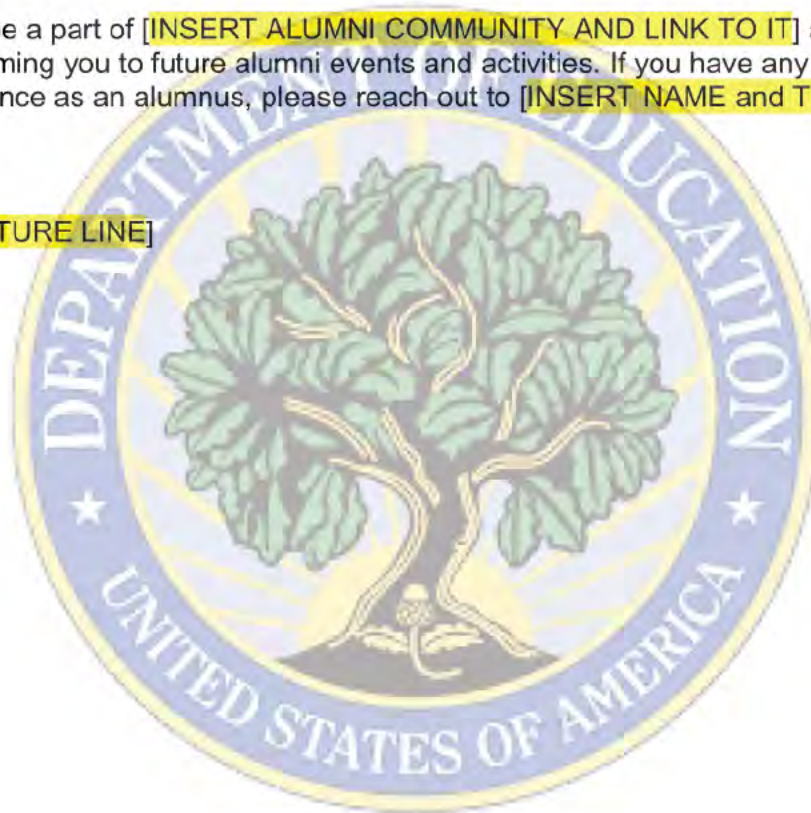
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

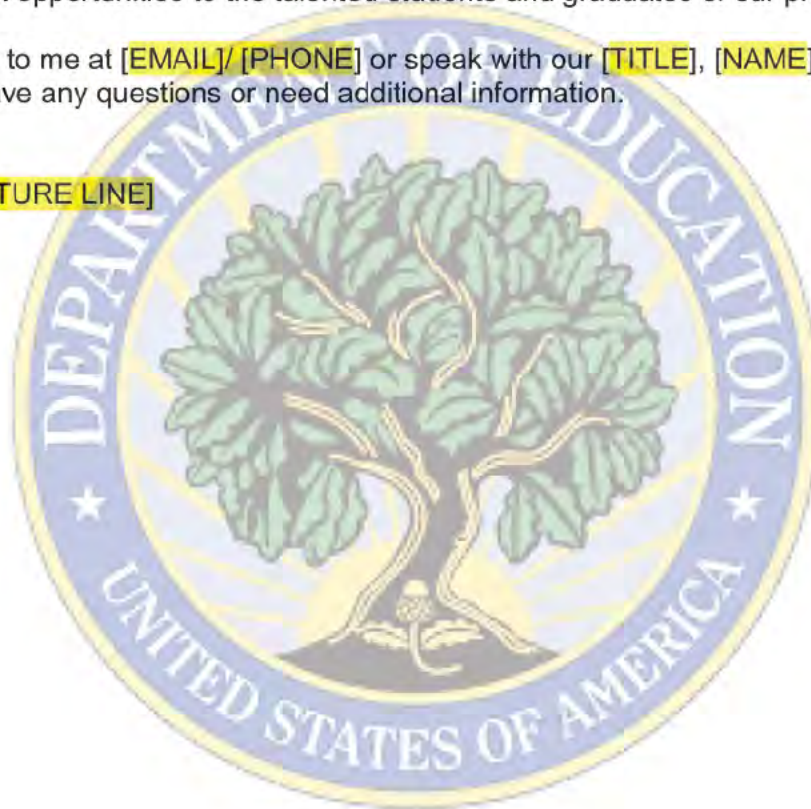
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

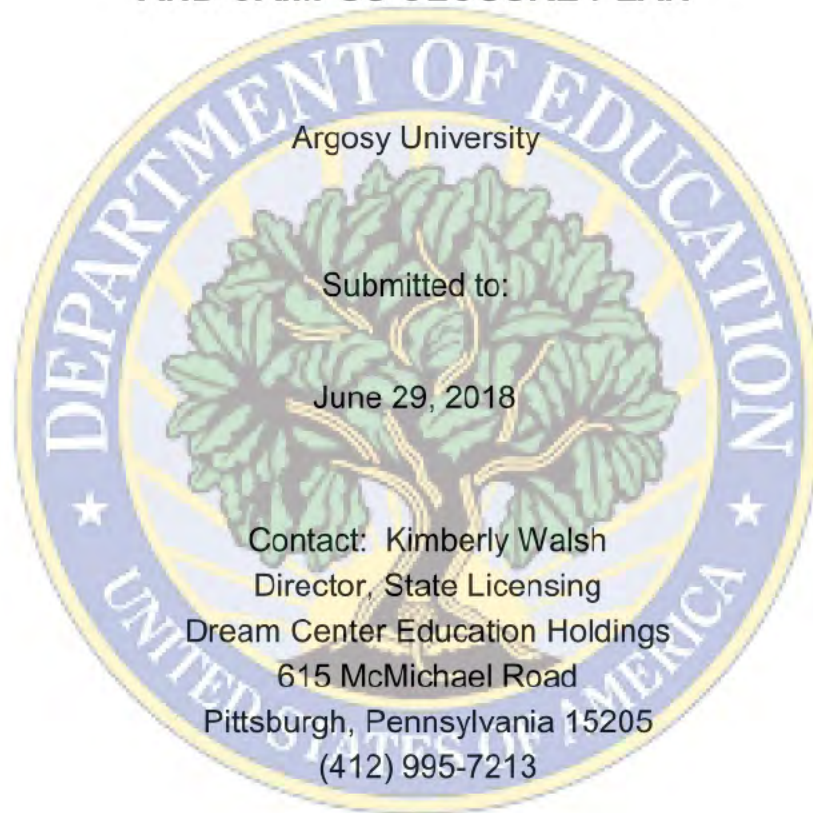
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



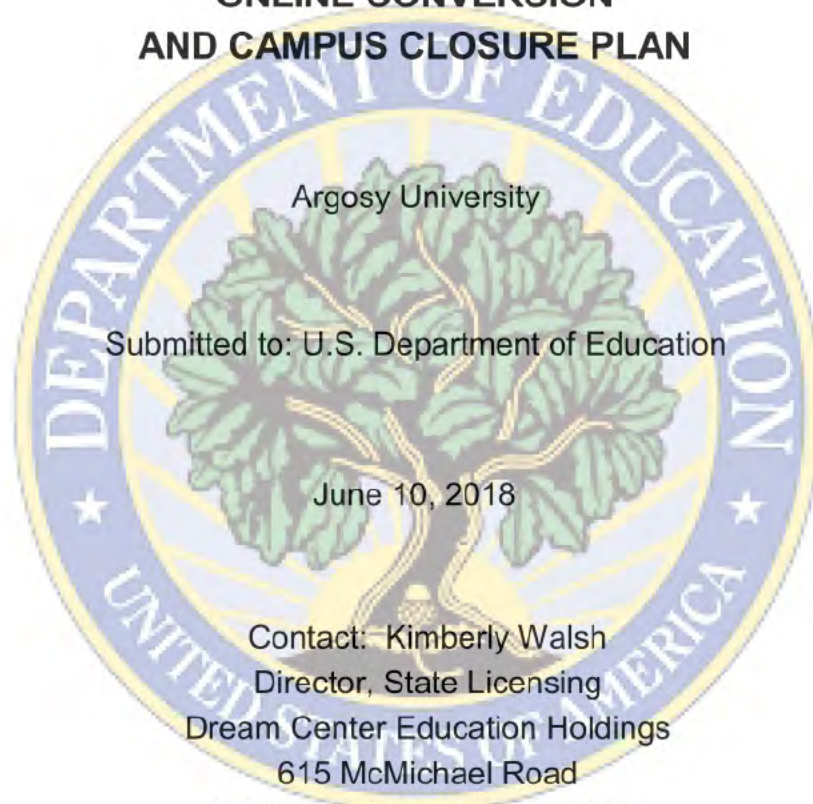


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. **Argosy University – Denver 021799-30**
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

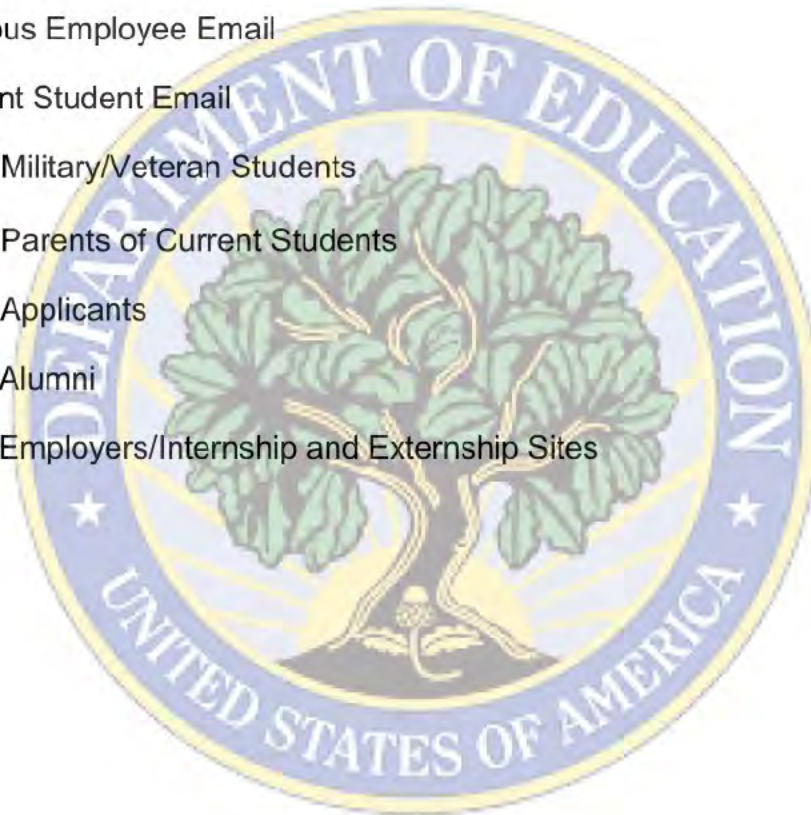
Argosy University – Denver
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Denver - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	13	5	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration – DBA	4	0	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration – MBA	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling - Master	31	5	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Counselor Education & Supervision - EDD	10	4		✓	✓
Criminal Justice - Bachelors	3	2	✓	✓	✓
Educational Administration - MAEd	40	19	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology - Master	3	3	✓	✓	✓
Human Resource Management - Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	3	0	✓	✓	✓
Initial Educational Administration - EDD	6	1		✓	✓
Marriage & Family Therapy - DR	15	0		✓	✓
Marriage & Family Therapy - Master	22	5		✓	✓
Nursing - Bachelor	72	46		✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	8	0	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	12	5	✓	✓	✓
Pastoral Community Counseling - EDD	1	2	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Associate	5	1	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Bachelor	28	4	✓	✓	✓
Public Health - Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Teaching & Learning - EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Totals	289	107			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

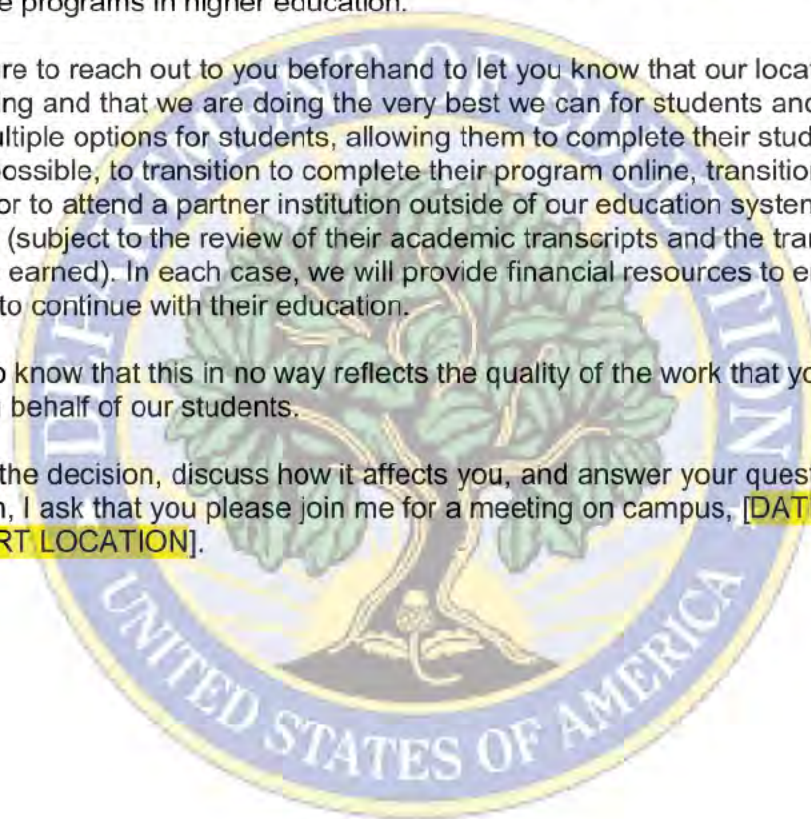
We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]



LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

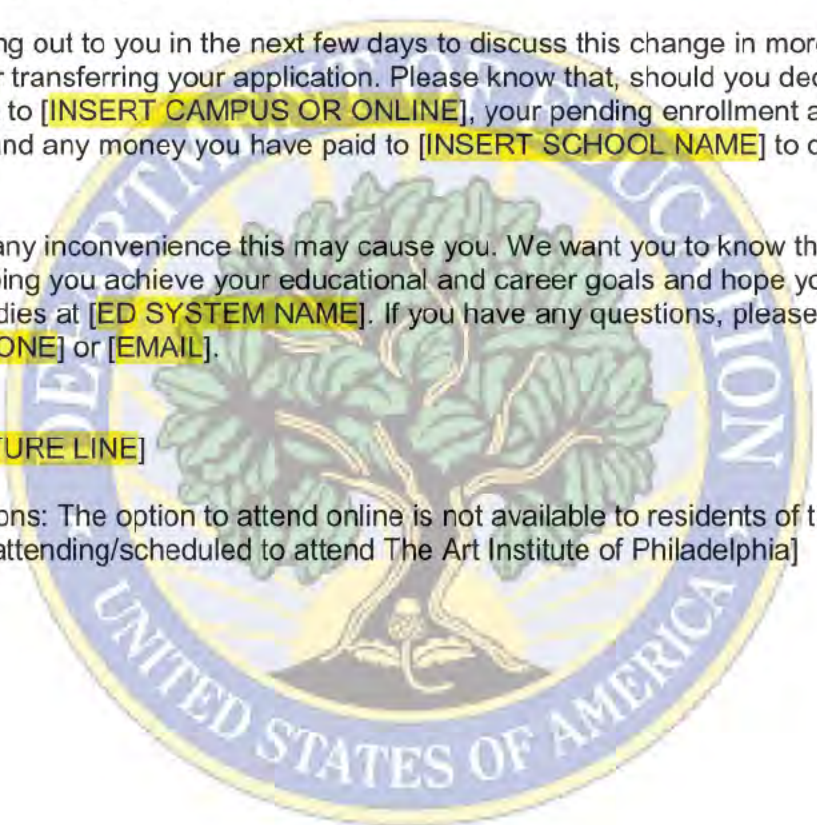
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

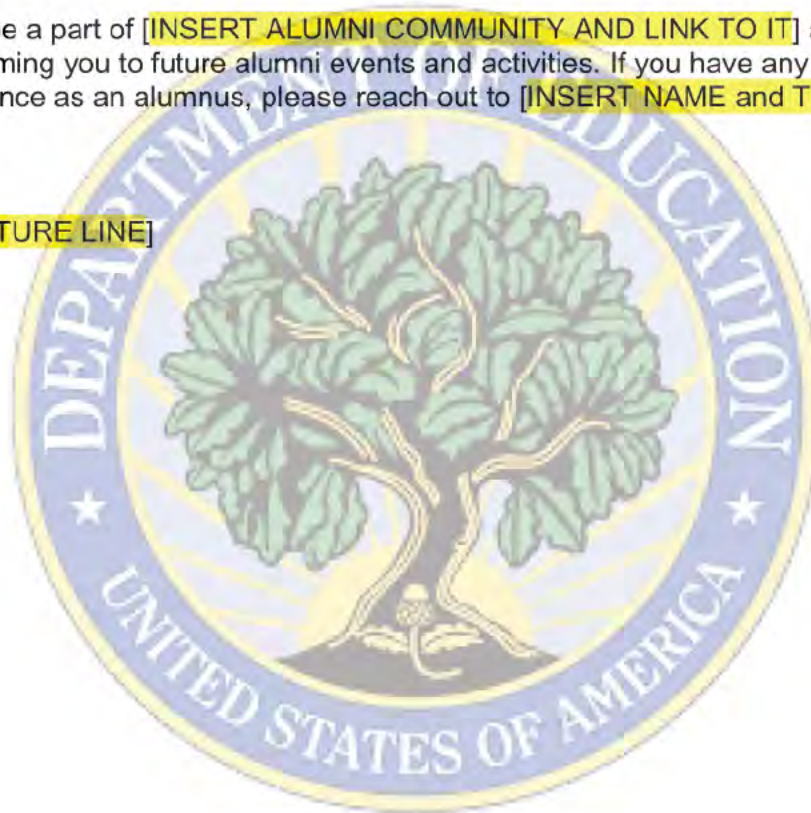
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

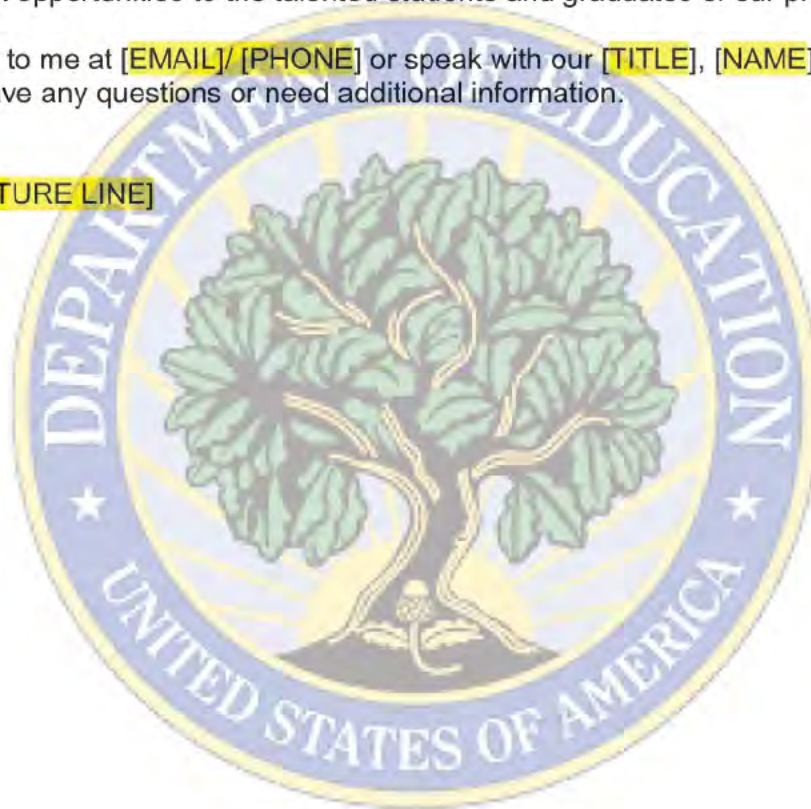
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

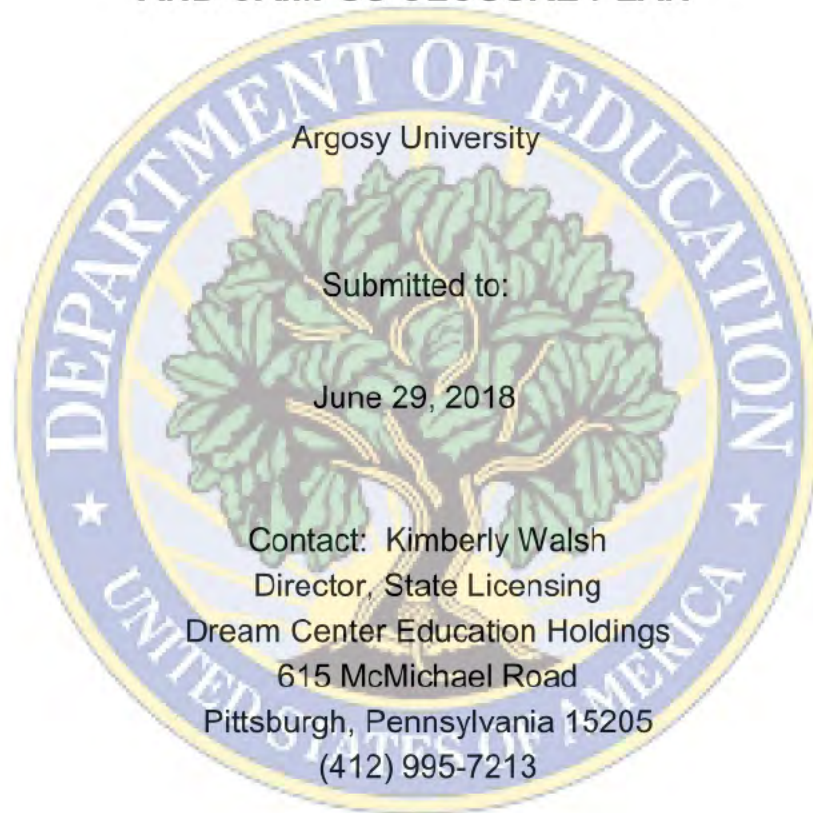
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



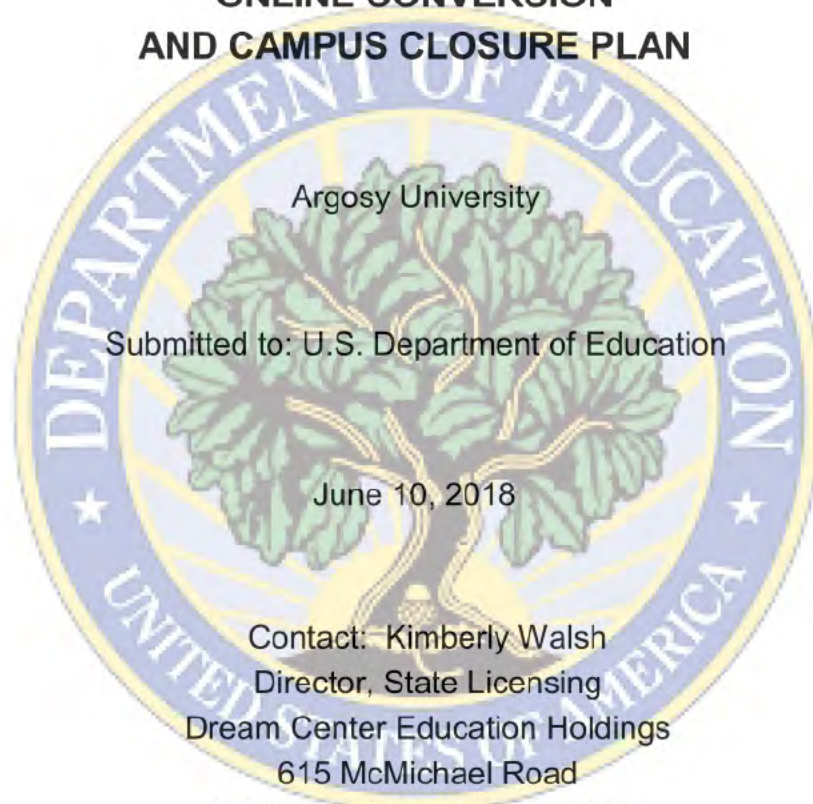


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

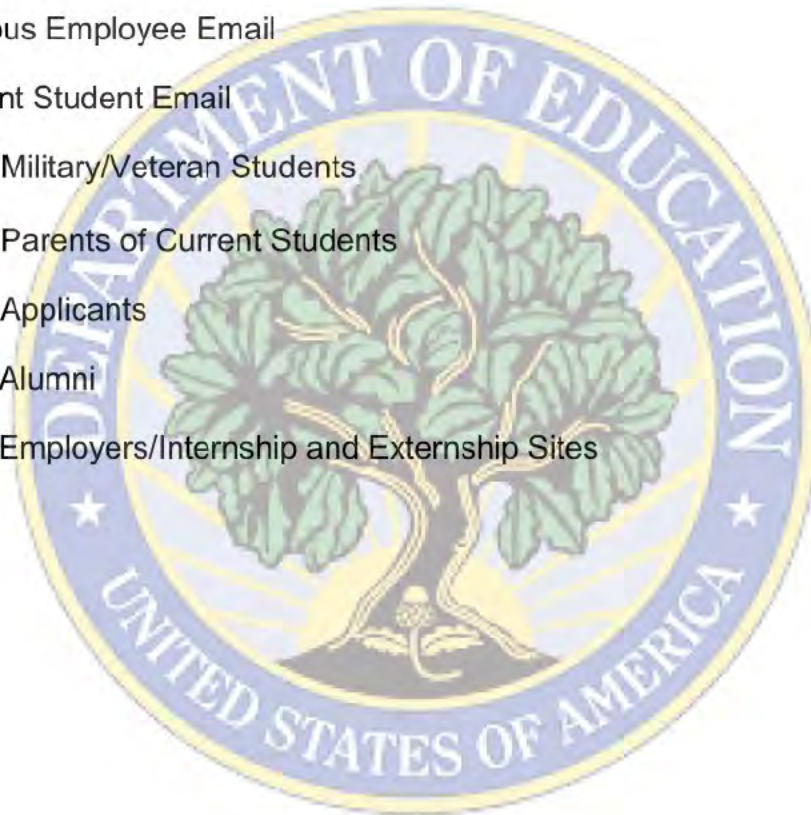
Argosy University – Inland Empire
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Inland Empire - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	7	3	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	54	8	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - DBA	6	1	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - MBA	19	7	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - EDD	44	11	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - Master	46	14		✓	✓
Criminal Justice - Bachelors	36	10	✓	✓	✓
Educational Leadership - EDD	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology - Master	9	5	✓	✓	✓
Higher & Postsecondary Education - EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Human Resource Management - Master	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Industrial Organizational Psychology - Master	4	3	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	7	3	✓	✓	✓
Liberal Arts - Bachelor	3	0	✓	✓	✓
Management - Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	11	1	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	3	2	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Associate	11	4	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Bachelor	75	10	✓	✓	✓
Public Health - Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Totals	343	85			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

