



Education
on Location
NATIONAL ISSUES AT HOME

Millersville University

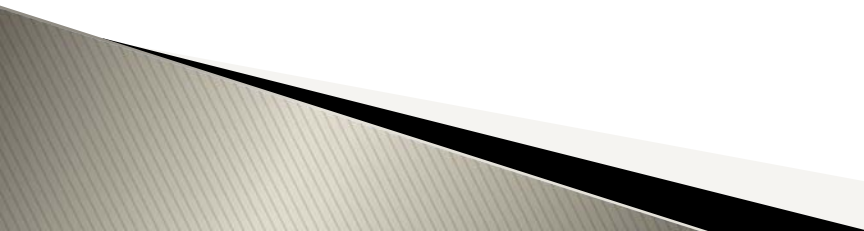
SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

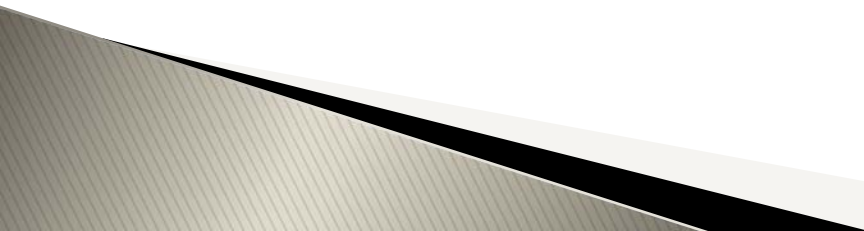


HOURGLASS

1. In the past 10 years while education funding was increasing, and the number of teachers was increasing, our nation's educational standing in the world fell. Why do you think we are losing ground?

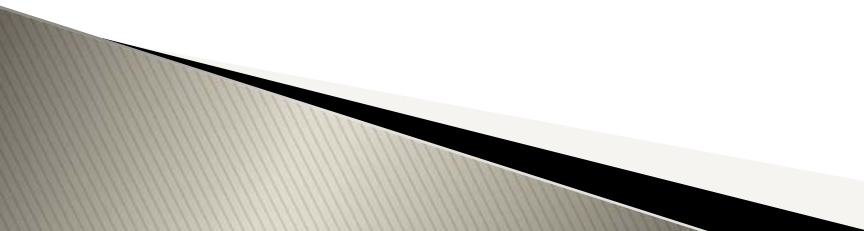
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2. Technology is changing our lives at an ever-increasing rate. But technology has not been utilized extensively to improve the way we teach, what we teach, or where we teach. Our methods continue to be century-old. How important a role will technology play in innovating new ways to do more with less? How do you see technology changing the face of education for years to come?

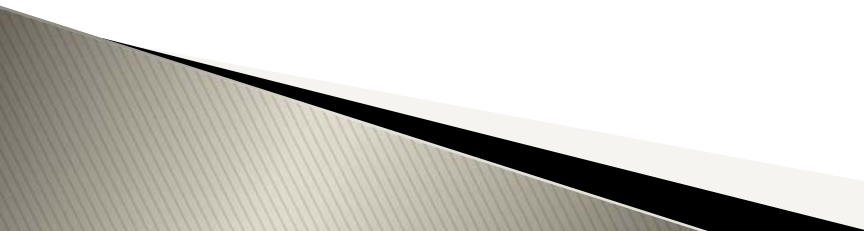
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3. At a time when South Korea is focusing on technology to improve education, by providing a laptop to every student, we are promoting school vouchers. What can we do to improve the effectiveness of education for our students who now compete with students across the world?

4. Despite the best efforts of local school districts, our ability to pay for the rising cost of education has been stretched beyond the limit. What are the most critical costs that must be reduced in order for public education to survive? What changes are required to make it happen?

