

Inquiry Leading to Implementation: West Virginia PK-12 Education Policy

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Presentation Overview

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- Introduction to Education in West Virginia
- Background
- CBER's Role in West Virginia Education Policy
- Impacts from Research

Introduction to Education in West Virginia

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A Time to Cherish photography

West Virginia Education Statistics

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- 2012-13 school year enrollment exceeded 282,000 students (from PK to Grade 12)
 - Full-time equivalent (FTE) 2nd month enrollment exceeded 280,000
- Peak head count enrollment in West Virginia public schools tends to occur in Grade 9
- More than 660 public schools in the State in the 2010-11 school year

Background

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West Virginia Education Finance and Policy

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- Recht Decision (early 1980s)
- Senate Bill 3 (1983)
- Public School Support Program (PSSP)

CBER Education Research

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- Focus on:
 - Pre-K and early childhood care and education
 - Higher education (Promise Scholarship)
 - School consolidation
 - Wages and earnings
 - Teacher/school quality and student performance

CBER's Role in West Virginia Education Policy

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Investigation and Implementation

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- Alternate Approaches to Support of Special Education in State School Finance Programs (2007)
- Comparing West Virginia Teacher Salaries with Comparable Occupations and Possible Alternatives for Improvement (2008)
- International Opportunities within the West Virginia Pre-K Model (2008)

Investigation and Implementation

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- Comparison of State Policies for Access and Funding of Early Childhood Education Programs (2010)
- Quality Rating and Improvement System Cost Implementation Study (2011)

Impacts from Research

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Education Audit (2012)

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- Intention:
 - Producing the best possible outcomes for students
 - Receiving the highest return on educational investment
- West Virginia ranks 8th in education expenditures relative to income, yet scores below the national average on student performance indicators

Education Audit (2012)

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- Defined 56 findings and recommendations in 6 state-level function areas:
 - Administration
 - Facilities
 - Human Resources
 - Transportation
 - Ancillary Services
 - Regional Coordination
- Represents savings of approximately \$18.1 million in Year 1 and \$115.7 million over a 5-year period

Plan for 2014 Regular Session

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- Demographic analysis
- Enrollment declines
- Connection between workforce, CTC and higher education
- Transportation

Thank You

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QUESTIONS?