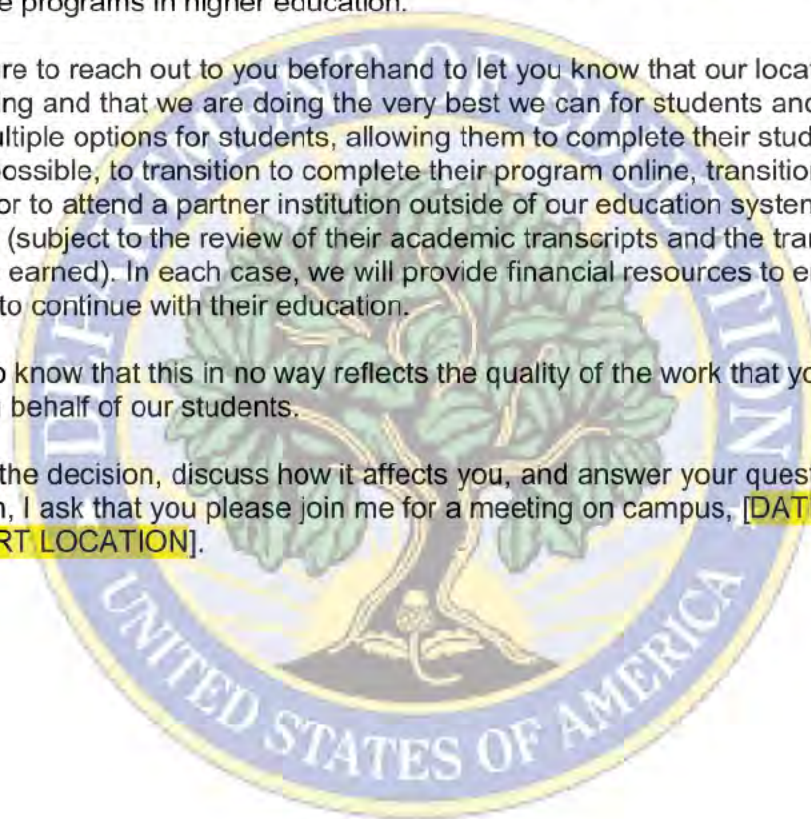
We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]



LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

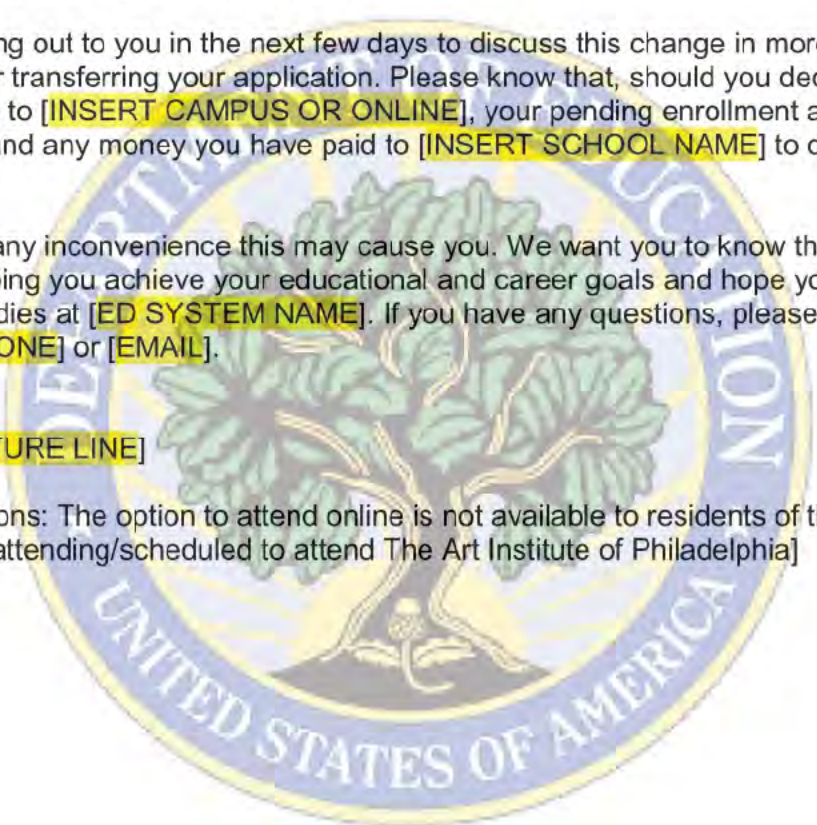
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

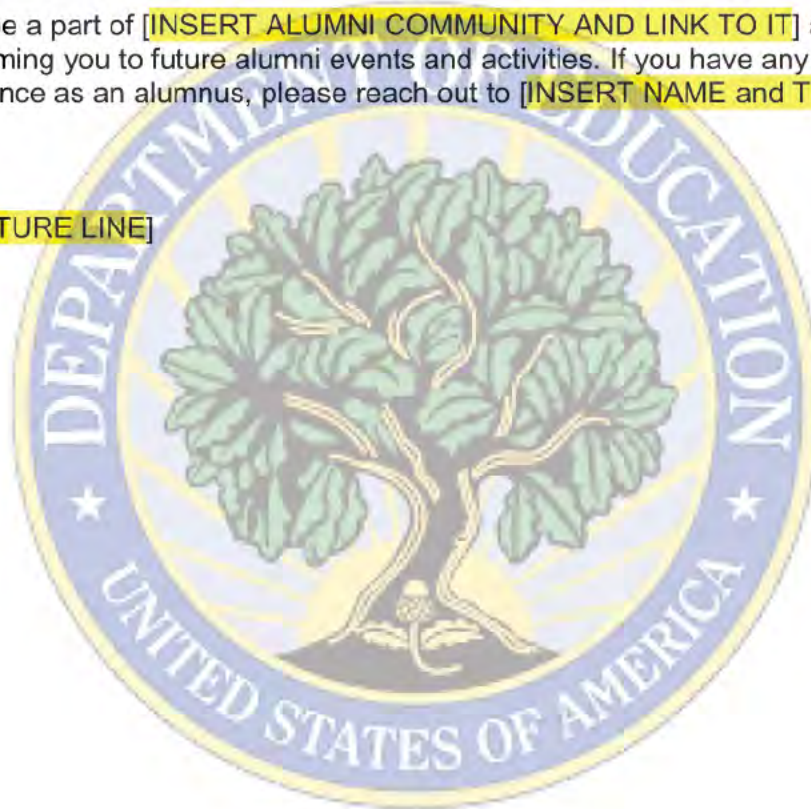
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

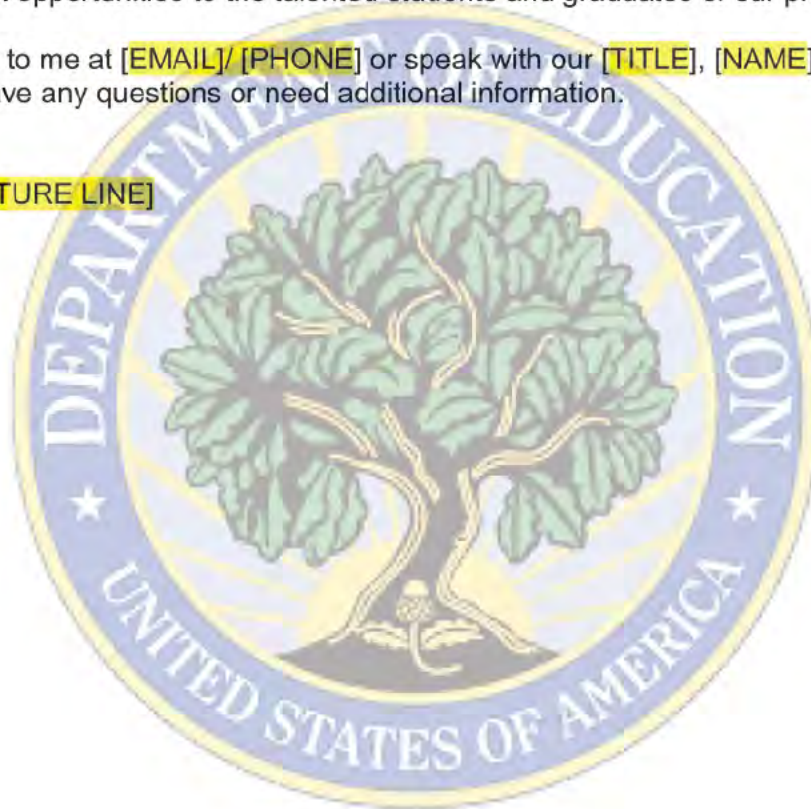
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

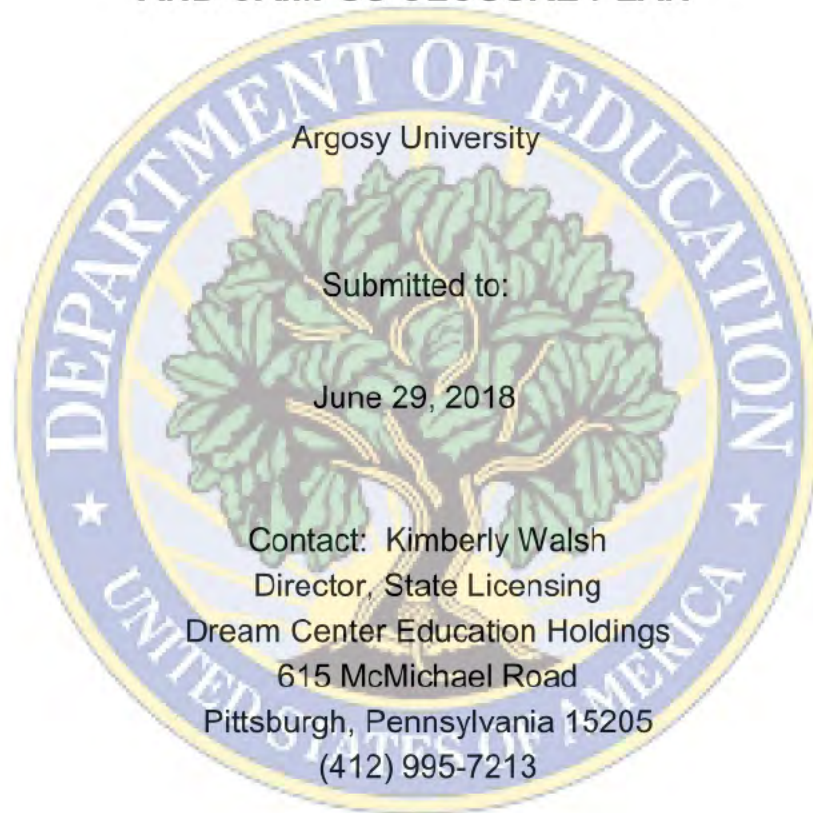
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



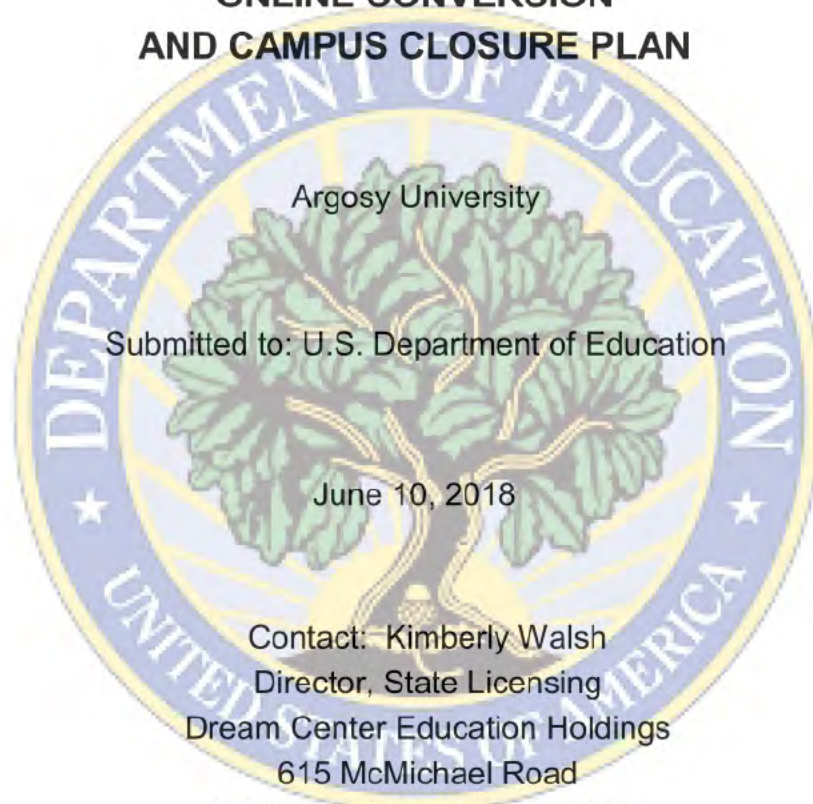


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. **Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14**
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

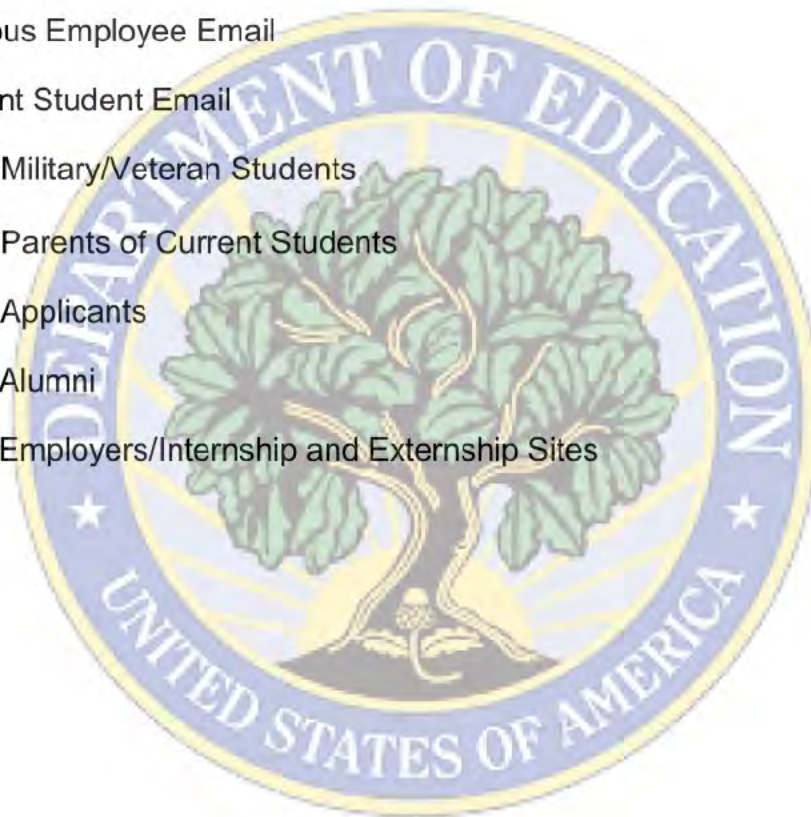
Argosy University – Nashville
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Nashville - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	10	4	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	20	2	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration – DBA	15	6	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration – MBA	6	0	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling – Master	43	8	✓	✓	✓
Counselor Education & Supervision – EDD	15	5		✓	✓
Criminal Justice – Bachelors	8	1	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology – Master	18	7	✓	✓	✓
Higher & Postsecondary Education – EDD	3	3	✓	✓	✓
Human Resource Management – Master	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	9	3	✓	✓	✓
Industrial Organizational Psychology – Master	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Associate	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	3	0	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership – EDD	34	5	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	10	4	✓	✓	✓
Pastoral Community Counseling – EDD	5	0	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Associate	9	3	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Bachelor	33	4	✓	✓	✓
Public Health – Master	7	3	✓	✓	✓
Teaching & Learning – EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Totals	259	62			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

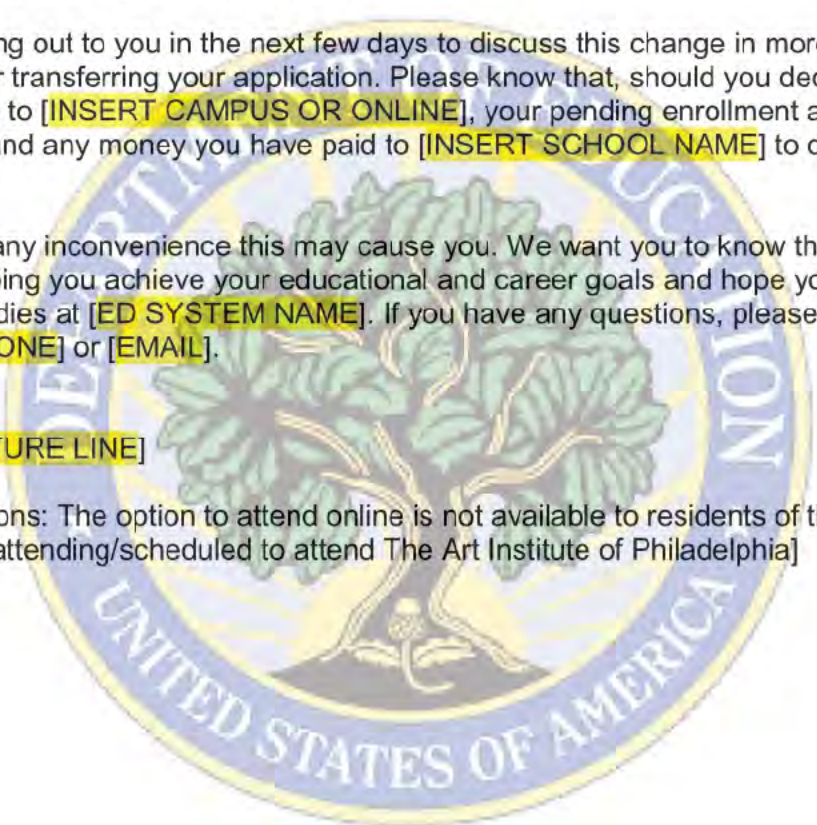
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

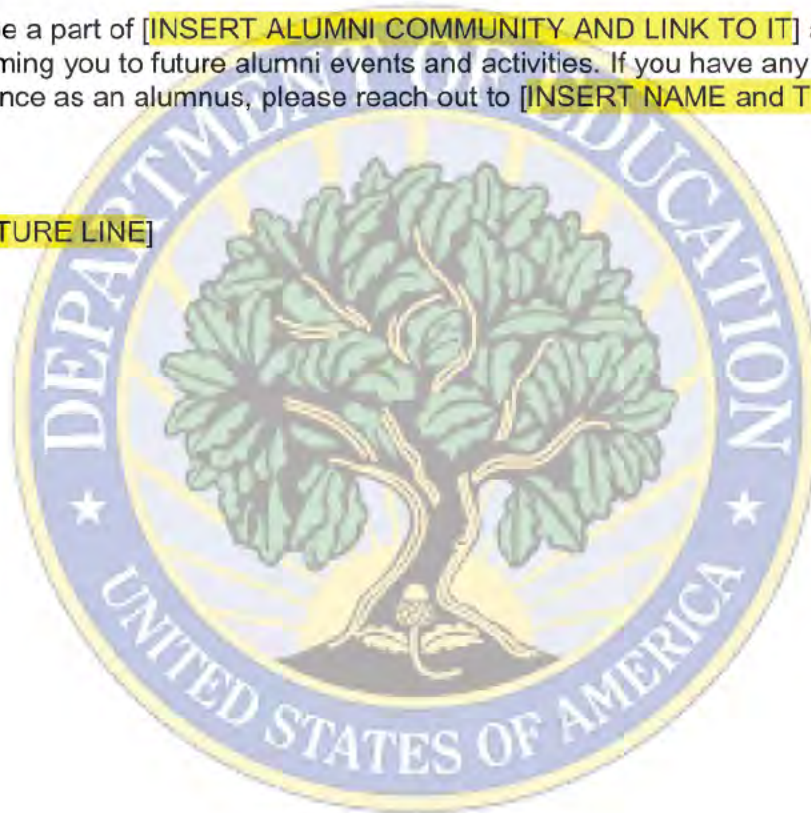
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

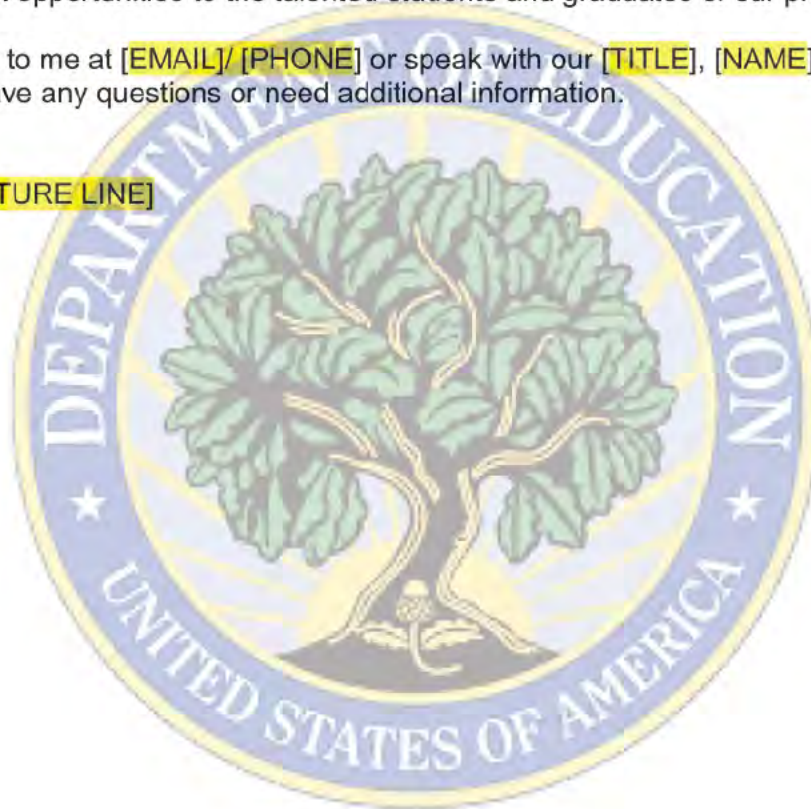
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

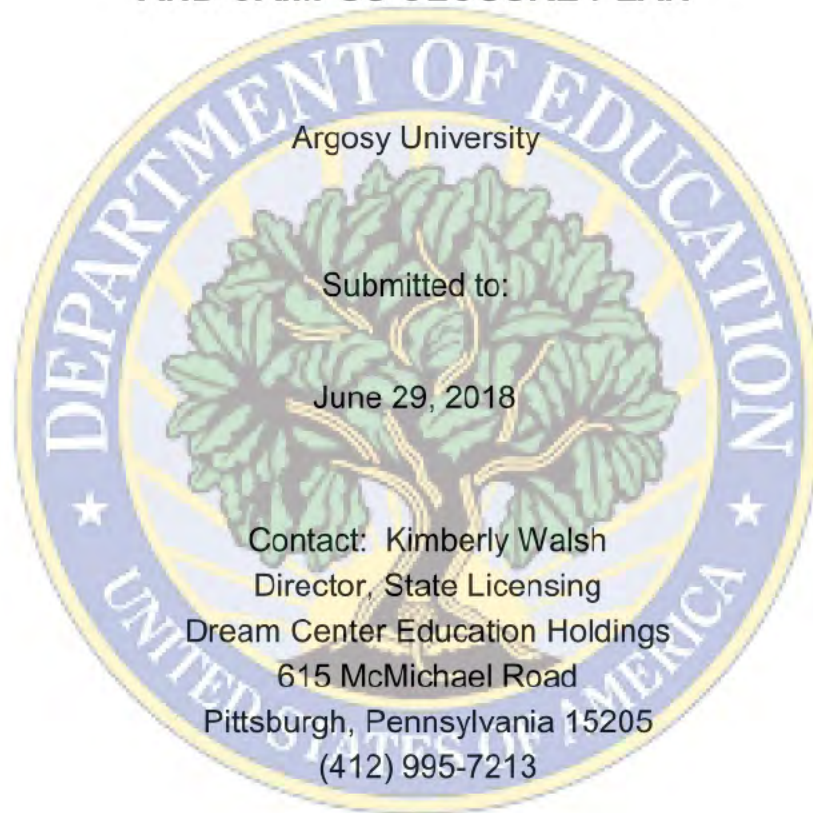
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