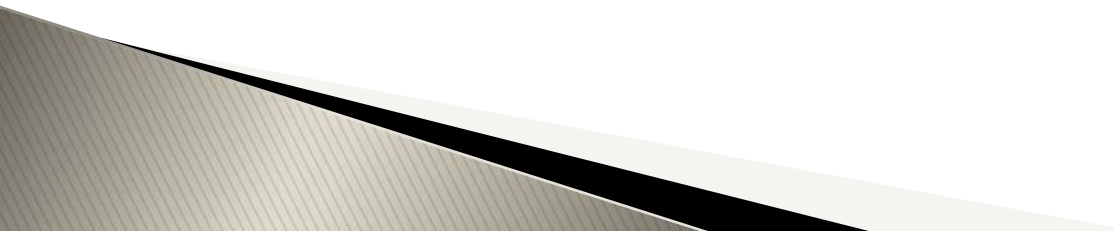


5. Last year at our summit, our educational leaders addressed the need for mandate reform, so they could function more like charter schools which have many fewer limitations imposed upon them. Where are we with legislative reforms that eliminate or reduce the many mandates that hamper our public schools? Be specific about the status of proposed mandates.

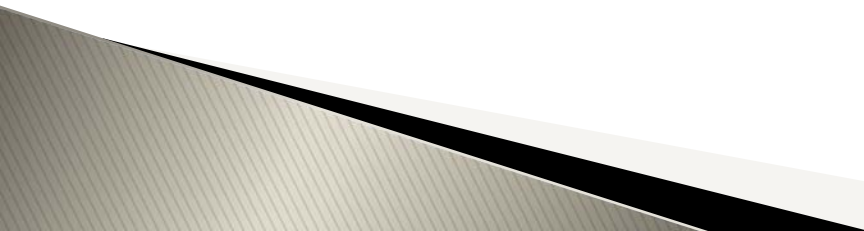


6. Microsoft and IBM recently announced that instead of their normal policy to contribute money and make grants to K-12 and higher education, they will be increasingly using that money to establish their own educational institutions that will deliver the quality of graduates they want to hire. If the aim of education is to prepare people for good jobs, and our nation's premier employers believe that the quality of our current educational system doesn't meet their hiring needs, what message are they sending that PA education needs to listen and react to?

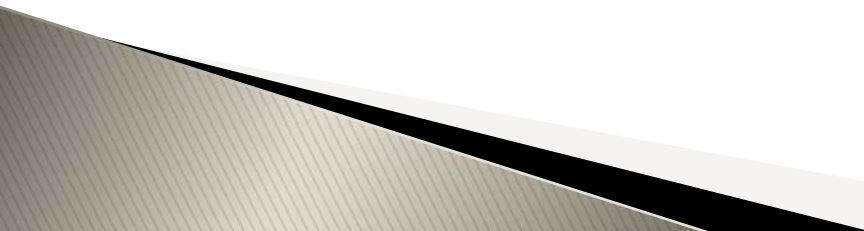
7. In a changing world where today's college graduates can't find jobs, and the demand for traditional white-collar jobs is declining, how can the high cost of higher education be justified? What needs to be done to make college more relevant by better preparing students for emerging job opportunities?



8. In a changing world where welders and electronic mechanics are in high demand, shouldn't we recognize that college isn't the only road to preparing for well-paid and satisfying jobs? What support exists for creative alternative educational opportunities for students (SuperTech, Vo-Tech, etc.) How should state resources be allocated to recognize these changes?



9. Act 1 restricted real estate tax increases to the State mandate. Unfortunately, three exemptions have permitted 69% of school districts to exceed the mandate. Don't the exceptions in Act 1 cripple the intent of the mandate?



10. The performance of, and community confidence in, a school district is highly dependent upon leadership. If you agree with this statement, then doesn't it make sense that leaders at the board level and senior management levels possess certain qualifications? Board members and school leaders are now evermore required to make decisions that are far-reaching - academically, legally and financially.

11. What reforms or innovations are you aware of that will allow us to do more with less - that gives you hope that we can not only solve our current financial problems, but that we can provide our students with a better, more-relevant education?



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