

## **Education Trust Equity Matters Bootcamp**

### ***Equity Matters: Advocating Across All Levels of Government***

#### **Plenary Session**

##### **The Future of Assessments: Centering Equity and the Lived Experiences of Stakeholders**

- Links:
  - o [PPT Slides](#)
  - o [Ed Trust Full Report](#)
  - o [NUL/UnidosUS Report](#)

#### **Breakout Sessions**

##### **Advocating for an Equitable Transition from ESSR**

- Description: This session will provide insights from into how districts are considering evaluating and sustaining impactful investments of ESSER funds as the window for spending these release funds is coming to a close, pulling directly from Education Resource Strategies' (ERS) ongoing engagement with districts to highlight recommendations and best practices. The conversation will also focus on how advocates can influence this process to ensure districts are adequately and equitably responding to student, family, and community needs, including using tools from the Alliance for Resource Equity (a partnership between ERS and Ed Trust).
- Links:
  - o [PPT Slides](#)
  - o [ARE Toolkit](#)

##### **Amplifying the Power of Youth Voice: Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders**

- Description: Interested in better understanding how advocates throughout the country are working in partnership with youth and students to advance education equity? Join a powerful group of youth organizers and the Ed Trust team members who support them as we explore trends in Tennessee, Louisiana, and California and their implications for youth voice. In this session participants will reflect on their own youth engagement and mobilization strategies and plan actionable next steps to expand this work in their own communities.
- Links:
  - o [Mind Map](#)
  - o

##### **State Policy Opportunities to Support Undocumented Students in Higher Education**

- Description: This session will use Ed Trust's Higher Education Access and Success for Undocumented Students report to inform a workshop for participants to research and identify policy opportunities to support undocumented students in higher education in their state. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of the policy and advocacy landscape on this issue in their state and identify some next steps to engage in the issue. Bring your laptop to this session!
- Links:
  - o [PPT Slides](#)

- [Supplemental KY Scan](#)
- [Full Report](#)

### **Creating a Counternarrative to the Censorship Movement**

- Description: Tennessee is ranked number one with the most censorship laws passed impacting what students and teachers can do and say in the classroom. To change the statewide “anti-CRT” narrative and engage in collective advocacy, the TN Coalition for Truth in Our Classrooms – now 25+ organizations – was created to help protect our school communities and promote the teaching of truthful history.

From curriculum restrictions, to book banning, and parent rights, this session will provide an overview of the national censorship movement and describe how we got to this political moment. Using Tennessee as a case study, we will share the story of our state’s growing anti-equity legislation and its relationship to evolving national trends. We will be joined by our Coalition partners who are leading work on this issue at different levels. They will share unique perspectives on censorship legislation, local organizing efforts, and best community engagement practices.

Throughout this session, we will highlight our Coalition’s actions, review bills we’re fighting in both the K-12 and higher education space, and open the conversation around lessons we’ve learned. At the end, participants will discuss how national trends and our Coalition’s work applies to challenges they’ve witnessed in their states and strategize future action through the lens of specific stakeholder groups.

- Links:
  - [PPT Slides](#)
  - [Handout](#)

### **Making it Stick: How Advocates Can Effectively Leverage Storytelling, Messaging, & Visuals**

- Description: We know communicating effectively is important in education advocacy, but how do we make sure we’re leveraging the full potential of strategic communications? This interactive session will give bootcamp attendees a foundation in the role narratives, emotions, and visuals play in our advocacy communications work. We’ll explore why these concepts are important to effective advocacy work and how to leverage them to make our messaging efforts even “stickier” in the heads of our audiences. Participants will get the opportunity to engage in interactive activities in storytelling with education data and crafting effective written and visual messaging. The session will include actionable takeaways and templates to take back and use in their own advocacy efforts.

- Links:
  - [PPT Slides](#)

### **2023 Farm Bill: The Impact on Students and Families**

- Description: The 2023 Farm Bill Breakout Session will be an opportunity to help educate national, state, and local partners on the Farm Bill, including its contents, legislative history, areas of opportunity that impact children, students, and families, and what the political landscape looks like in the 118th Congress. The session will include a brief overview of the Farm Bill at the beginning, followed by a discussion with three to four expert panelists from leading national nutrition organizations, who will go in-depth on the ways in which the Farm Bill can and does

impact students, and the areas of opportunity to advance equitable nutrition policy to reduce hunger and food insecurity. The session will conclude with a Q&A with audience members.

- Links:
  - o [PPT Slides](#)

### **Access Granted: School Funding Between Schools in Districts**

- Description: High-need school districts and schools continue to receive less school funding than their counterparts to meet the needs of students. In this session, we'll explore a new data tool with updated data on funding gaps between districts in states and newly available school-by-school spending data for nearly all schools in the country. Bring your laptop so we can hunt through the data together to understand whether students of color, English learners, or students from low-income backgrounds are being short-changed in your school districts. Then we'll talk in-depth about how to use that data to advocate for change.
- Links:
  - o [PPT Slides](#)

### **Embedding Equity in Advanced Coursework in Middle School to Develop STEM Identities**

- Description: Middle school is a crucial time for students to develop college and career aspirations. This session will share out findings from Ed Trust's new brief on access to advanced coursework in middle school, including how to develop STEM identities for Black and Latino students and students from low-income backgrounds. Participants will learn about promising practices to increase access and engagement, and updates in the state and federal policy landscape on increasing access to advanced coursework, as well as have an opportunity to share out their state- and/or local-specific contexts. The session will also feature speakers who will describe efforts to expand access to advanced coursework in Maryland.
- Links:
  - o [PPT Slides](#)
  - o [5 Questions to Ask](#)
  - o [Worksheet](#)

### **SCOTUS Affirmative Action & Student Debt Cancellation Cases**

- Description: This year, the U.S. Supreme Court (aka "SCOTUS") will decide cases with huge implications for future and former college students: whether colleges can use race as a factor in college admissions, and whether the U.S. Department of Education can follow through on its plan to cancel up to \$20,000 of student debt for federal student loan borrowers. What are the arguments on both sides of these cases and how did the cases make their way from lower courts to the Supreme Court? How might the courts decide, and could these decisions have broader impact on equity-focused education policies? How should education equity advocates plan to respond? Join DC-based legal experts for the inside scoop on these cases and the broader role of the courts in U.S. education.
- Links:
  - o [40 Million Americans Look to Supreme Court to Affirm the Dismissal of Sham Student Debt Cancellation Lawsuit - Student Borrower Protection Center \(protectborrowers.org\)](#)
  - o [The Latest Threat to Student Debt Cancellation - The Education Trust \(edtrust.org\)](#)
  - o [Affirmative Action cases: SFFA v. Harvard and SFFA v. UNC - Legal Defense Fund \(naacpldf.org\)](#)