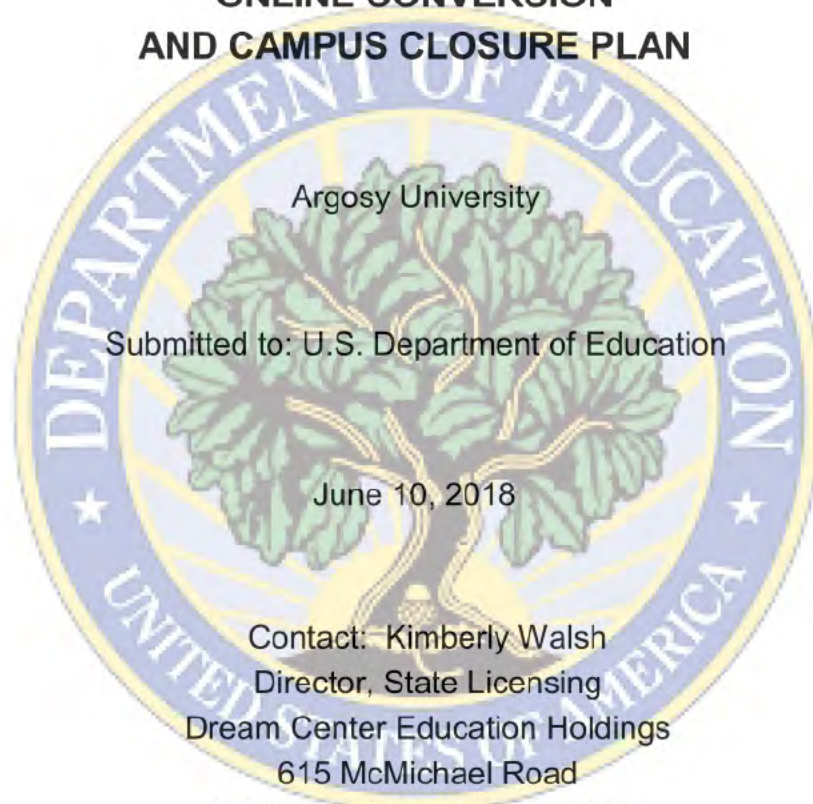


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. **Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35**
 - **Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43**
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

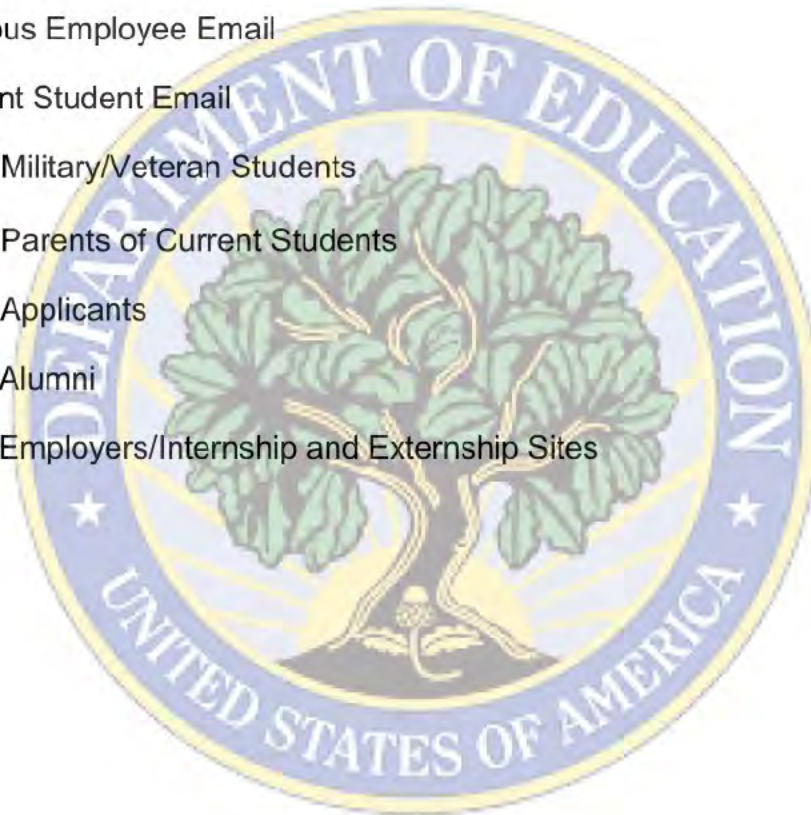
Argosy University – Salt Lake City
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Salt Lake City - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	5	3	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - DBA	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - MBA	5	4	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling – Master	34	2	✓	✓	✓
Criminal Justice – Bachelors	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology - Master	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Higher & Postsecondary Education – EDD	2	2	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Associate	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Liberal Arts – Bachelor	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Marriage & Family Therapy - DR	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Marriage & Family Therapy - Master	43	12	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Associate	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Bachelor	24	3	✓	✓	✓
School Counseling – Master	11	2	✓	✓	✓
Teaching & Learning – EDD	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Totals	151	37			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

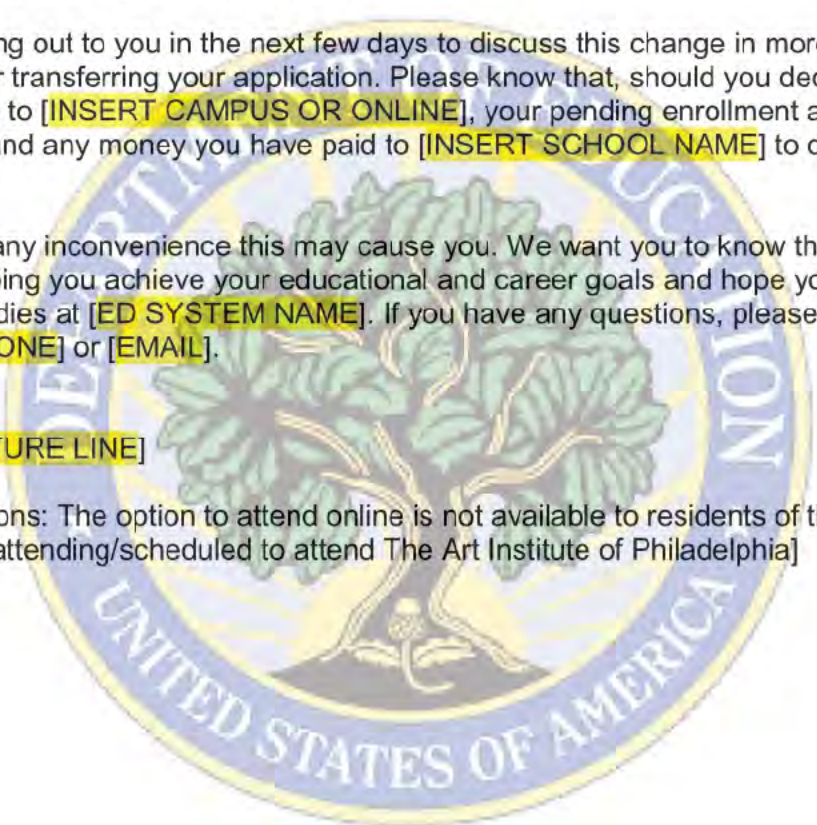
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

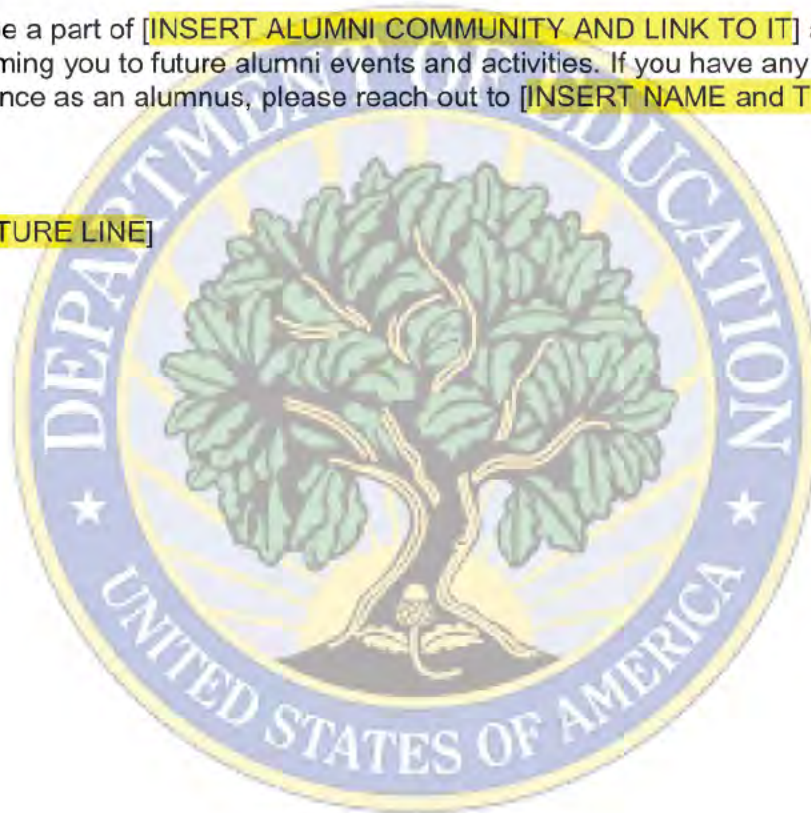
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

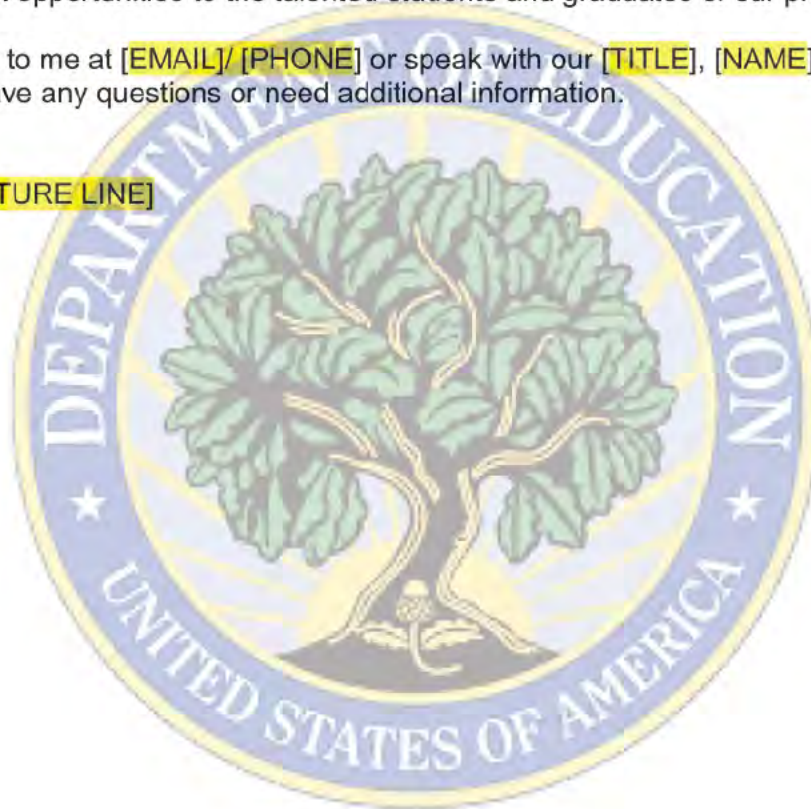
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

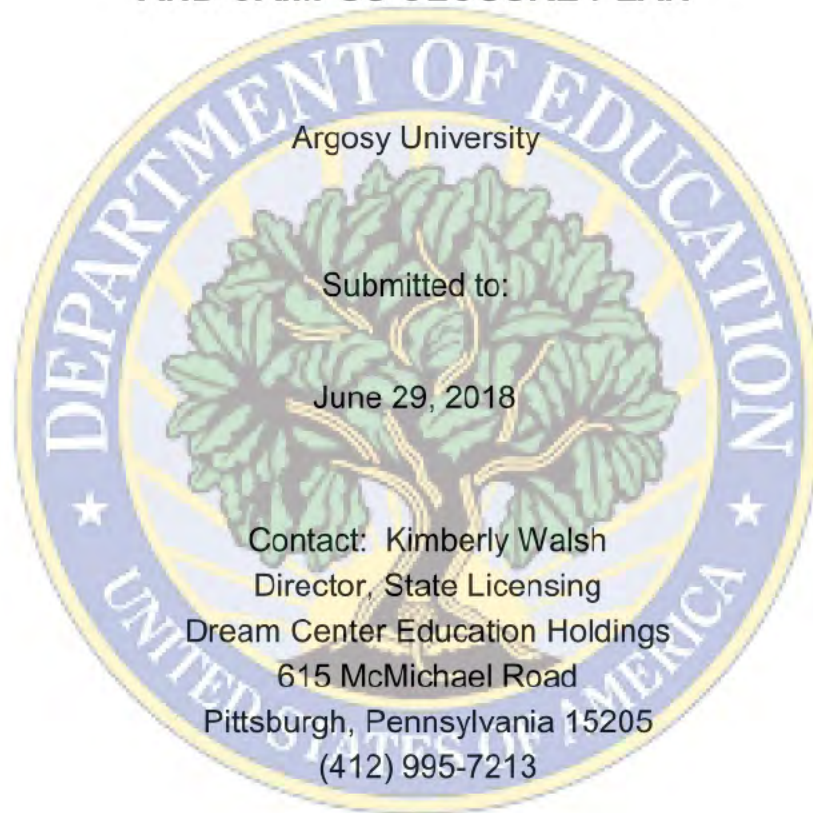
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



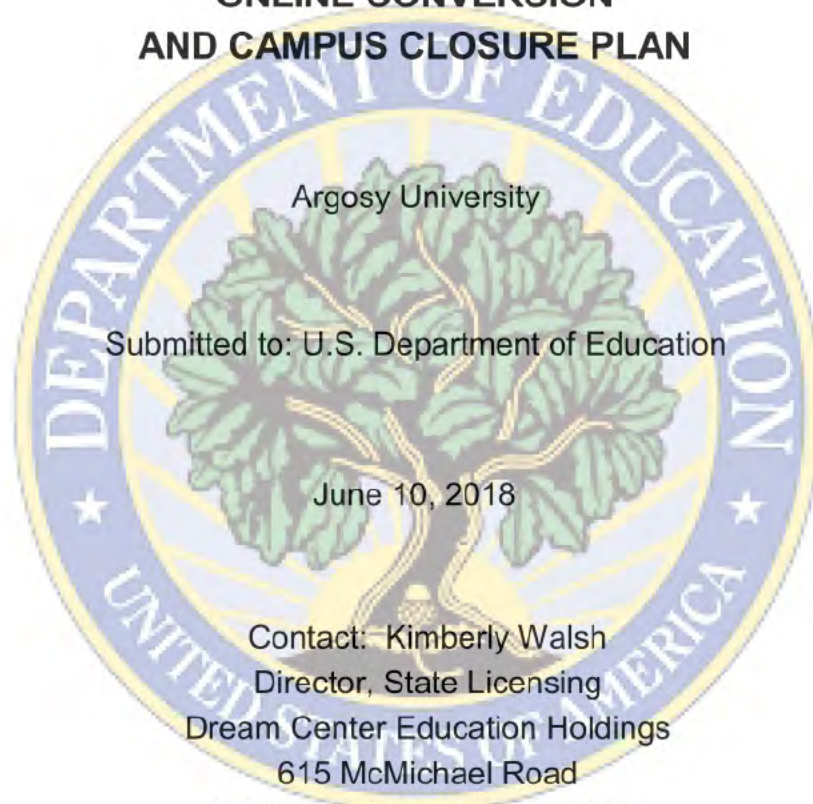


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
- 6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29**
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

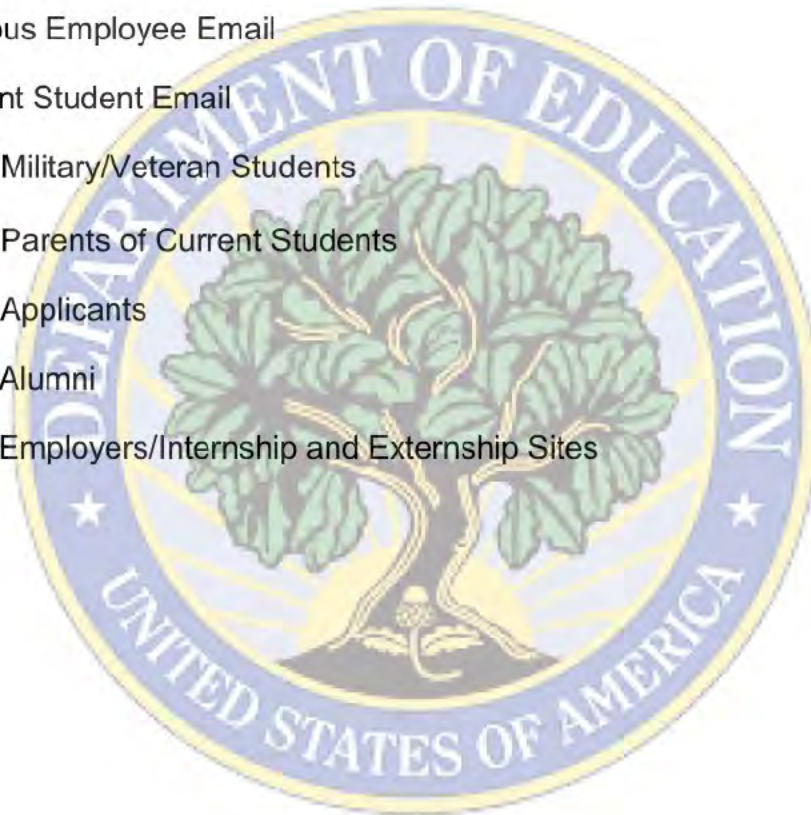
Argosy University – San Diego
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, San Diego - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	23	8	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - DBA	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - MBA	13	4	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - EDD	12	4	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - Master	27	5		✓	✓
Criminal Justice - Bachelors	16	1	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology - Master	5	2	✓	✓	✓
Human Services - Masters	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Information Technology - Bachelor	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Liberal Arts - Bachelor	2	1	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	13	5	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Associate	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Bachelor	46	10	✓	✓	✓
Public Health - Master	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Totals	172	45			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

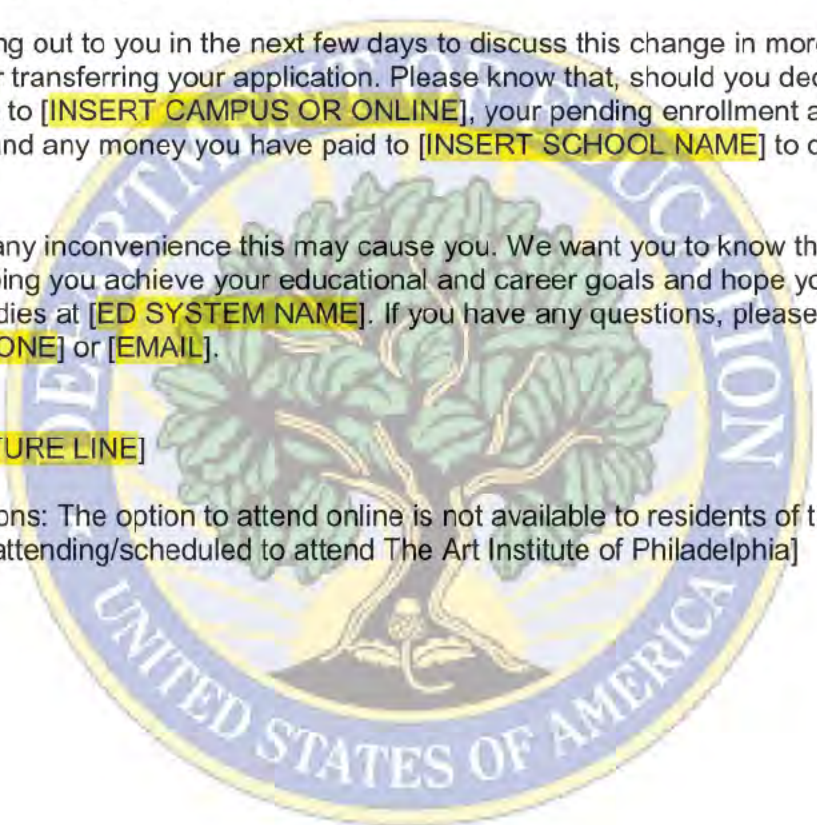
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

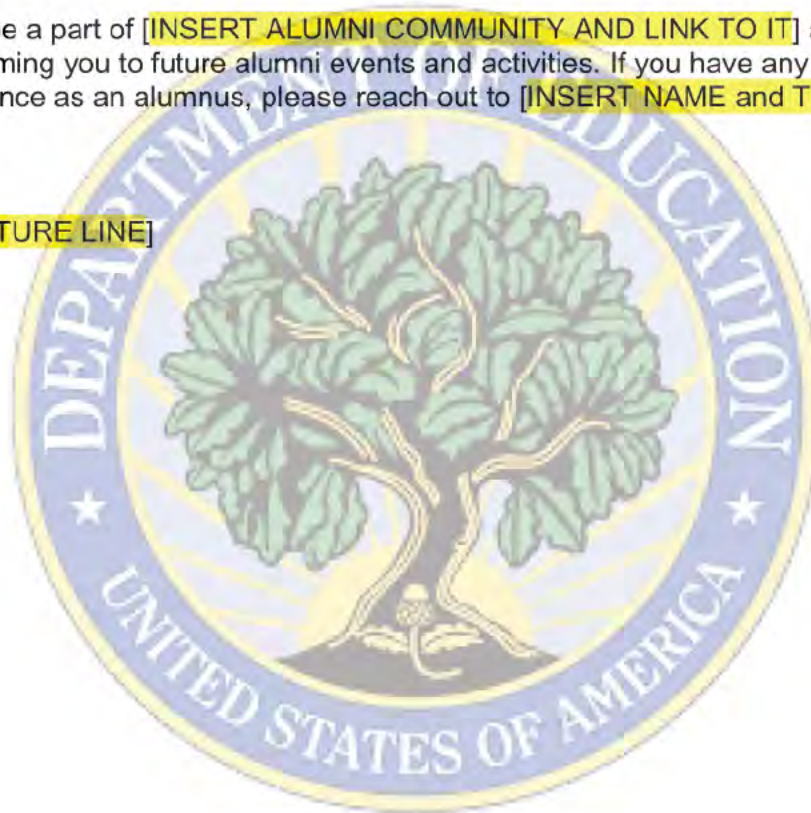
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

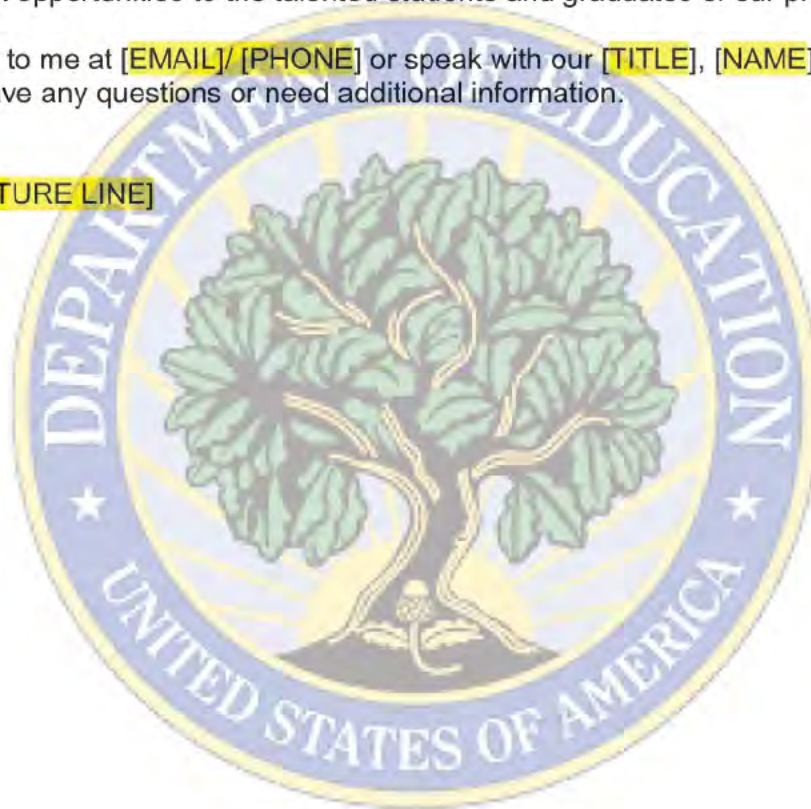
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

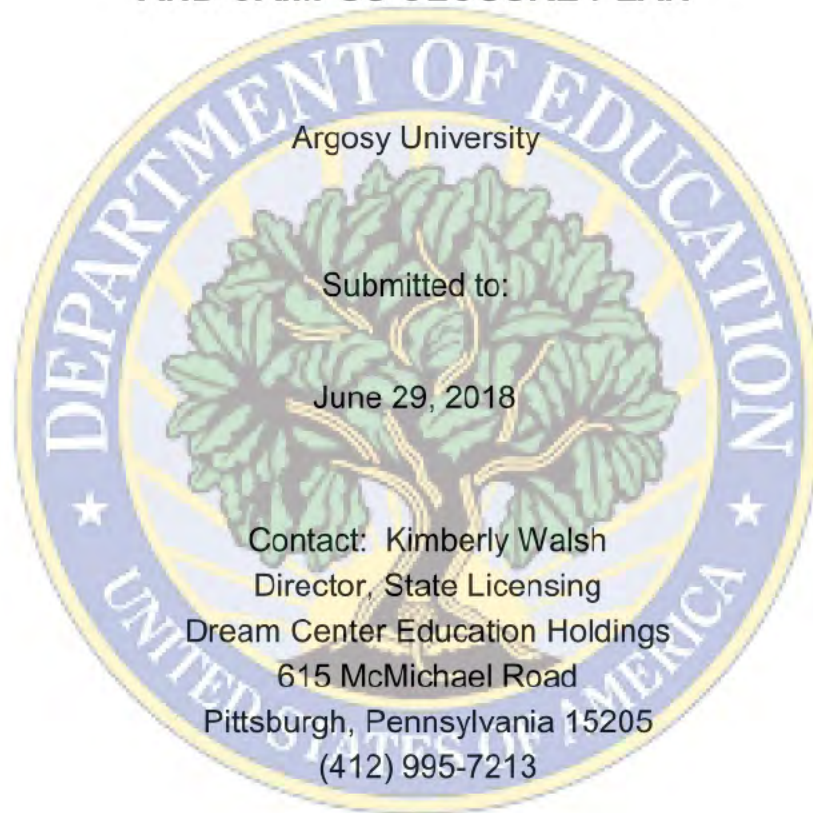
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



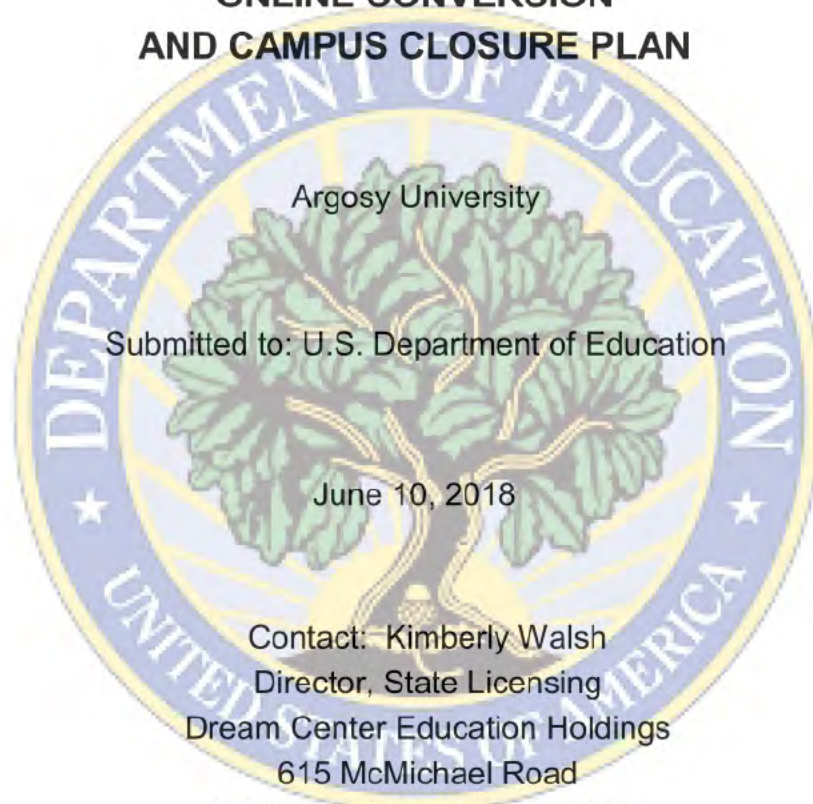


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. **Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21**

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

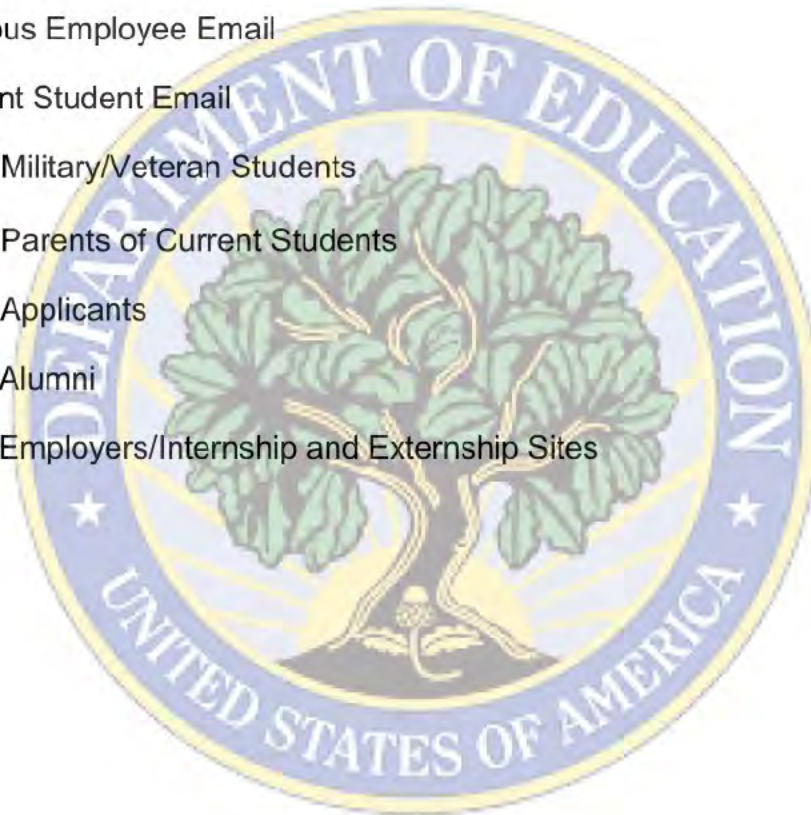
Argosy University – Schaumburg
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, Schaumburg - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	14	6	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - MBA	6	4	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling – Master	38	14	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Psychology - Doctorate	89	19		✓	✓
Clinical Psychology – Master	9	3		✓	✓
Counselor Education & Supervision – EDD	1	1		✓	✓
Forensic Psychology – Master	2	2	✓	✓	✓
Industrial Organizational Psychology – Master	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Associate	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Psychology – Bachelor	12	3	✓	✓	✓
Totals	177	54			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

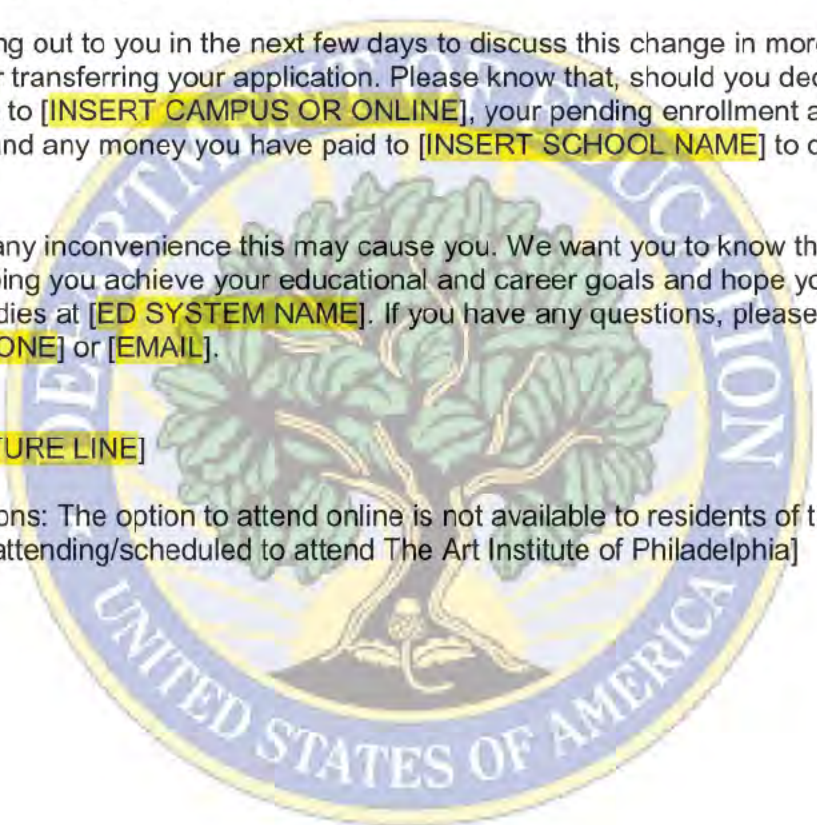
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

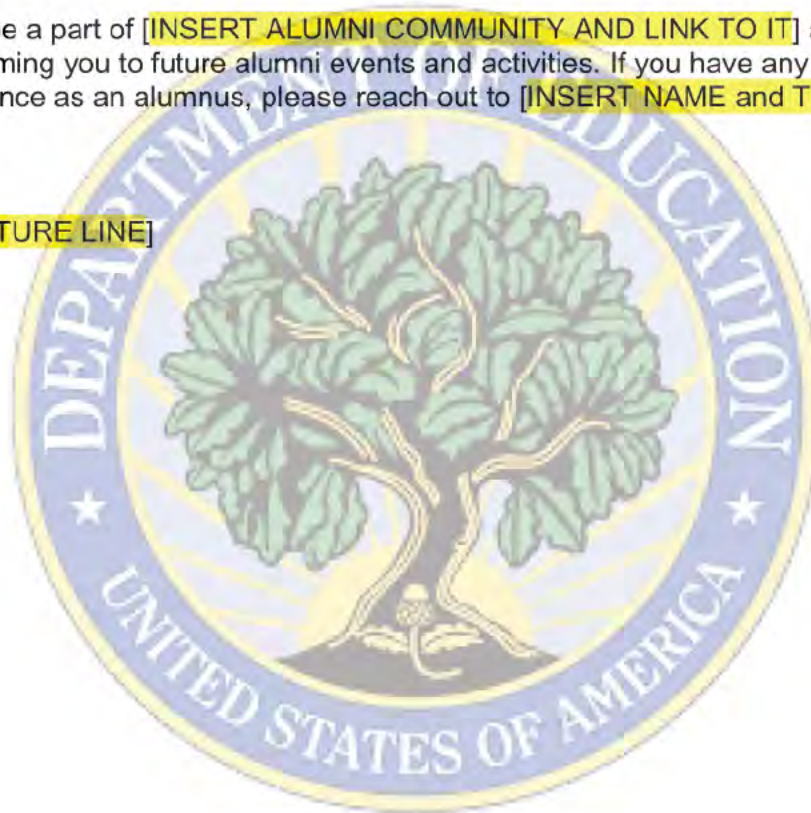
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

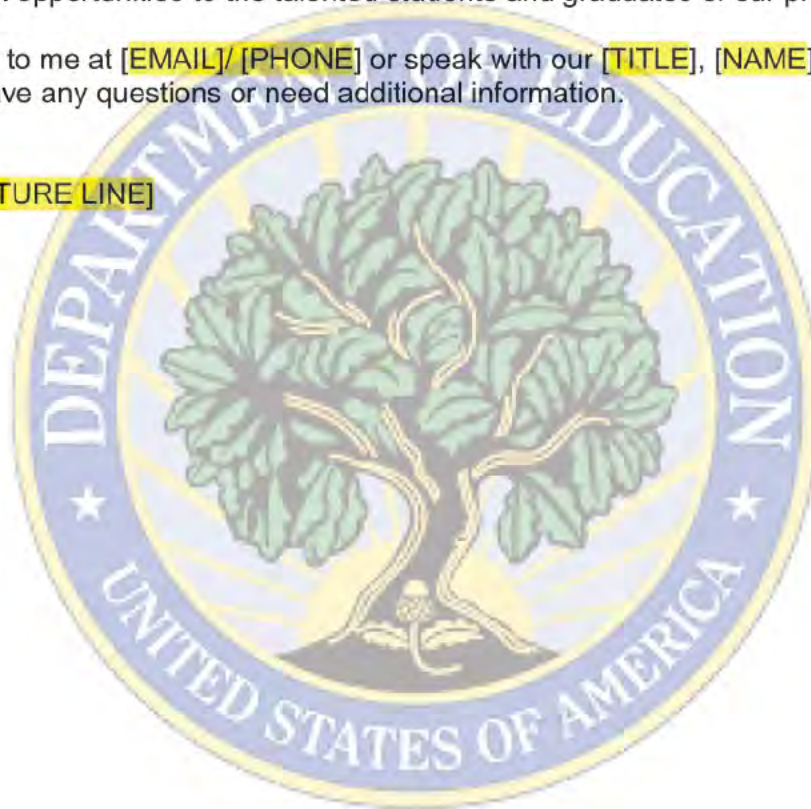
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

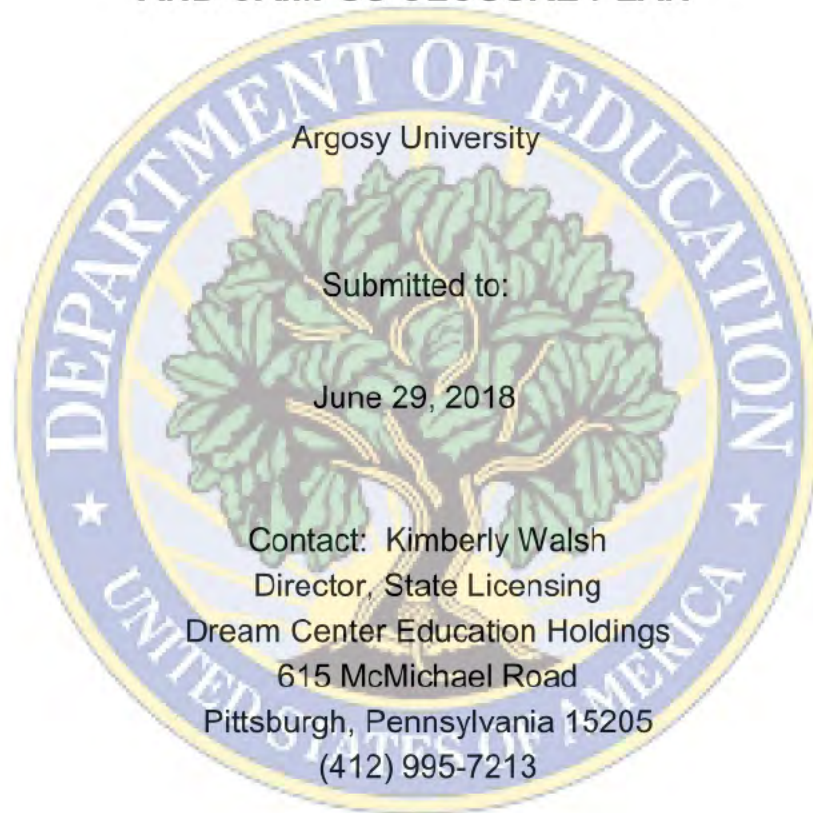
Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



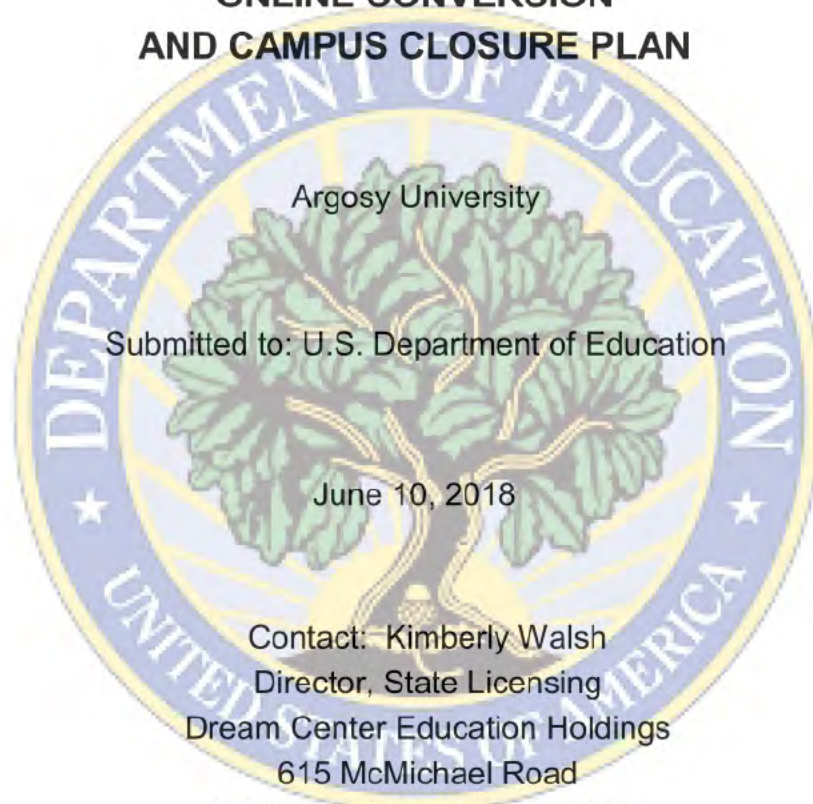


**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**





**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Argosy University

Submitted to: U.S. Department of Education

June 10, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

Argosy University (Argosy) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 9 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Though campus operations will wind down at these locations, Argosy will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Argosy campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. Argosy University – Dallas 021799-19
2. Argosy University – Denver 021799-30
3. Argosy University – Inland Empire 021799-32
4. Argosy University – Nashville 021799-14
5. Argosy University - Salt Lake City 021799-35
 - Argosy University - UT National Guard Base, SLC 021799-43
6. Argosy University - San Diego 021799-29
7. **Argosy University - San Francisco Bay Area 021799-08**
8. Argosy University – Sarasota 021799-18
9. Argosy University – Schaumburg 021799-21

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Argosy recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Argosy is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Argosy Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Argosy's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Argosy campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Argosy campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students

may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Art Institutes campus or online programs. Argosy students who transfer to South or Ai will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Argosy's online delivery modality, the institution will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Argosy will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist student with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about tuition and fees. Argosy will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Argosy campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Argosy anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Argosy will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education.

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Argosy campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Argosy, South or Ai campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Argosy which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Argosy's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Argosy or with another accredited institution. Argosy and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Argosy faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Argosy career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Argosy online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Argosy will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Argosy, South, Ai and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Argosy will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 9 Argosy campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

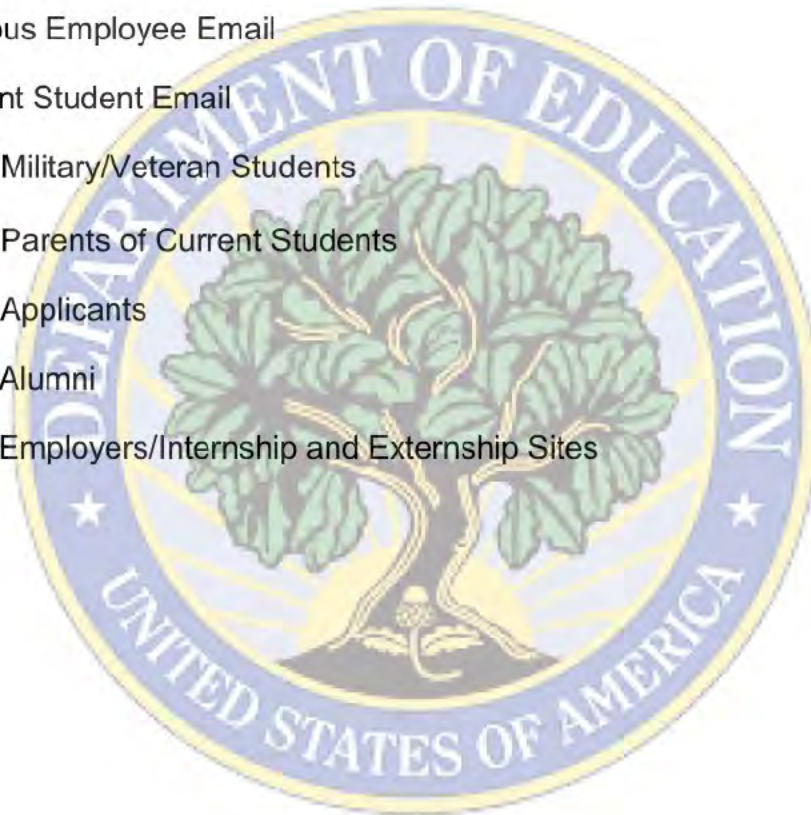
Argosy University – San Francisco Bay Area
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

Argosy University, San Francisco - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Business Administration - Associate	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - Bachelor	13	2	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - DBA	16	4	✓	✓	✓
Business Administration - MBA	12	3	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Mental Health Counseling - Master	17	4	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Psychology - Doctorate	63	16		✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - EDD	13	3	✓	✓	✓
Counseling Psychology - Master	1	1		✓	✓
Criminal Justice - Bachelors	10	1	✓	✓	✓
Forensic Psychology - Master	6	3	✓	✓	✓
Higher & Postsecondary Education - EDD	6	5	✓	✓	✓
Human Resource Management - Master	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Industrial Organizational Psychology - Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Initial Educational Administration - EDD	1	1		✓	✓
Instructional Leadership - EDD	2	2		✓	✓
Liberal Arts - Bachelor	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Management - Master	4	2	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - EDD	11	6	✓	✓	✓
Organizational Leadership - Master	2	2	✓	✓	✓
Pastoral Community Counseling - EDD	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Associate	3	1	✓	✓	✓
Psychology - Bachelor	23	5	✓	✓	✓
Public Health - Master	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Sport-Exercise Psychology - Master	1	0	✓	✓	✓
Totals	219	65			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Argosy University Employees Letter
3. All Campus Employee Email
4. All Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Email to Alumni
9. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AU EMPLOYEES FROM CYNTHIA BAUM

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the transition of course offerings for several Argosy University locations to an online-only format.

It is after a thorough and comprehensive examination of the Argosy University campuses that the decision has been made to transition program offerings online for our locations in Nashville, San Diego, Inland Empire, Sarasota, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Schaumburg and San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, we will no longer enroll students into ground programs at our Art Institutes locations in Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco and Inland Empire.

While the demand for these campus' ground-based programs has declined, we remain committed to meeting the needs of future students in these markets through online programs.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down; they will remain open until the end of the calendar year. We are working closely with impacted employees and are doing the same with our currently enrolled students.

Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (as outlined in Brent's message). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

This change is difficult for all of us. I want to thank the employees of these locations for doing the very best they can for our students and to thank all of our employees for the support they may provide to these campuses and students in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your campus president.

Sincerely,
Cynthia G. Baum, Ph.D.
Chancellor



333 City Boulevard West | Suite 1810 | Orange, California 92868

Tel: (714) 620-0902 | **Fax:** (714) 620-0949

cbaum@argosy.edu

EMAIL TO ALL CAMPUS EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.
3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.

4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

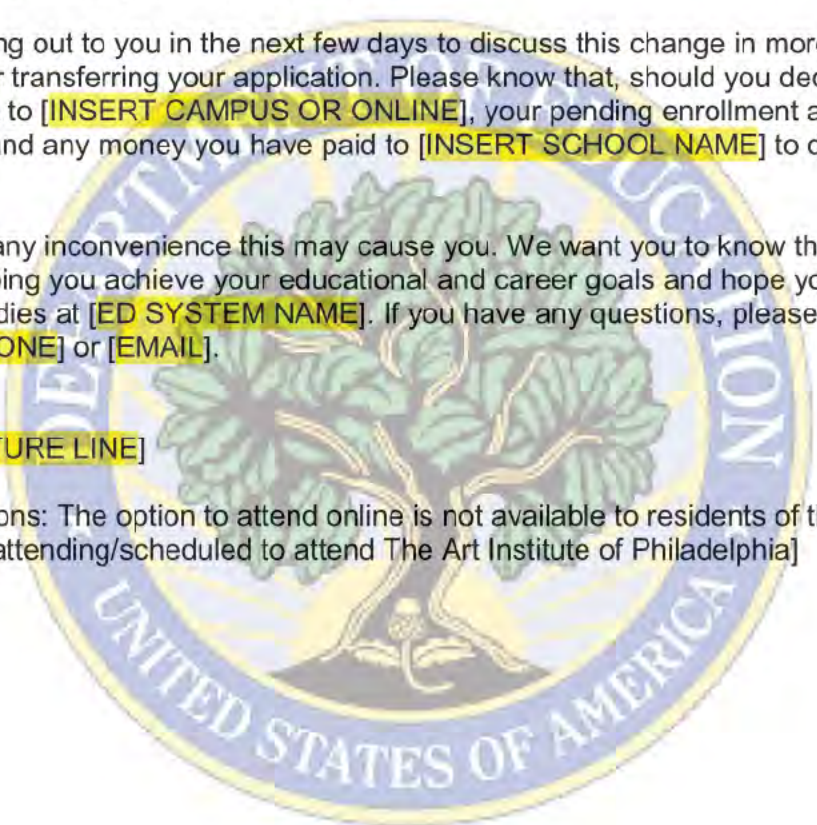
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

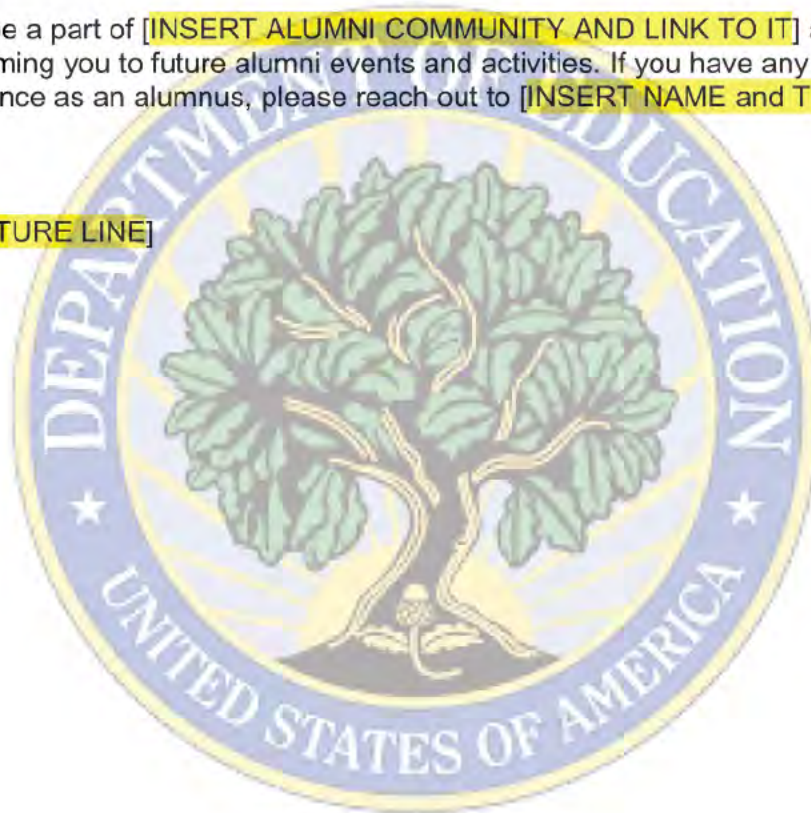
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will be shifting our educational offerings in the [CITY] area from campus-based to online. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and in higher education for online-based education.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

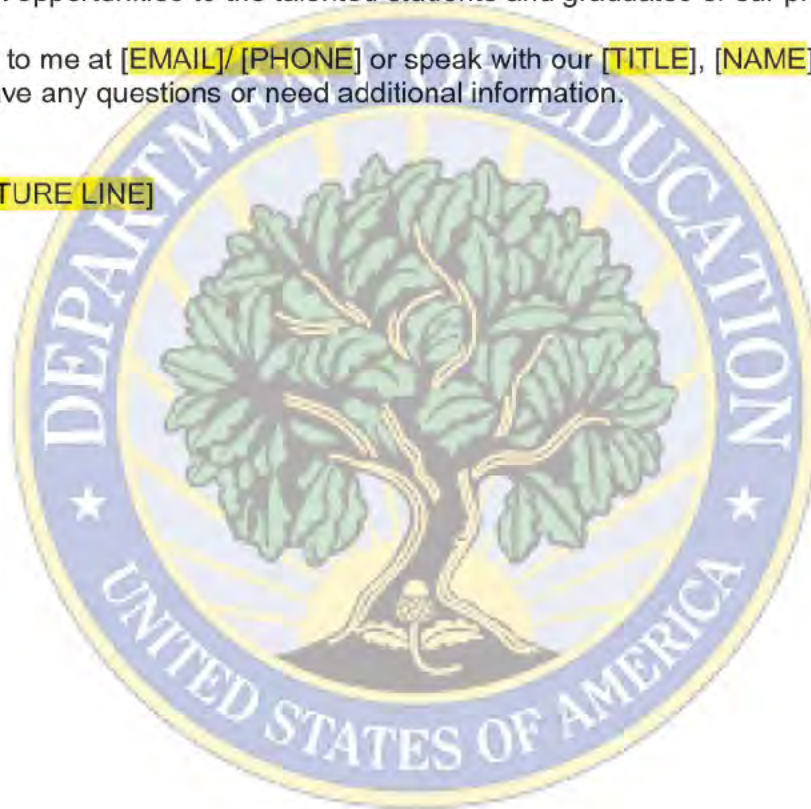
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: Tennessee Higher Education Commission

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**

The Art Institute of Tennessee — Nashville,
a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
- 9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03**
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



**The Art Institute of Tennessee — Nashville,
a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options**

The Art Institute of Tennessee — Nashville, a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Audio Production- Bachelor	31	7	✓	✓	✓
Baking & Pastry - Associate	18	10		✓	✓
Baking and Pastry - Diploma	1	1		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	36	14		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Diploma	4	0		✓	✓
Culinary Arts Management-Bachelor	31	8	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Associate	7	2		✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	26	6		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	20	6	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Management - Bachelor	27	9	✓	✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Associates	3	1		✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Bachelor	27	9		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	4	3	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	46	12	✓	✓	✓
Visual Effects & Motion Graphics- Bachelor	13	2		✓	✓
Totals	294	90			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aii.edu

 **The Art Institutes®**

MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]

LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

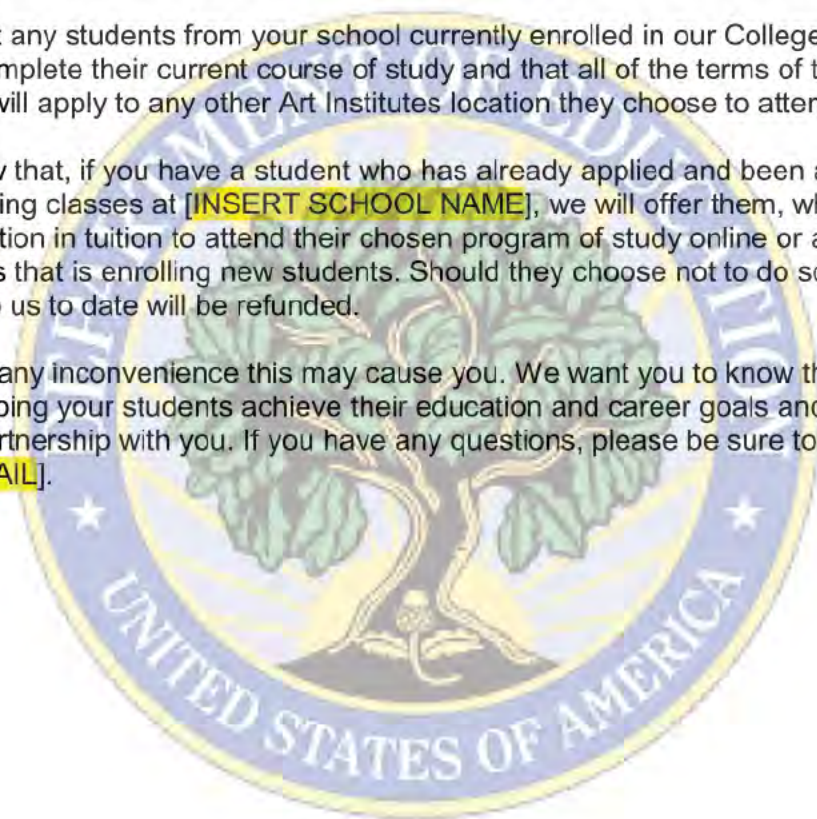
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

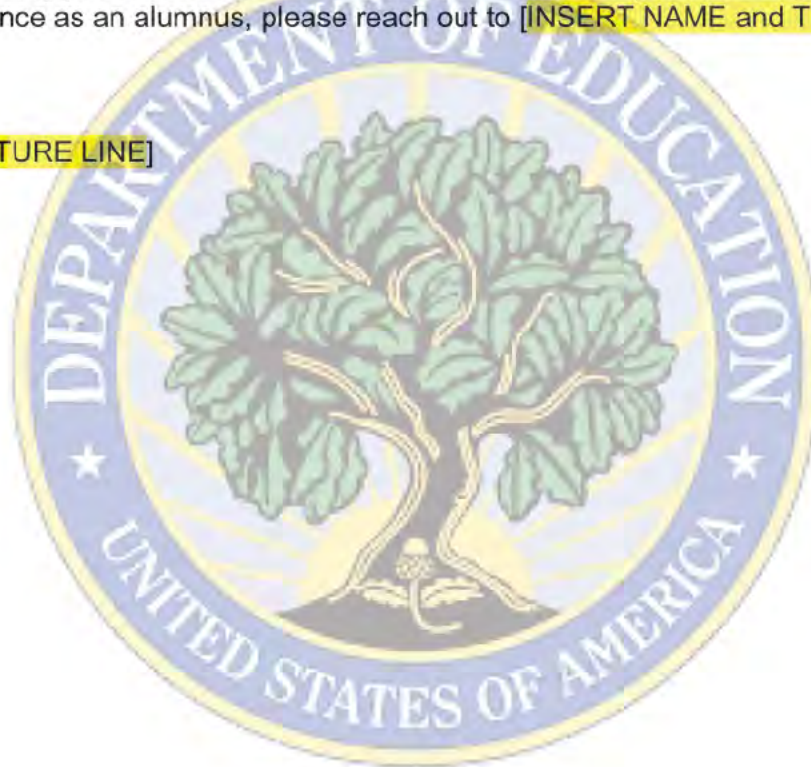
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

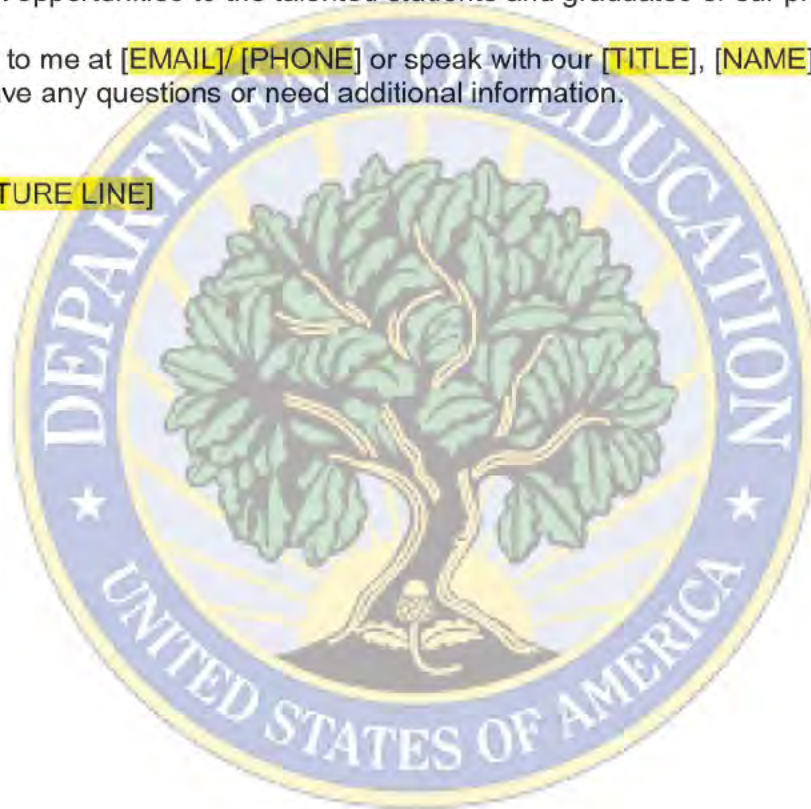
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

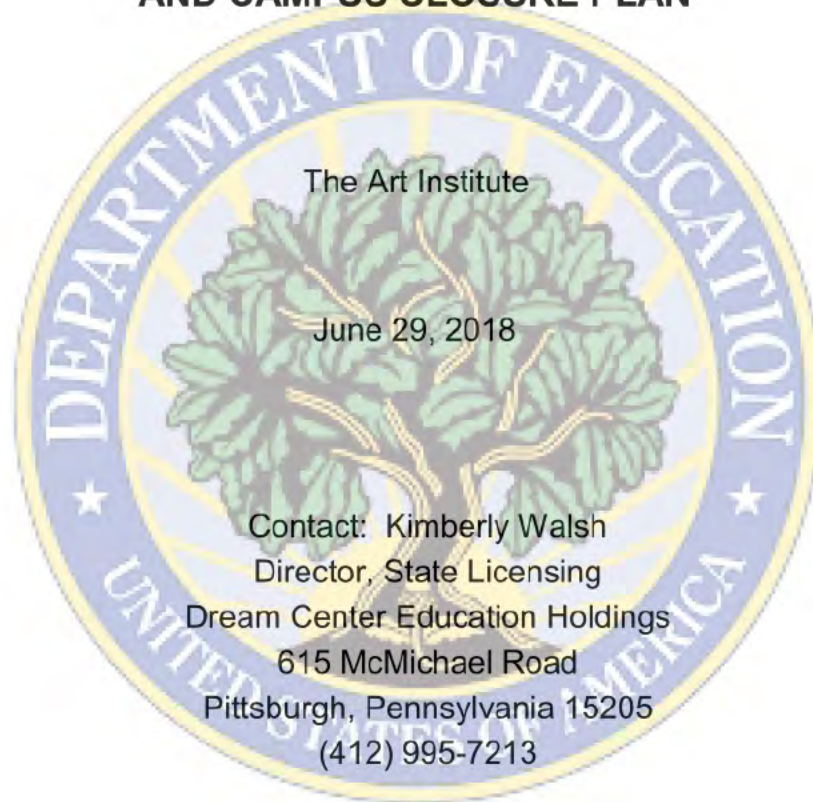
June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**



Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
- 18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02**

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the

local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 19 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



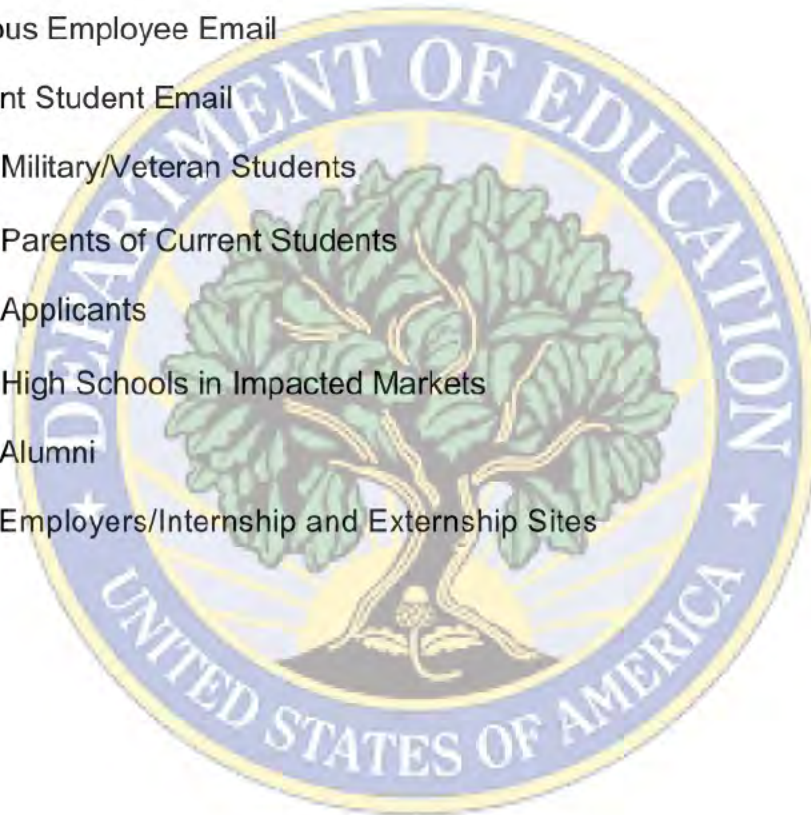
**The Art Institute of Washington,
a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options**

The Art Institute of Washington, a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta - Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Advertising - Bachelor	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Audio Production- Bachelor	39	12		✓	✓
Baking & Pastry - Associate	17	10		✓	✓
Baking and Pastry - Diploma	2	2		✓	✓
Commercial Photography-Diploma	1	1		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	26	10		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Diploma	9	6		✓	✓
Culinary Management - Bachelor	33	5	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Associate	8	4		✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	29	9		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Associate	6	4	✓	✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	15	5	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Management - Bachelor	30	11	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Retailing - Diploma	2	1		✓	✓
Game Art & Design - Bachelor	18	5	✓	✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Associates	8	1		✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Bachelor	22	4		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	26	6	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	78	25	✓	✓	✓
Visual & Game Programming - Bachelor	10	2		✓	✓
Visual Effects & Motion Graphics- Bachelor	2	0		✓	✓
Totals	385	124			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aii.edu



MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

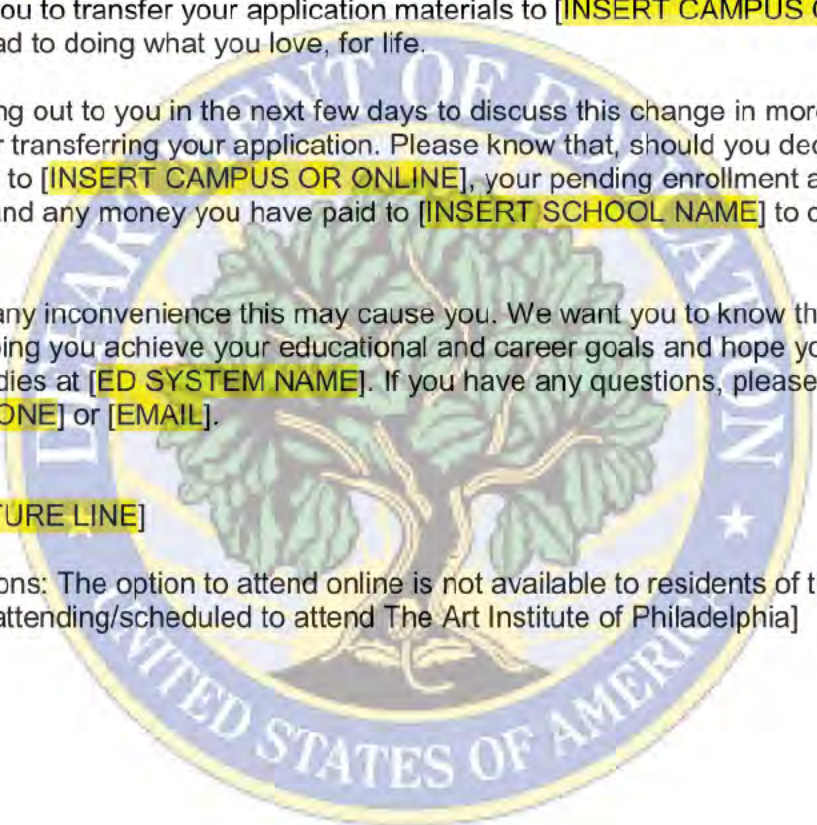
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

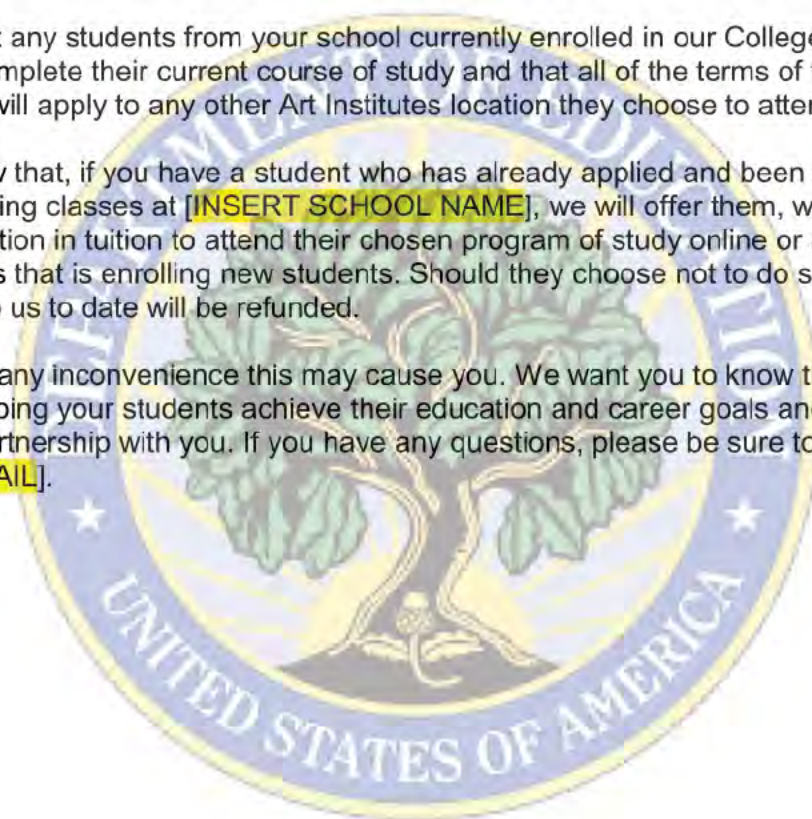
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

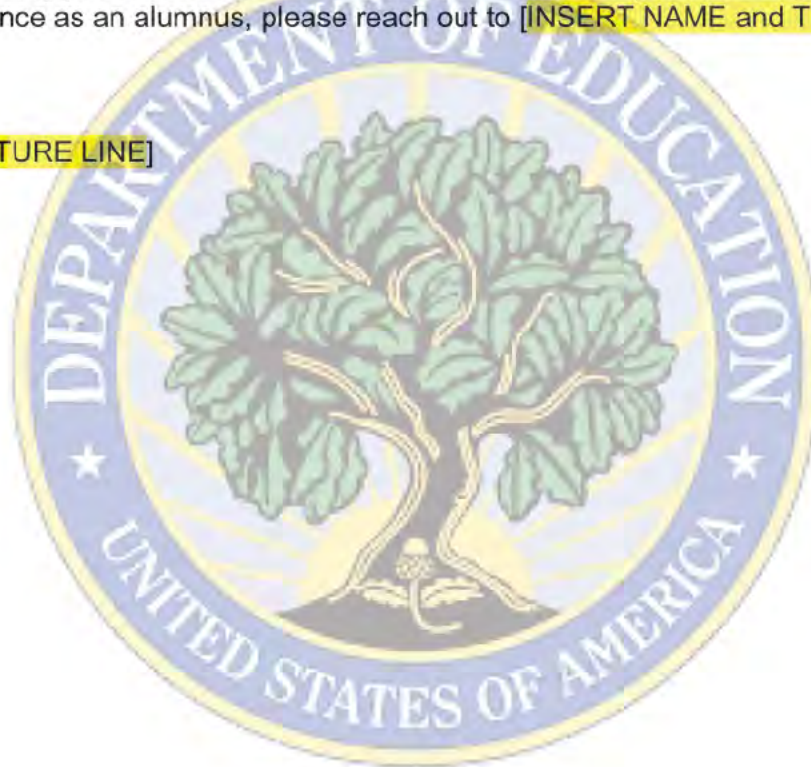
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

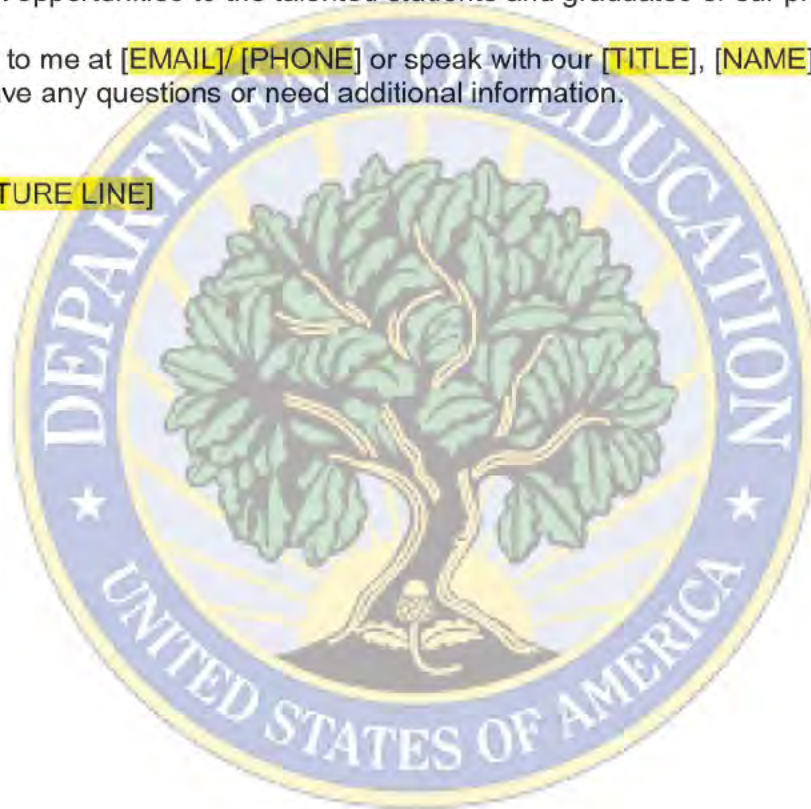
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: Illinois Board of Higher Education

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**

The Illinois Institute of Art — Schaumburg

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
- 17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01**
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



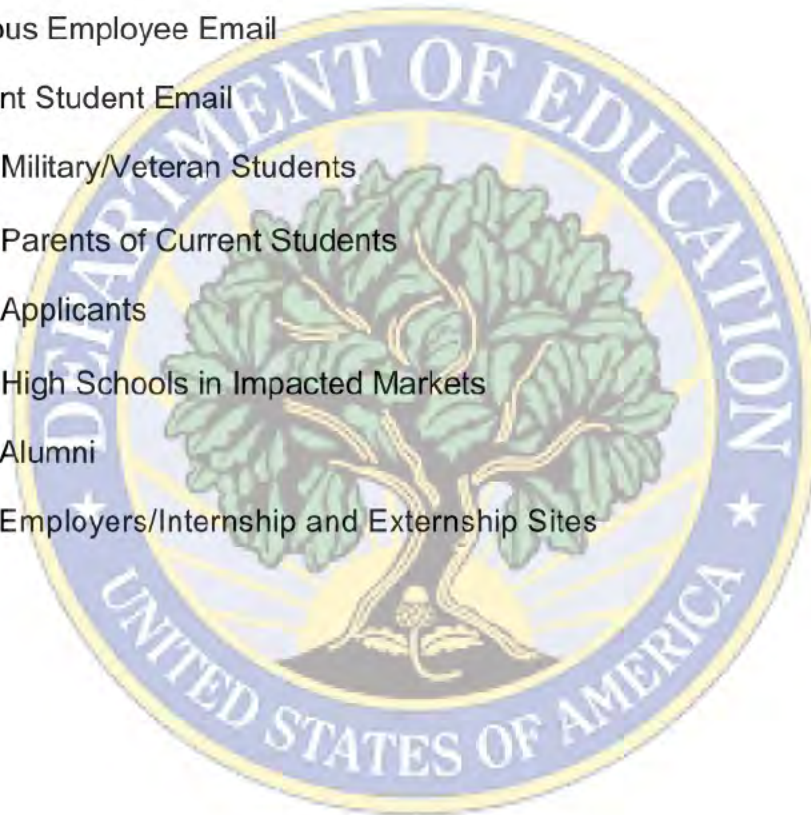
The Illinois Institute of Art — Schaumburg
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

The Illinois Institute of Art — Schaumburg Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Audio Production- Bachelor	30	6		✓	✓
Digital Design - Diploma	1	1	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	13	2		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	12	3	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Design - Bachelor	21	7		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Management - Bachelor	28	13	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Merchandising - Associate	5	2		✓	✓
Game Art & Design - Bachelor	15	5	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Design - Associate	3	2	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Design - Bachelor	66	20	✓	✓	✓
Illustration and Design	13	3		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	32	9	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	32	8		✓	✓
Visual Effects & Motion Graphics- Bachelor	20	6		✓	✓
Web Design & Interactive Media - Associate	4	1	✓	✓	✓
Web Design & Interactive Media - Bachelor	9	5	✓	✓	✓
Totals	304	93			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

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I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

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clbrown@aii.edu



MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]

LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

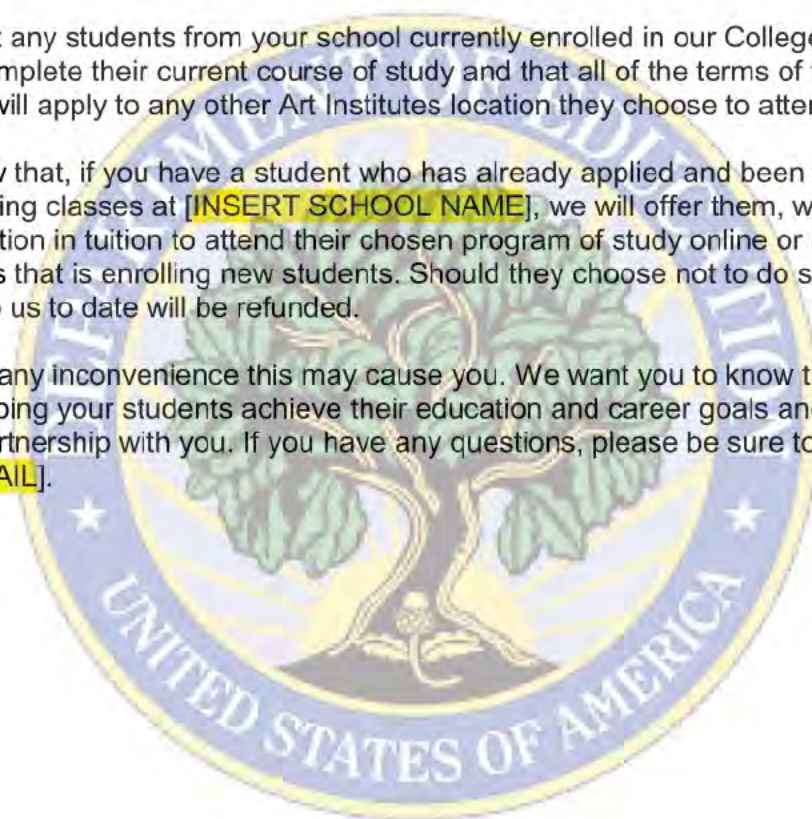
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

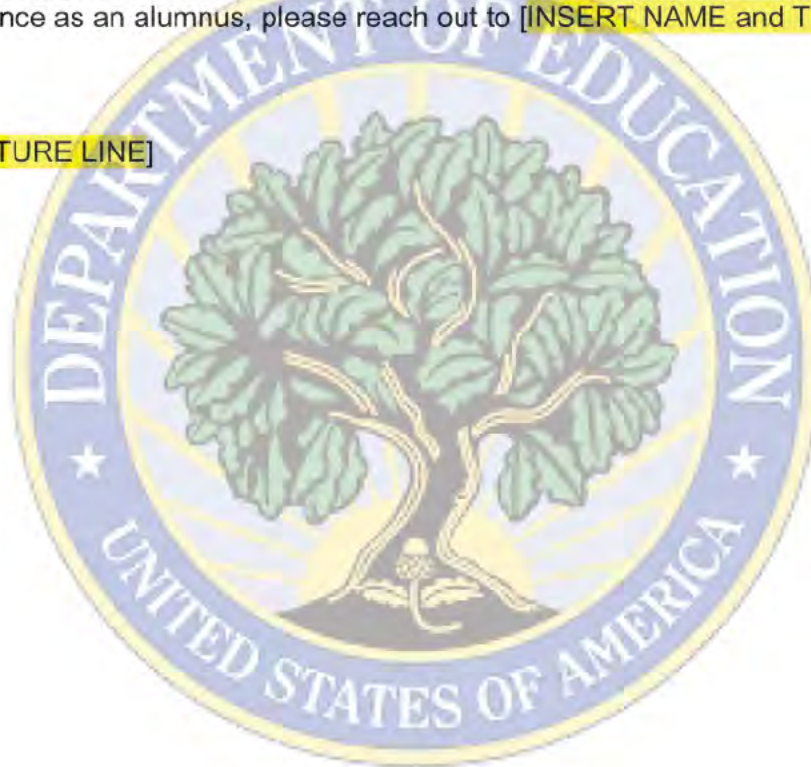
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

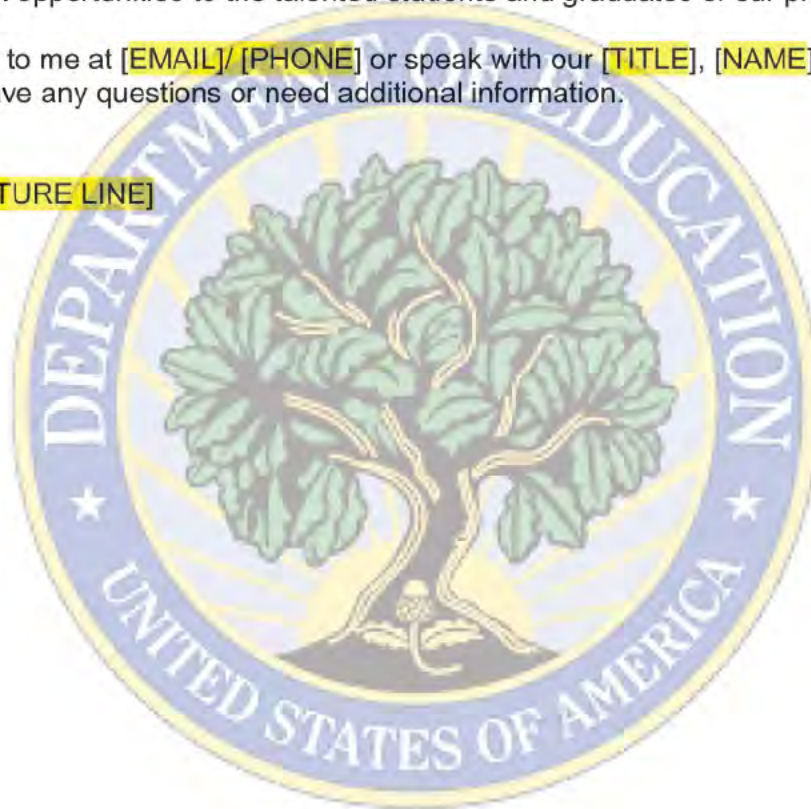
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: Illinois Board of Higher Education

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**

The Illinois Institute of Art – Chicago

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. **Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00**
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



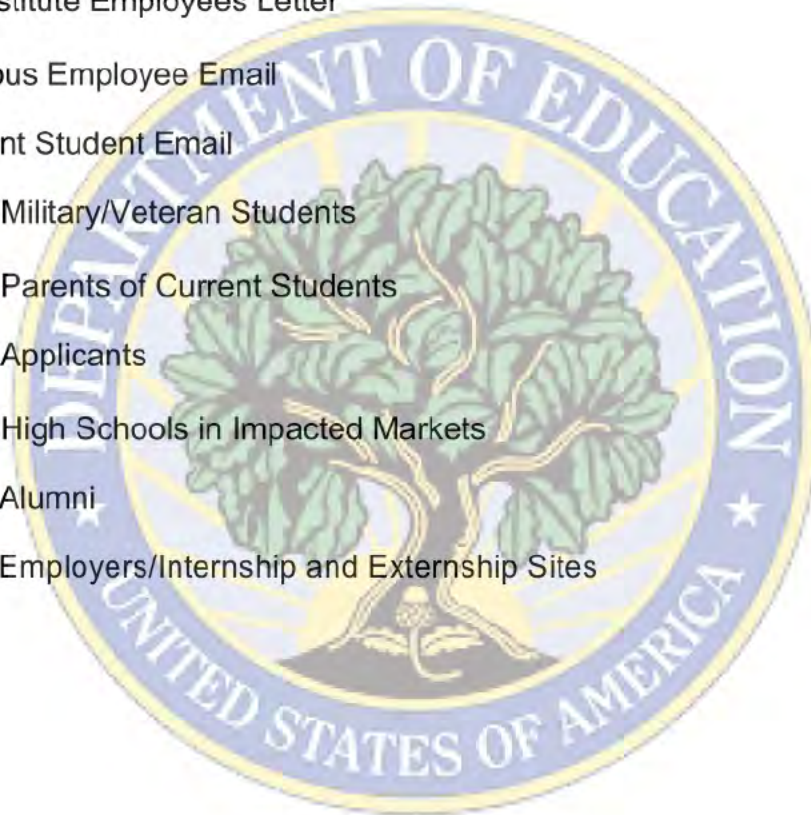
The Illinois Institute of Art - Chicago
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

The Illinois Institute of Art — Chicago Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Advertising - Bachelor	9	3	✓	✓	✓
Audio Production- Bachelor	33	5		✓	✓
Baking and Pastry - Diploma	3	2		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	49	13		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Diploma	3	3		✓	✓
Culinary Management - Bachelor	29	5	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	24	8		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	29	4	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Design - Bachelor	88	10		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Management - Bachelor	61	21	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Merchandising - Associate	20	7		✓	✓
Game Art & Design - Bachelor	35	7	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Design - Associate	16	9	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Design - Bachelor	60	20	✓	✓	✓
Hospitality Management - Associate	3	0		✓	✓
Hospitality Management - Bachelor	7	3		✓	✓
Illustration and Design	34	6		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	61	18	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	35	5	✓	✓	✓
Totals	599	149			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aii.edu



MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

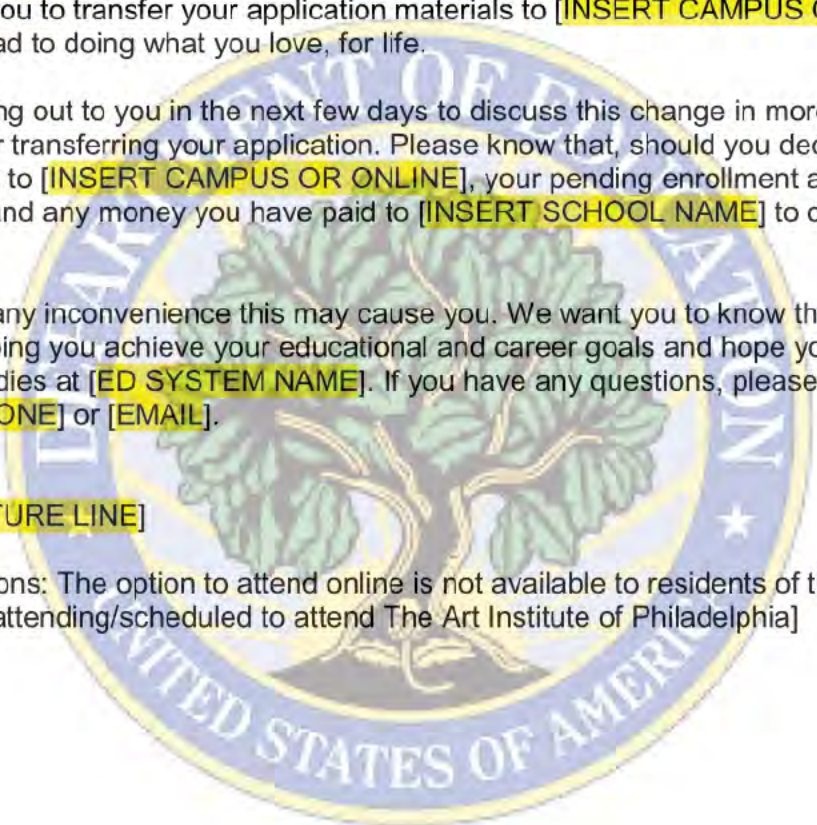
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

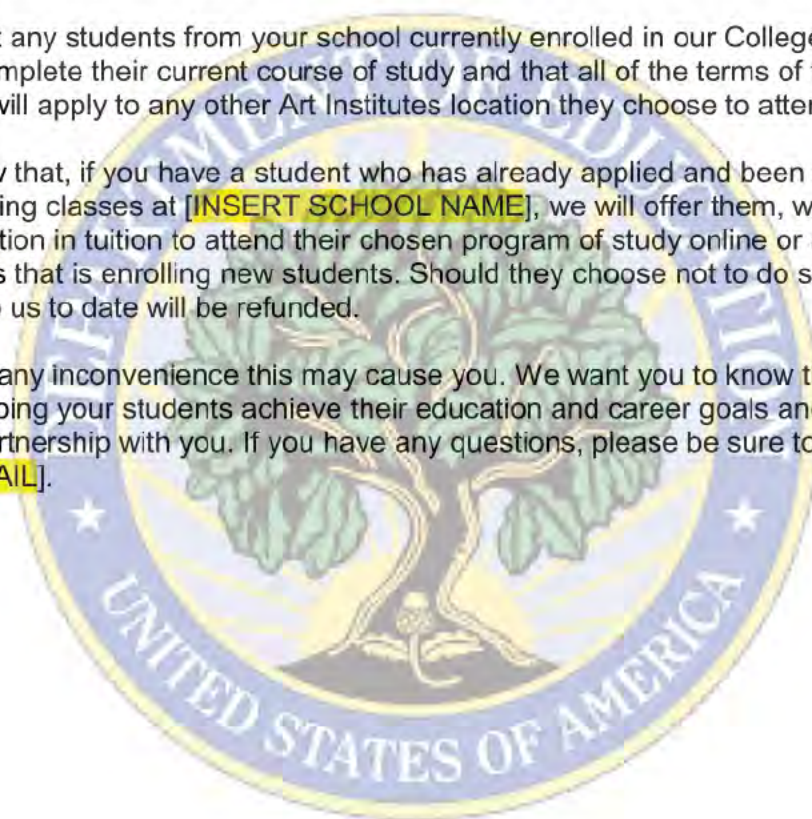
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

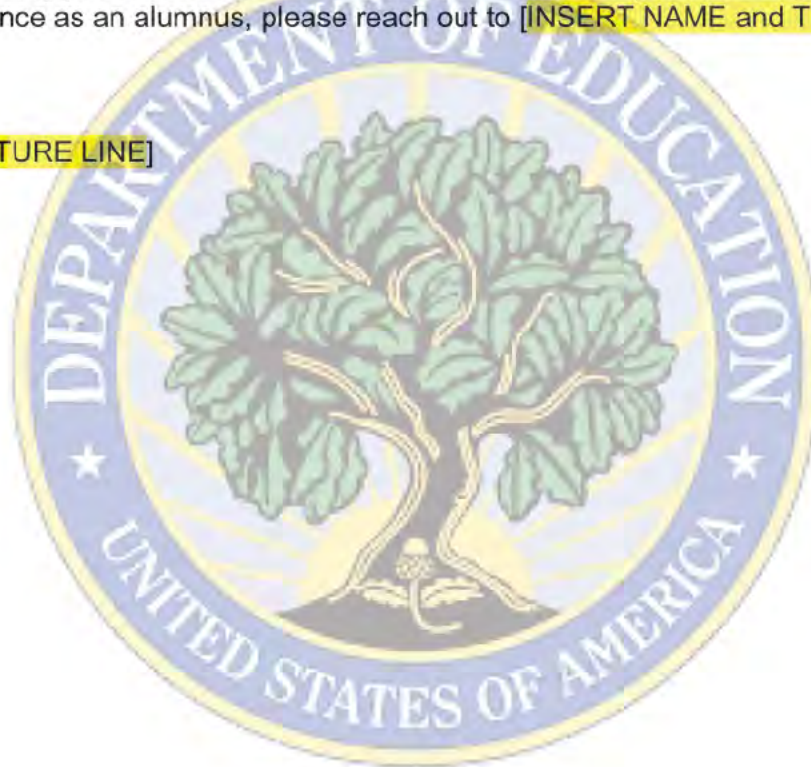
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

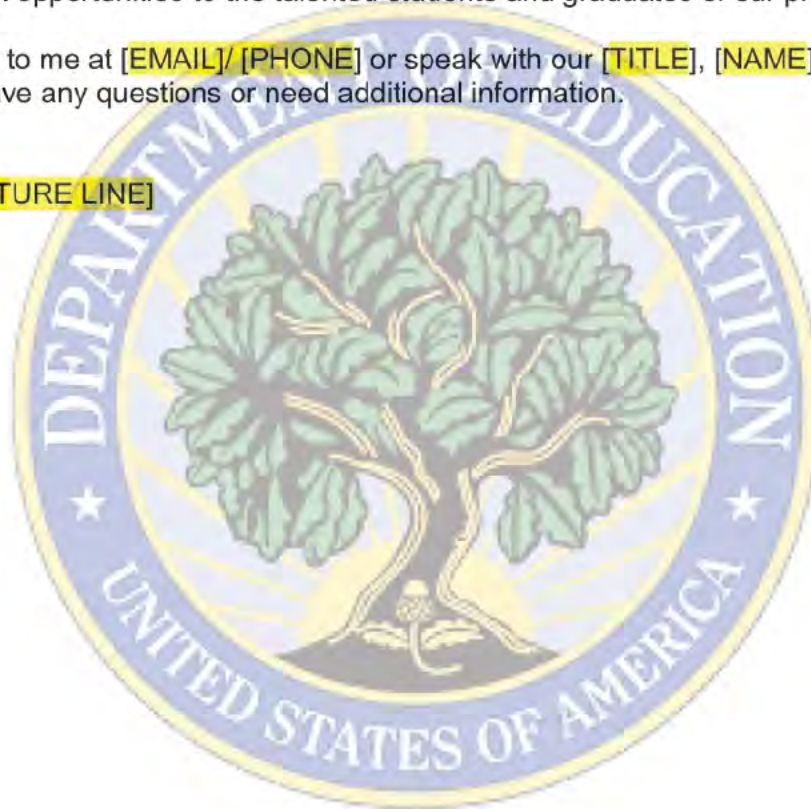
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**

The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. **The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit** 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



The Art Institute of Michigan
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

The Art Institute of Michigan Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Audio Production- Bachelor	39	3		✓	✓
Baking and Pastry - Diploma	13	11		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	34	13		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Diploma	7	2		✓	✓
Culinary Management - Bachelor	18	4	✓	✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	33	7	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Management - Bachelor	20	4	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Merchandising - Associate	14	4		✓	✓
Graphic Design - Associate	22	6	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Design - Bachelor	27	7	✓	✓	✓
Interior Design - Associate	16	8		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	13	3	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	106	23	✓	✓	✓
Web Design & Interactive Media - Associate	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Web Design & Interactive Media - Bachelor	2	0	✓	✓	✓
Totals	366	95			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aii.edu



MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]

LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

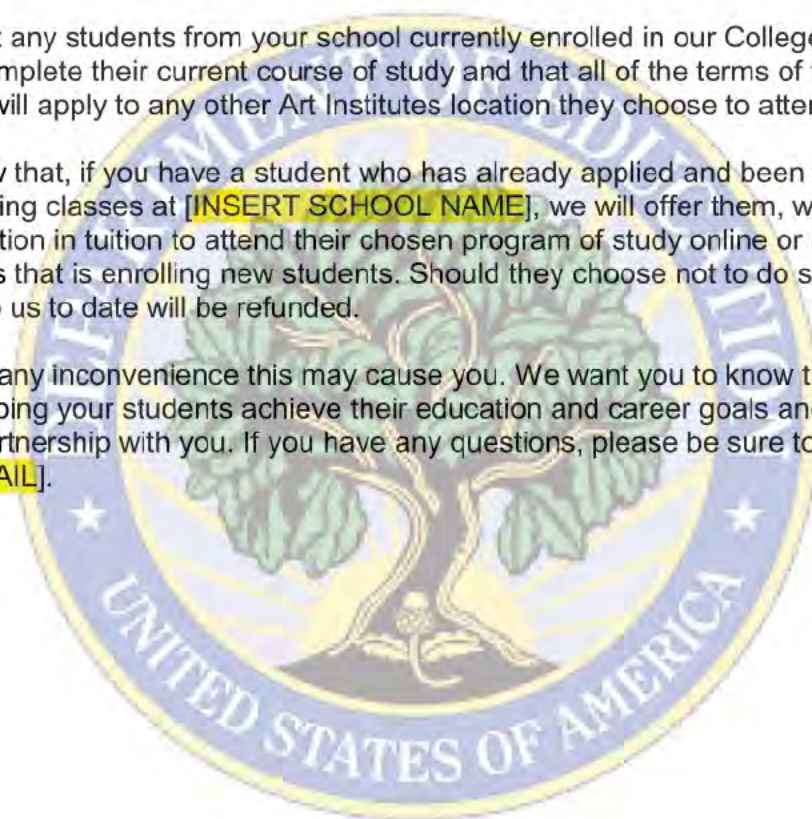
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

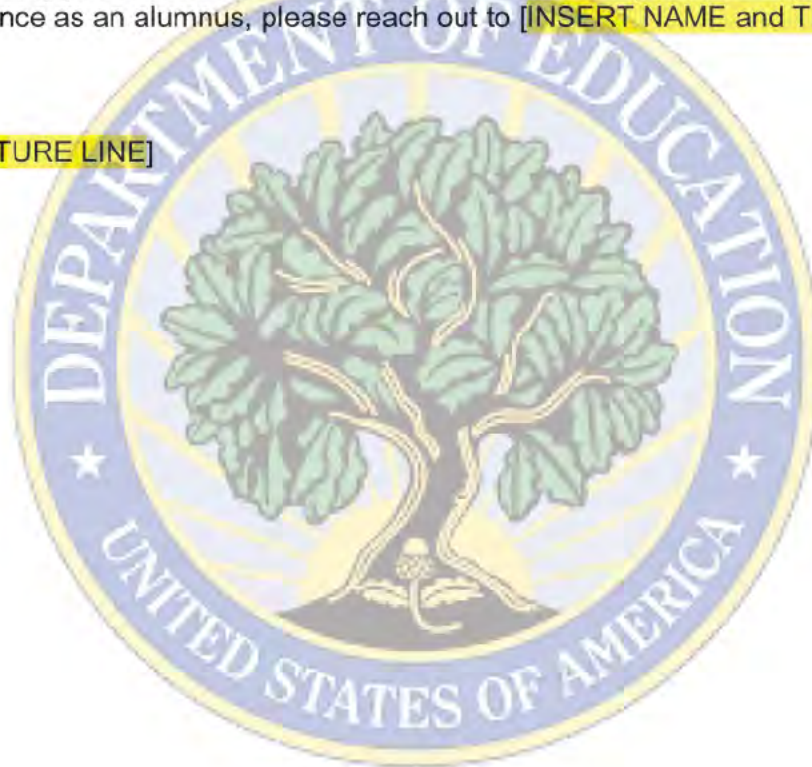
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

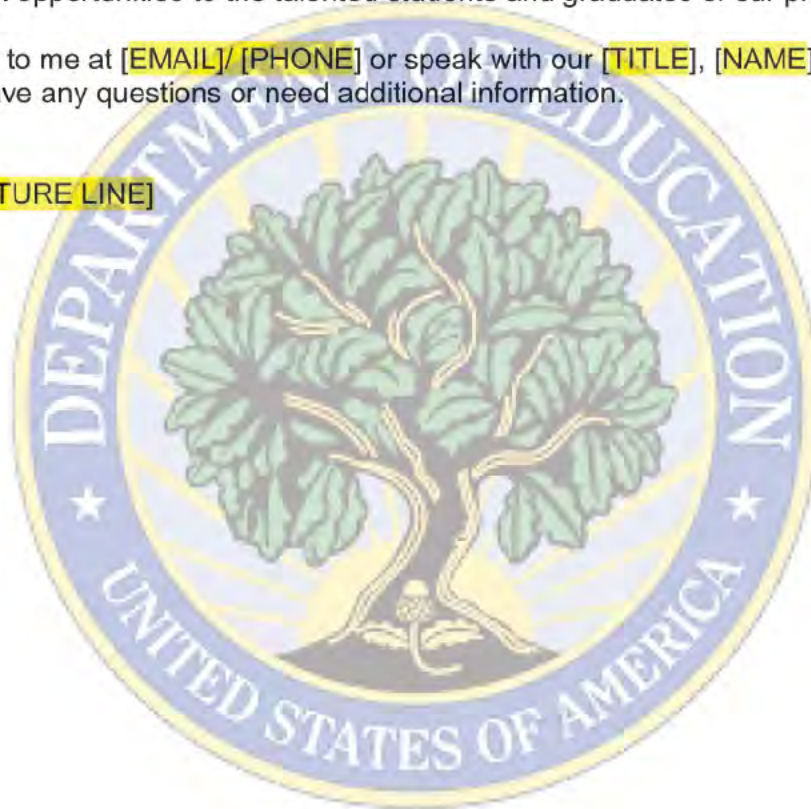
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institute of Charleston, a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. **The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04**
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



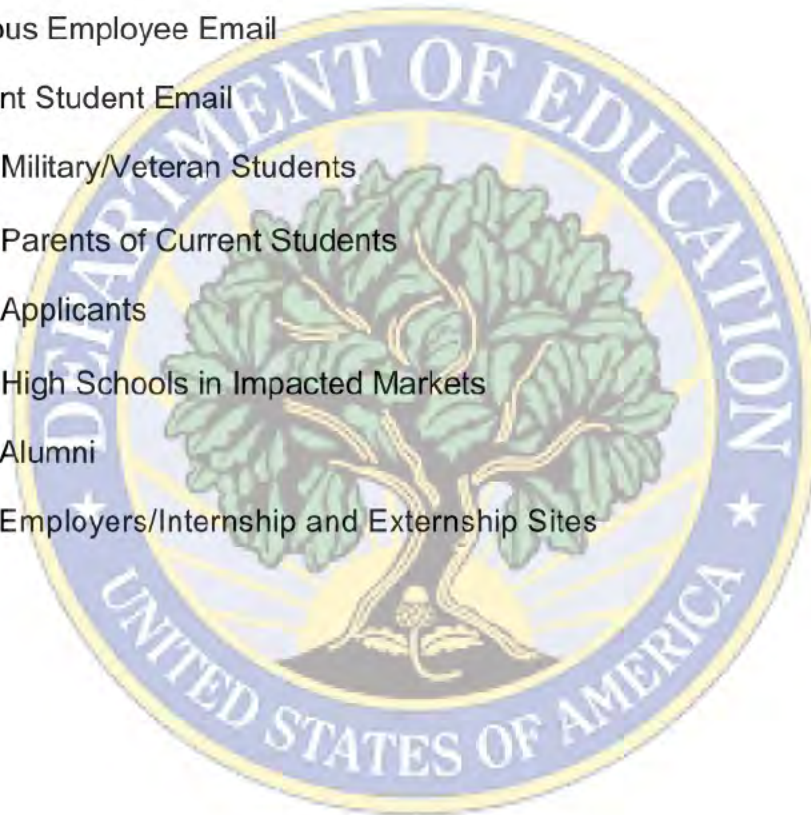
The Art Institute of Charleston, a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options

The Art Institute of Charleston, a branch of The Art Institute of Atlanta Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Baking & Pastry - Associate	10	4		✓	✓
Baking & Pastry - Certificate	1	1		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	23	10		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Certificate	2	1		✓	✓
Culinary Management - Bachelor	34	6	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	23	2		✓	✓
Digital Image Management - Certificate	2	1		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	17	2	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Design - Bachelor	35	10		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Mgmt - Bachelor	21	6	✓	✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Associates	9	2		✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Bachelor	36	7		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	24	6	✓	✓	✓
Residential Design - Certificate	3	3	✓	✓	✓
Totals	240	61			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aii.edu



MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

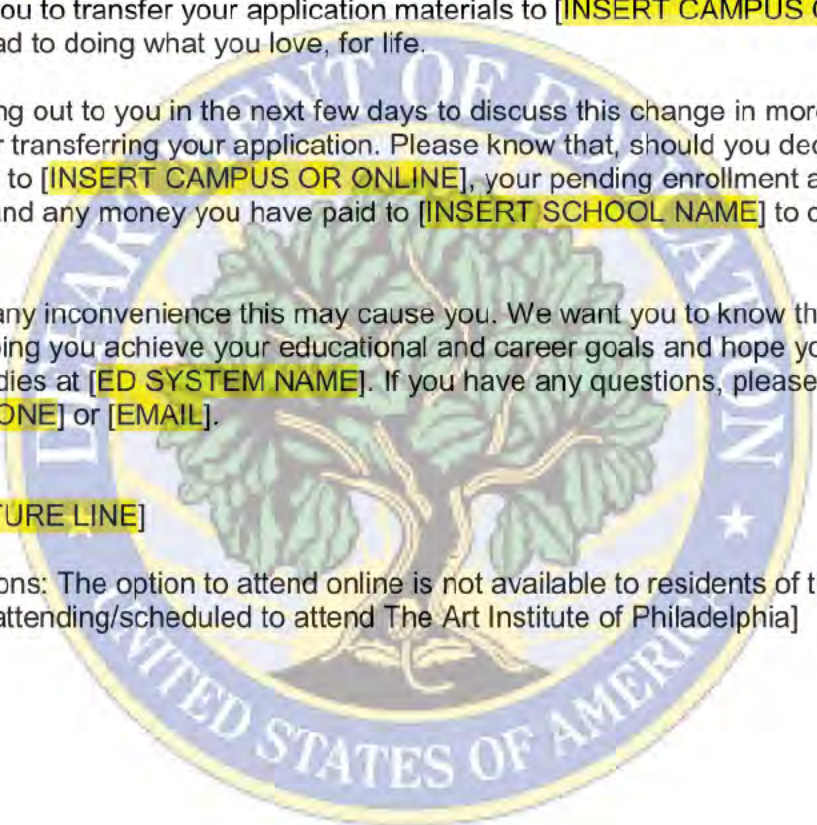
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

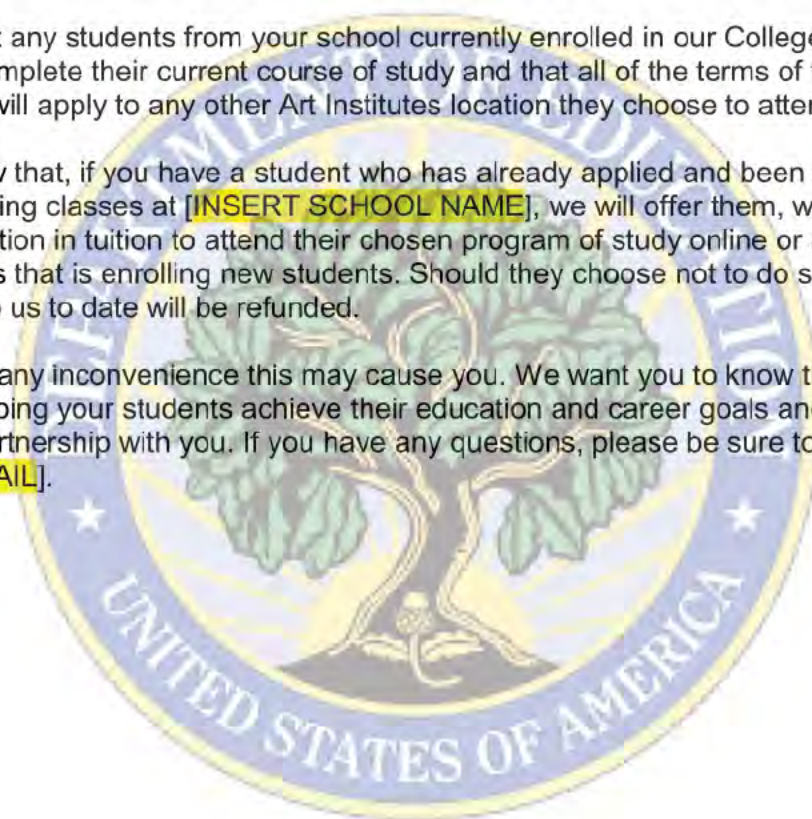
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

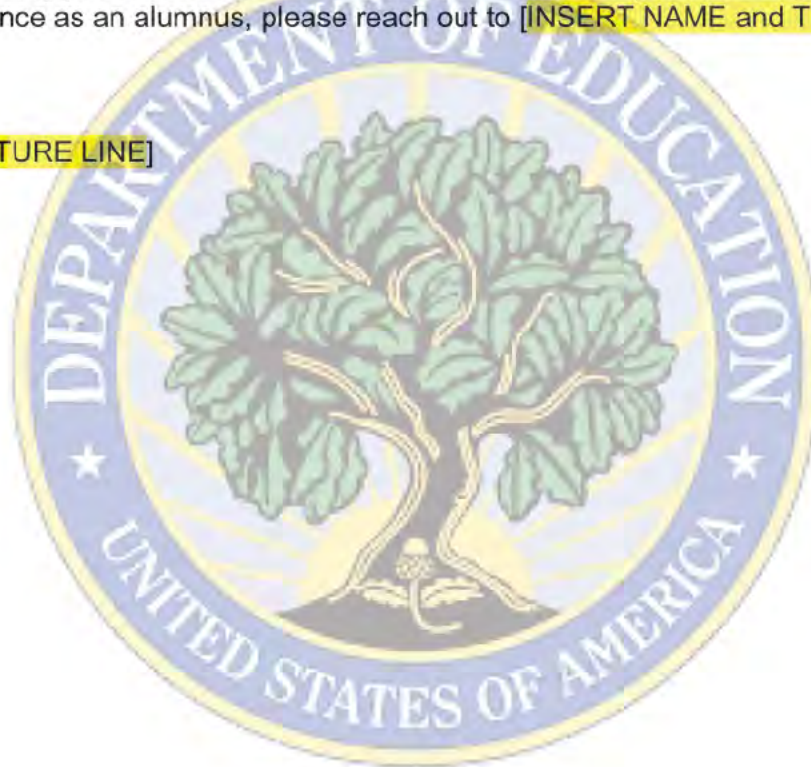
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

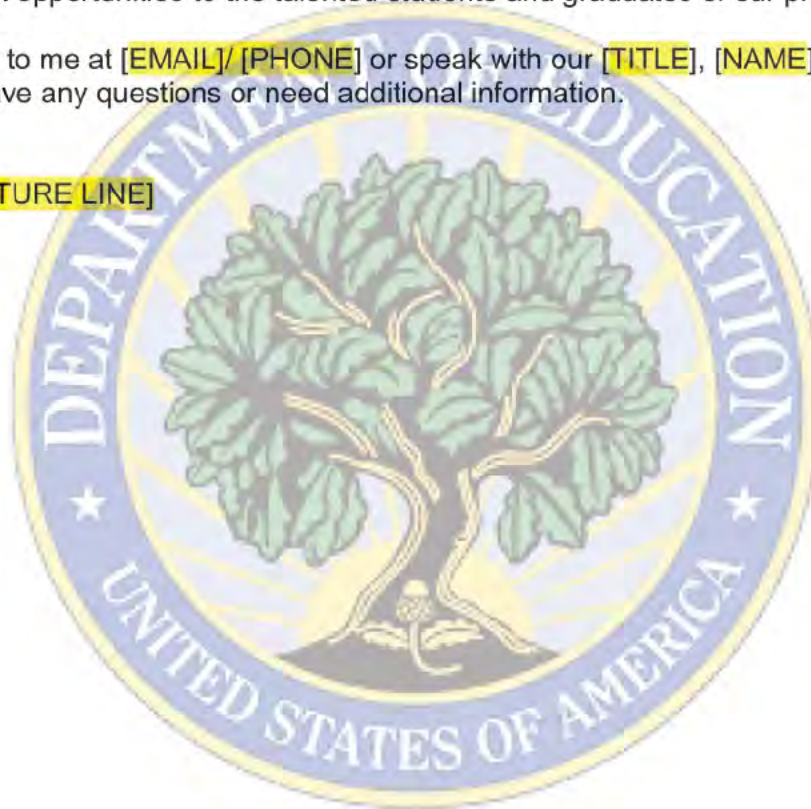
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: University of North Carolina Board of Governors

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**

The Art Institute of Charlotte, a branch of
Miami International University of Art & Design

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. **The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08**
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



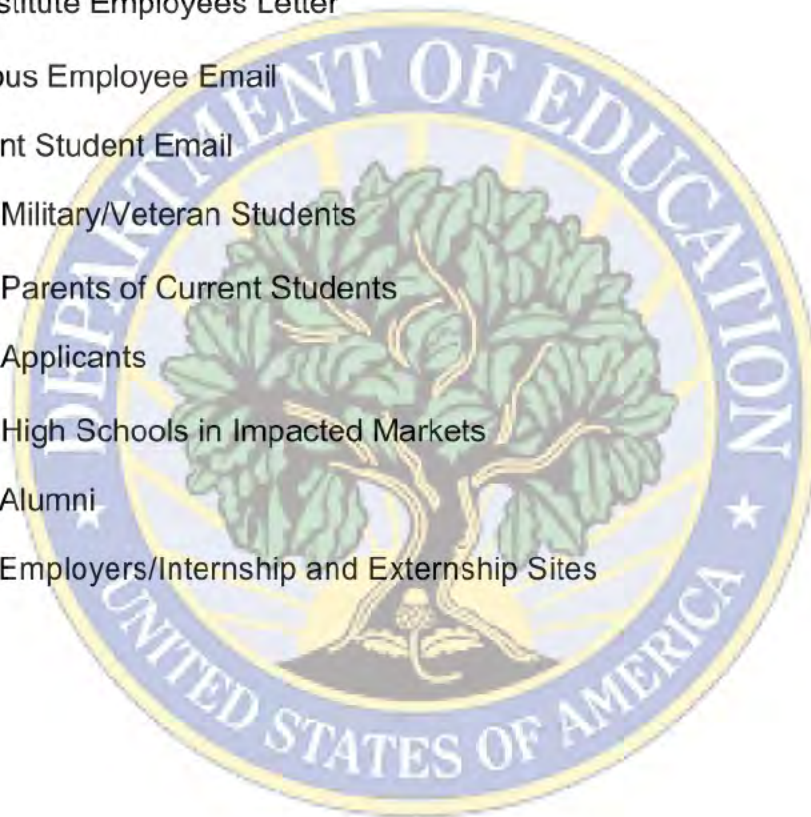
**The Art Institute of Charlotte, a branch of
Miami International University of Art & Design
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options**

The Art Institute of Charlotte, a branch of Miami International University of Art & Design Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Baking & Pastry - Certificate	7	2		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	27	9		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Certificate	9	7		✓	✓
Culinary Management - Bachelor	22	1	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Associate	8	3		✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	21	5		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Associate	6	0	✓	✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	21	7	✓	✓	✓
Fashion & Retail Management - Bachelor	2	2		✓	✓
Fashion Design - Associate	17	8		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing - Associate	16	4		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Mgmt - Bachelor	23	5	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Retailing - Certificate	1	0		✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Bachelor	37	8		✓	✓
Graphic Design - Associate	16	6	✓	✓	✓
Interior Design - Associate	6	2		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	14	4	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	65	13	✓	✓	✓
Restaurant & Catering Management - Associate	6	2		✓	✓
Web Design - Certificate	3	2	✓	✓	✓
Totals	327	90			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aii.edu



MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

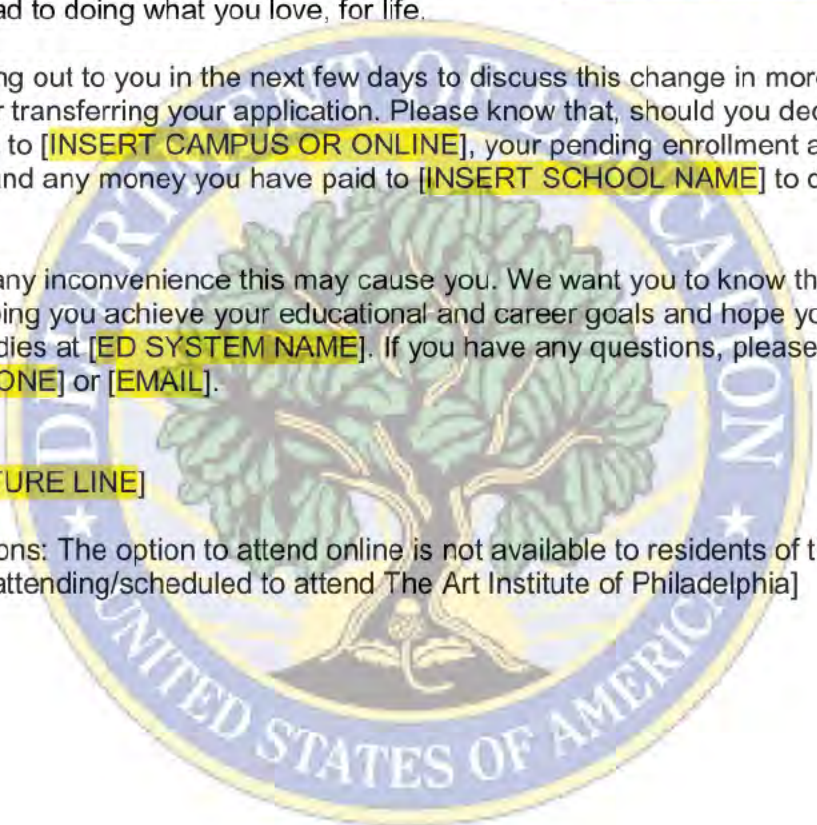
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

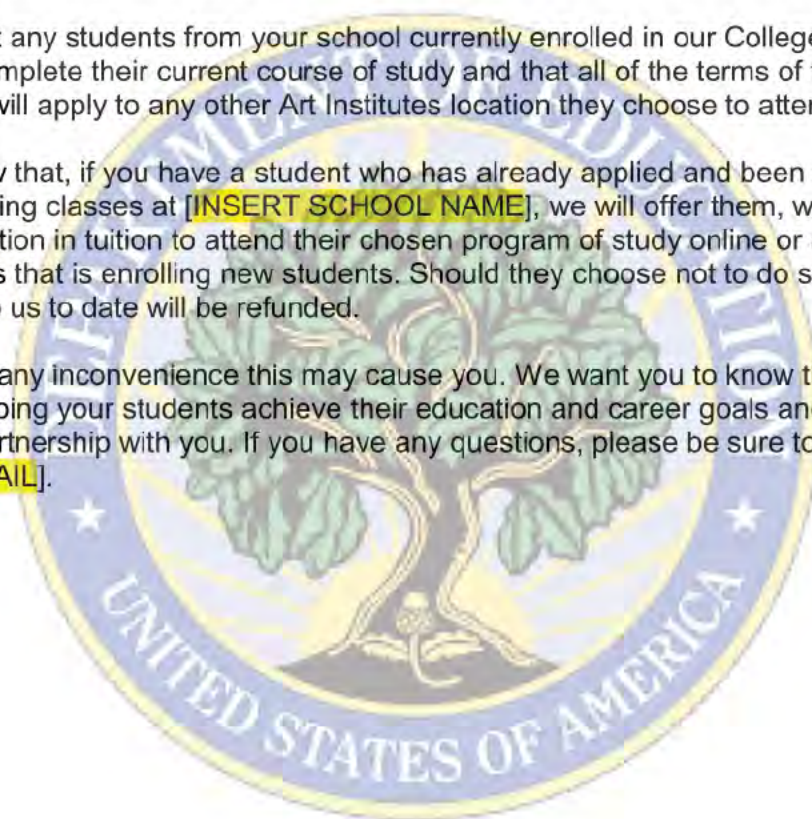
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

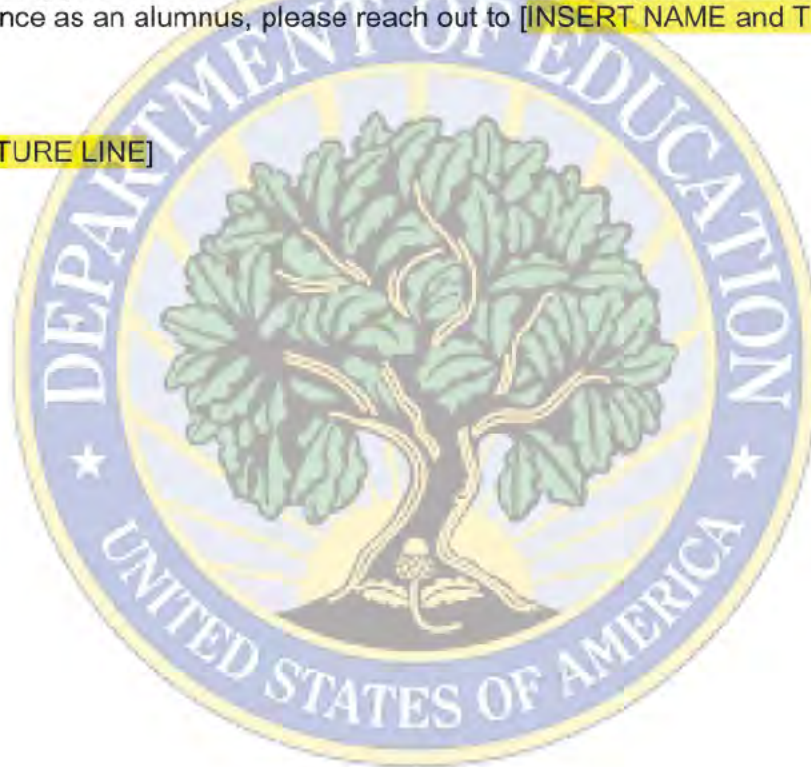
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

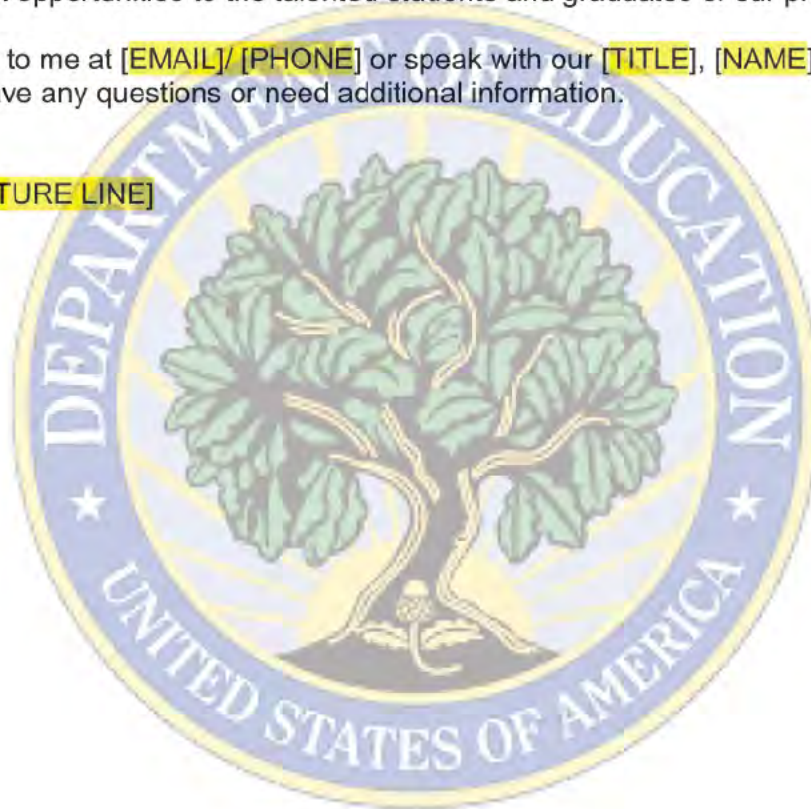
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institute of Charlotte, a branch of
Miami International University of Art & Design

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. **The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08**
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00
 - Harbor Place Building 010195-01
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.



**The Art Institute of Charlotte, a branch of
Miami International University of Art & Design
Estimated Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options**

The Art Institute of Charlotte, a branch of Miami International University of Art & Design Program/Credential	Current Enrollment	Estimated Completers by December	DCEH Possible Online Option	Possible Transfer Options	Academic Program Acceleration
Baking & Pastry - Certificate	7	2		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Associate	27	9		✓	✓
Culinary Arts - Certificate	9	7		✓	✓
Culinary Management - Bachelor	22	1	✓	✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Associate	8	3		✓	✓
Digital Filmmaking & Video Production - Bachelor	21	5		✓	✓
Digital Photography - Associate	6	0	✓	✓	✓
Digital Photography - Bachelor	21	7	✓	✓	✓
Fashion & Retail Management - Bachelor	2	2		✓	✓
Fashion Design - Associate	17	8		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing - Associate	16	4		✓	✓
Fashion Marketing & Mgmt - Bachelor	23	5	✓	✓	✓
Fashion Retailing - Certificate	1	0		✓	✓
Graphic and Web Design - Bachelor	37	8		✓	✓
Graphic Design - Associate	16	6	✓	✓	✓
Interior Design - Associate	6	2		✓	✓
Interior Design - Bachelor	14	4	✓	✓	✓
Media Arts & Animation - Bachelor	65	13	✓	✓	✓
Restaurant & Catering Management - Associate	6	2		✓	✓
Web Design - Certificate	3	2	✓	✓	✓
Totals	327	90			

COMMUNICATION ATTACHMENTS – June 29, 2018

The attached documents will be used in communicating with students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders prior to and during implementation of the Online Conversion and Campus Closure Plan. Correspondence will be sent by the campus president:

1. Email Message from Brent Richardson
2. All Art Institute Employees Letter
3. All-Campus Employee Email
4. All-Current Student Email
5. Letter to Military/Veteran Students
6. Letter to Parents of Current Students
7. Letter to Applicants
8. Letter to High Schools in Impacted Markets
9. Email to Alumni
10. Email to Employers/Internship and Externship Sites



EMAIL MESSAGE FROM BRENT RICHARDSON

At Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH), we are committed to providing students with an accessible, affordable, relevant and purposeful education.

Over the last several months, we have taken a strategic and comprehensive look at each of our three education systems and their respective campuses, evaluating them to be sure that they are meeting the needs of today's learners and providing the best student and graduate outcomes.

What has become clear is that we have a critical need and responsibility to become a much more agile organization, responsive to the needs of our students and the changing demands of higher education. As a result of that examination, we have made the decision to cease enrollments for a number of schools within The Art Institutes, Argosy University and South University systems. We will cease new enrollments at these locations, providing prospective students with access to online offerings or programs at one of our other campuses.

This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which renders campus-based programs in these markets unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately closing. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

Students able to graduate before the end of the calendar year may do so (and those who add additional classes to graduate by this time will receive 50 percent off their tuition). We will also offer a 50 percent tuition discount for those who transfer to another on ground location within their education system or complete their studies with us online (the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia). In addition, we are working on agreements with partner institutions that would allow our students to articulate the maximum number of credits possible. Students selecting this option will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

We will provide assistance to employees in our impacted locations. While we will extend the employment of a number of them through this transition, there are some positions that were necessarily eliminated today. We are encouraging them to apply for open positions within DCEH. It is important to note that this decision is in no way a reflection of the work they have done on behalf of our students.

As difficult as this decision to teach-out these locations has been, it is a necessary step in response to the significantly declining enrollment at certain locations, which has rendered campus-based programs unsustainable, and also reflects the shift in higher education to online learning.

Sincerely,
Brent Richardson
Chief Executive Officer
Dream Center Education Holdings

MESSAGE TO AI EMPLOYEES FROM CLAUDE BROWN

Dear Colleagues,

A short time ago, you received a message from Dream Center Education Holdings (DCEH) Chief Executive Officer Brent Richardson that includes information about the decision to cease accepting new enrollments at a number of Art Institutes locations.

The decision was made after a thorough and comprehensive examination of The Art Institutes system of schools and means that we will sunset our physical locations in Inland Empire (San Bernardino), Orange County (Santa Ana), Sacramento, San Francisco, Charleston, Charlotte, Colorado (Denver), Fort Lauderdale, Indianapolis, Michigan (Novi), Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh–Durham, Tennessee — Nashville, Washington (Arlington), Chicago and Schaumburg.

At The Art Institutes, our mission is to prepare students for professional success, and we have done so in the face of changing conditions and external forces for some time. The reality is that the education market has shifted and we must shift with it.

It is important to note that these locations are not immediately shutting down. We are dedicated to fulfilling our commitment to helping our students achieve their educational and career goals. Students currently enrolled are being provided with a host of options that are designed to help them achieve their professional goals (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). We will meet with each student over the course of the next several weeks to review their academic plans and plot the best course to completion of their education.

I want to personally thank each employee at these impacted locations for the work that they have done on behalf of our students. This decision is in no way a reflection of them – they have worked hard for students at these locations.

Now, more than ever, our focus must be on providing students at all Art Institutes locations the quality education they expect and the educational value they deserve – with the passion we all share for helping them to achieve their educational and career goals in the creative arts.

Sincerely,

Claude Brown

System President

The Art Institutes International

310.200.1652 (M)

703.247.6886 (O)

clbrown@aia.edu

 **The Art Institutes®**

MESSAGE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Dear Employee,

A short time ago, I held an all-employee meeting on campus to discuss some important news about [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. For those of you who were unable to attend, I would like to provide you with an update of what was discussed and ask that you please join us on campus tomorrow to discuss further.

We have made the decision to no longer accept new enrollments at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. [FOR ALL LOCATIONS EXCEPT PHILADELPHIA AND PORTLAND: the [CITY] market will be supported with [INSERT ED SYSTEM] online programs moving forward.] This decision was made for a number of reasons, including significantly declining enrollment, which has rendered campus-based programs in our market unsustainable at a time when there is also an increase in the demand for online programs in higher education.

I wanted to be sure to reach out to you beforehand to let you know that our location is not immediately closing and that we are doing the very best we can for students and employees. We have set forth multiple options for students, allowing them to complete their studies here at the campus, where possible, to transition to complete their program online, transition to another nearby campus, or to attend a partner institution outside of our education system that offers their program of study (subject to the review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned). In each case, we will provide financial resources to enable and encourage them to continue with their education.

I also want you to know that this in no way reflects the quality of the work that you and your fellow employees do on behalf of our students.

I want to explain the decision, discuss how it affects you, and answer your questions as soon as possible. As such, I ask that you please join me for a meeting on campus, [DATE] at [INSERT TIMES] in [INSERT LOCATION].

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[TITLE]

LETTER TO CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Student:

Over the course of the last several months, we have conducted a thorough and comprehensive examination of [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] and higher education in [CITY]. As a result, and after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

We want to be sure that you are afforded every opportunity to complete your education and we are committed to providing you with a quality education filled with the guidance, technology and instruction you need to remain on the road to a career in your chosen field. We have created a host of options to put you in the best position to complete your studies and progress into your chosen field. We will work with you to determine the best option to meets your needs. They include:

- Completing your studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if you are able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year. If you are not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition.
- Completing your program of study (or a similar one that meets your career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those students currently attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Completing your program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete your program of study at one of the non-DCEH partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the review of your academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits you have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to be sure that all of your questions about this transition are answered. We will be holding open meetings by program and encourage you to attend. In addition, over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and help chart your path to completing your education. In the interim, I am holding open office hours and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

All things considered, please take the following next steps:

1. For the upcoming session, attend your campus-based (and online) classes, as scheduled.
2. Attend the program specific-meetings that will be scheduled in the near-term.

3. Attend the one-on-one session we will schedule with you over the next two weeks to review your academic plan.
4. Attend my open office hours if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

**[Insert accreditation boilerplate language]*



LETTER TO MILITARY/VETERAN AFFILIATED STUDENTS

Dear Military and Veteran Affiliated Students:

Earlier today, we shared the news that [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will cease new enrollments to the campus.

While we will not be accepting new students into our programs at the campus, we are committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. We will meet with you to review all of the options available to you, the incentives and benefits of each, and to determine your best path forward to completing your education.

As a beneficiary of Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs education benefits, the action to stop enrolling new students does not affect your education benefits for the time you are enrolled here on campus. The programs currently approved by the State Approving Agency and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Veterans benefits remain approved. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense remains in effect, so active service members may also continue to use tuition assistance for courses. The Veterans Administration School Certifying Official (VASCO) for this campus is [insert name] and can be contacted at [insert phone/email].

As was standard during your course of study at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], there are actions you should take to help ensure your veteran and military benefits are processed efficiently:

- Register for classes as soon as possible;
- Monitor your enrollment status on the student portal to confirm that you are enrolled in the correct classes;
- Speak to the [insert name of VASCO] as well as your academic advisor prior to adding or dropping classes;
- Monitor your VA military educational benefits through the DVA's website for eBenefits: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply#education>;
- Make sure you follow all attendance policies and successfully complete all courses you start.

I want to ensure that all of your questions are answered. In addition to the open meetings by program, we will hold a meeting for military and veteran affiliated students and encourage you to attend. Over the course of the next two weeks, we will be meeting with you to review your academic progress and your education plan to help chart your path to graduation. In the interim, I am holding open office hours today and invite you to stop by with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[CAMPUS]

[EMAIL] | [PHONE]

LETTER TO PARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

Dear Parent:

I am writing to share the news that, after careful consideration, [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], will no longer enroll students at the campus. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including a shift in student population at the campus.

While this change is necessary, we want to be sure that your student is afforded the opportunity to complete their education. We have created a host of options to put your student in the best position to complete their studies and are meeting with them individually to review and determine their best path forward. The options for students include:

- Complete their studies at the campus, uninterrupted, if able to graduate on or before the end of the calendar year (If your student is not scheduled to graduate by that time but are willing/able to take additional courses to graduate by that time, we will offer them a 50 percent reduction in remaining tuition).
- Complete their program of study (or a similar one that meets their career goals) through our online programs. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study. Please note that the option to attend a program online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or students attending The Art Institute of Philadelphia.
- Complete their program of study at another [ED SYSTEM NAME] location. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition for the remainder of their program of study.
- Complete their program of study at partner institutions we are working with during this transition. Those who are able and choose to do so will receive a \$5,000 tuition grant to support the completion of their studies.

All of these options are subject to the availability of their program for these options, review of their academic transcripts and the transferability of the credits they have earned.

Our regulators and accrediting bodies have been informed of our decision to cease enrolling new students on campus and we will continue to work with them through this transition. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is institutionally accredited by [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR]. We will continue to work with [INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITOR] to ensure compliance with all applicable standards for accreditation.*

I want to assure you that we remain committed to your student's educational success. I have reached out to your student via email, will be holding sessions with all students to discuss this with them and we will be meeting with each student individually over the next two weeks to review their academic progress and chart their course to graduation. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you or your student have about this decision.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

* [INSERT ACCREDITATION STATEMENT]

LETTER TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

Dear [NAME OF POTENTIAL STUDENT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision to no longer enroll new students into the campus-based program at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

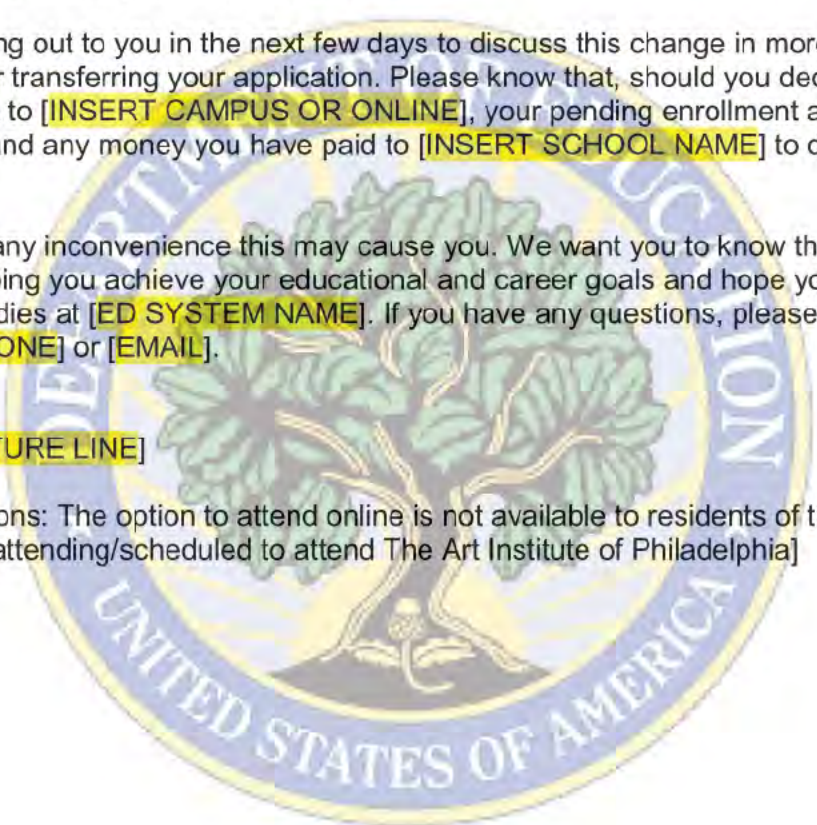
While we will not be sitting a new class at our campus, [ED SYSTEM NAME] offers the [INSERT DEGREE AND PROGRAM NAME] through [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE PROGRAMS], to help you achieve your educational and career goals. For doing so, we will offer you a 50 percent reduction in tuition for your program of study with us, whether you choose to attend online or at an [ED SYSTEM NAME] location currently enrolling new students. With your permission, we would like to work with you to transfer your application materials to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE] to put you on the road to doing what you love, for life.

We will be reaching out to you in the next few days to discuss this change in more detail as well as the process for transferring your application. Please know that, should you decide not to pursue admission to [INSERT CAMPUS OR ONLINE], your pending enrollment and financial aid will be canceled and any money you have paid to [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping you achieve your educational and career goals and hope you will choose to continue your studies at [ED SYSTEM NAME]. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]

[Note for Admissions: The option to attend online is not available to residents of the state of Oregon or those attending/scheduled to attend The Art Institute of Philadelphia]



LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN IMPACTED MARKETS

Dear [NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT]:

I am writing to share the news with you that we have made the decision, given changes in area demand, to transition our education offerings in the [CITY] area to online. We will no longer enroll new students into the programs offered at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME].

The Art Institutes system of schools remain a vital source of design, media arts, culinary and fashion professionals and we intend to stay that way. We have locations across the United States and online that provide a vibrant community to help put your students on the path to a life of creativity in the fields of design, media arts, culinary or fashion, complete with the guidance, technology and instruction they need to bring their ideas to life in new and exciting ways.

Please know that any students from your school currently enrolled in our College Bound program will be able to complete their current course of study and that all of the terms of the College Bound program will apply to any other Art Institutes location they choose to attend.

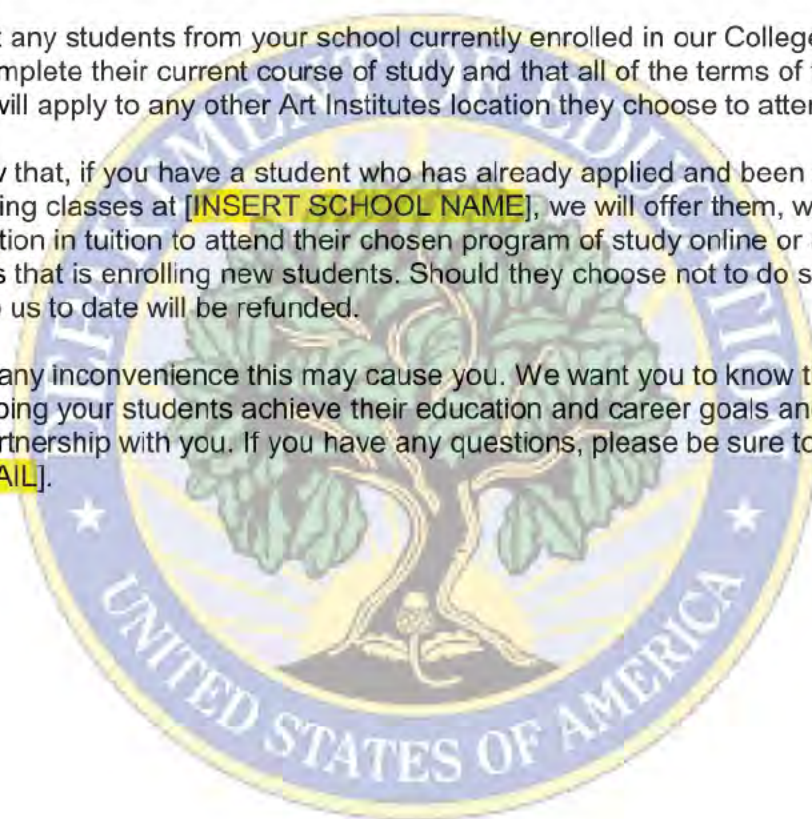
Please also know that, if you have a student who has already applied and been accepted but has not begun attending classes at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME], we will offer them, where available, a 50 percent reduction in tuition to attend their chosen program of study online or at another Art Institutes campus that is enrolling new students. Should they choose not to do so, any monies they have paid to us to date will be refunded.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. We want you to know that we remain committed to helping your students achieve their education and career goals and look forward to our continued partnership with you. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact us at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]



MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

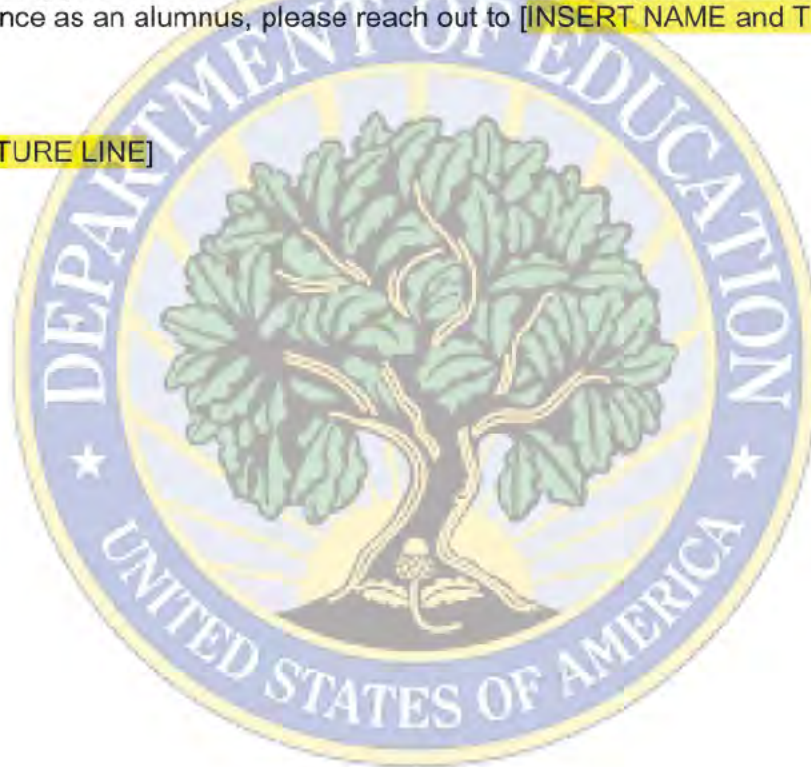
Dear Alumnus:

I am writing to share some important news with you. While there is no impact to you as an alumnus, I wanted you to know that we will no longer be enrolling students into the programs at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including changing student and area demand.

We are committed to helping all of our currently enrolled students complete their studies and are meeting with each of them to walk through the host of options available for them to do so. [ED SYSTEM NAME] will continue to provide an engaging learning community that prepares graduates for professional practice.

You will always be a part of [INSERT ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND LINK TO IT] and we will look forward to welcoming you to future alumni events and activities. If you have any questions or need any assistance as an alumnus, please reach out to [INSERT NAME and TITLE] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE].

Sincerely,
[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]



MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS, INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP SITES

Dear [NAME]:

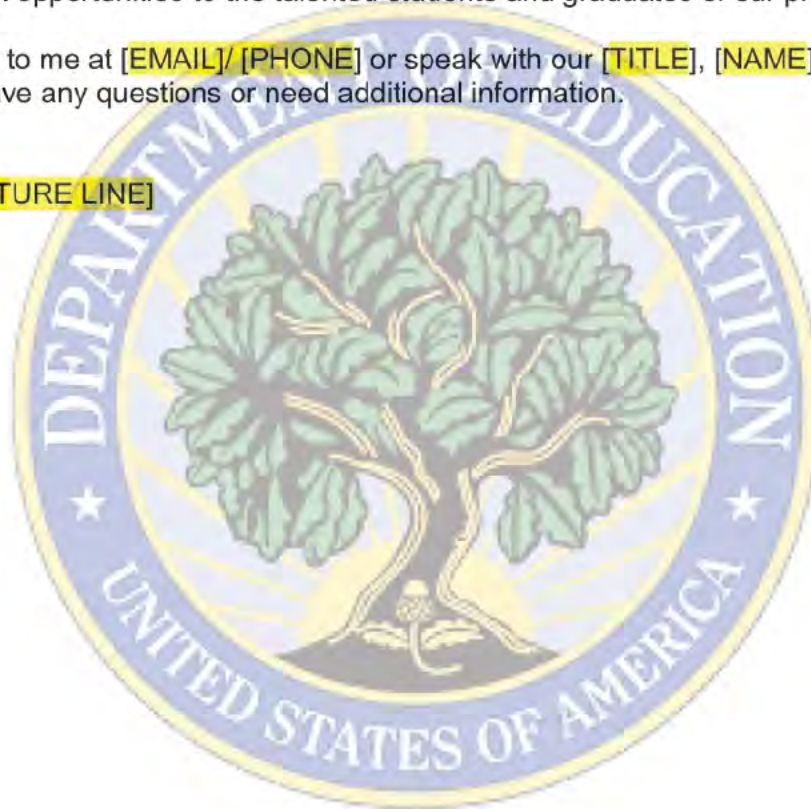
You are a valuable partner to [ED SYSTEM NAME] and to the [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] campus. I wanted to reach out as soon as I was able to share the news that, after careful consideration, we are transitioning our program offerings at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] to an online-only model. We are making this change for a number of reasons, including an increasing shift in market demand and higher education away from campus-based programs to those online.

[ED SYSTEM NAME] will remain a vital source for professionals in the [CITY] area. We are committed to ensuring our students have the opportunity to complete their education and we remain dedicated to meeting the employment needs of the [CITY] community. I want to thank you for your partnership thus far and ask for your continued support in providing part-time, internship and full-time work opportunities to the talented students and graduates of our programs.

Please reach out to me at [EMAIL]/ [PHONE] or speak with our [TITLE], [NAME], at [PHONE]/ [EMAIL] if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURE LINE]





ONLINE CONVERSION AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN

The Art Institutes

Submitted to: Florida Commission on Higher Education

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213



The Art Institutes®

**ONLINE CONVERSION
AND CAMPUS CLOSURE PLAN**

The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale

June 29, 2018

Contact: Kimberly Walsh
Director, State Licensing
Dream Center Education Holdings
615 McMichael Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
(412) 995-7213

Summary:

The Art Institutes (Ai) has made the decision to discontinue onsite campus operations at 18 locations by December 31, 2018. This decision was made for a number of reasons, including the shift in student demand from campus-based programs to online program delivery. This has resulted in declining, unsustainable enrollment levels for campus-based programs in these markets. Ai will continue to serve the educational needs of students in these local communities via online course delivery. Ai Campuses that will discontinue operations include:

1. The Art Institute of Charleston 009270-04
2. The Art Institute of Charlotte 008878-08
3. Illinois Institute of Art 012584-00
4. The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-00
 - The Art Institute of Colorado 020789-04
5. The Art Institute of Michigan – Detroit 012584-05
6. **The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale 010195-00**
 - **Harbor Place Building 010195-01**
7. The Art Institute of Indianapolis 040513-04
8. The Art Institute of California – Inland Empire 021799-48
9. The Art Institute of Tennessee – Nashville 009270-03
10. The Art Institute of California – Orange County 021799-44
11. The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-00
 - The Art Institute of Philadelphia 008350-01
12. The Art Institute of Phoenix 040513-00
13. The Art Institute of Portland 007819-00
 - Industrial Design Workshop 007819-02
 - Culinary Arts Facility 007819-03
14. The Art Institute of Raleigh – Durham 008878-09
15. The Art Institute of California – Sacramento 021799-45
16. The Art Institute of California – San Francisco 021799-43
17. Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg 012584-01
18. The Art Institute of Washington 009270-02

As noted above, these campuses are not immediately closing. Ai recognizes there is an ongoing commitment to students currently enrolled at these campuses and has created transition plans for affected students that are fair and equitable and provide students with reasonable opportunities to complete their education. Ai is conducting student-by-student degree completion audits to determine the best path forward to program completion for each student.

Student Program Completion Options:

Based on each student's unique circumstance, as determined by the degree completion audits, each student will be presented with possible options for program completion including:

- **Complete via Ai Online:** Students whose program is also offered via Ai's

online delivery modality will have the opportunity to complete their program online and receive a 50% tuition savings for the remaining courses in their program.

- **Complete through another Ai campus:** Students who live or work in close proximity to another Ai campus may transfer to that campus and will receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through another Dream Center Education institution:** Students may also transfer to another institution within the Dream Center Education network, including South University or Argosy University campus or online programs. Ai students who transfer to South or Argosy will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.
- **Complete through partner institutions:** For students whose program is not offered via Ai's online delivery modality, Ai will seek out transfer/articulation agreements with other accredited, local and online institutions which do offer the students' programs. Ai will seek out partner institutions who will agree to assist students with completing their program and are willing to ensure that students have complete information about the tuition and fees. Ai will offer students who transfer to partner institutions a \$5,000 grant to be applied toward tuition at the receiving institution.
- **Complete via accelerated teach-out:** Students who are nearing completion of their program may be able to finish their course requirements at their respective Ai campus, provided the program completion date is no later than December 31, 2018. Students who select this option will also receive a **50% tuition savings** for the remaining courses in their program.

Closure Timeline:

Based upon the current enrollment in each academic program, the campus has assessed anticipated completion time for each cohort. Ai anticipates it will continue campus operations through December 31, 2018. Ai will meet with each student to discuss the student's academic plan and advise them on all options available to continue their education (as outlined earlier in this document).

Readmissions:

Students who previously attended one of the impacted Ai campuses and wish to return to complete their educational program will be provided the same options available to current students in the same program. Options for former students would be the ability to complete their program online, at a different Ai, South or Argosy campus in close proximity to the student or at a partner institution offering a similar program. Students who choose to finish their programs at Ai which will continue to follow all of its published refund policies. Students who would benefit from transferring to another college in the local area will also be supported in those efforts.

Student Services:

As previously stated, it is Ai's goal is to provide impacted students with the ability to complete their educational goals, either with Ai or with another accredited institution. Ai and its campuses will continue to provide student support services until the campus closure. Even so, students who are not academically successful, withdraw from a course, or withdraw from the institution could be negatively impacted in their ability to complete their program.

Ai faculty and staff will continue to support students and will maintain tutoring, academic advising, student financial services and disability and counseling services until the campus closes. Ai career services will be available to students for an additional six months after the campus closes via the Ai online career services team.

Provisions for Faculty and Staff:

Ai will seek to assist all employees impacted by the campus closures. The campuses will maintain staffing levels necessary to ensure students receive quality instruction and service until closure. While it will be necessary to eliminate positions, individuals impacted will receive severance benefits and be offered the opportunity to apply for open positions at other campuses of Ai, Argosy, South and Dream Center Education.

Communications Plan:

Ai will implement a comprehensive communications plan to ensure all appropriate stakeholders are informed of pending campus closures. The communication plan will include written notification to:

- State and federal regulators
- Institutional and programmatic accreditors
- Students
- Alumni
- Faculty and staff
- Prospective students
- Employer-partners.

The communication plan also includes group and individual meetings with students, faculty and staff to provide additional details and allow opportunities to ask questions.

Program Enrollment Detail and Completion Options:

The charts that begin on the following page include an overview of the current programs, enrollments, and likely completion options for each of the 18 Ai campuses earmarked for closure. Each chart includes, from left to right:

1. Current active enrollment by program
2. Number of students scheduled to complete their program prior to the campus closure date of December 31, 2018
3. Options for students who are not scheduled to complete prior to December 31, 2018 and will likely complete their program via an on-line program within the institution, a comparable program or a transfer agreement with another Dream Center Education-affiliated institution or an external partner institution. Some students may be able to academically accelerate their program by taking additional coursework in their quarter.

