

ROADMAP FOR P-20 EDUCATION FUNDING

TALKING POINTS

- The Roadmap for P-20 Education Funding is the first-of-its kind vision for long-term education funding in Arizona.
- It represents consensus on the major investments needed for P-20 education through the year 2030.
- The Roadmap includes funding needs for the short-term, mid and long-term, which were prioritized by their ability to stabilize the education system and to advance student outcomes.
- For far too long, our collective conversations about funding focused on how far we were behind, but as we talked with partners across the state, we found agreement in wanting to shift the conversation to focus on what is needed to meet the goals in the Arizona Education Progress Meter. That was the genesis of this work.
- We know that funding is not a silver bullet – it is not the end all be all, but it is a tool that enables our education system to function at its best.
- Funding, coupled with instruction by Arizona’s educators, policy change, and coordinated strategy will advance the shared outcomes in the Arizona Education Progress Meter that we hope to also achieve by 2030.
- The Roadmap represents consensus of more than 80 organizations – education, business, community leaders, advocates, and state agencies included – that gives us a clear path forward on education funding.
 - o *Note: Highlight some of the organizations included from your area.*
- The group prioritized consensus over unanimity, working together to reach as much agreement as possible and agreeing to not let perfect be the enemy of good.
- It is our goal to use the Roadmap to inform current and future conversations in the state about funding and to evaluate budget and funding proposals.
- The group had strong agreement that any future funding proposal should:
 - o Be inclusive of the entire P-20 education continuum
 - o Significantly advance student outcomes, in alignment with the Arizona Education Progress Meter
 - o Provide predictability, consistency, and flexibility of funding to those who receive it
- The Roadmap gives us an opportunity to be on the same page – because we believe that when we are on the same page about what we believe is important and what the next steps should be, that we can make progress together.
- We would love to have your involvement. We’d love for you to share the Roadmap with your network – by email, blog, Facebook –whatever works for you. Or invite us to present at an upcoming meeting.
- We have a partner toolkit that we can share with you to make the sharing easy. It includes sample things to share in social media, talking points, and language for your emails and blogs.
- You can find out more about the Roadmap at ExpectMoreArizona.org/Roadmap.

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Why This Matters:

- Education unlocks the potential of individuals and communities. Investments in students, educators and classrooms have an enormous return for our state.
- A strong P-20 education system will create and support a talent pipeline that attracts diverse businesses to Arizona.
- For far too long, our collective conversations about funding focused on how far we were behind, but a more educated and skilled workforce will also increase business and personal income, grow revenues for the state to invest in other critical needs, and decrease the dependence on social safety nets.
- The long-term prosperity of Arizona depends on greater levels of educational attainment that will lower crime rates, improve personal health, and create more resiliency to changes in the economy.

Closing The Achievement Gap:

- Arizonans overwhelmingly agree that where a family lives, how much money they make, or their race or ethnicity should not dictate the quality of education that a student receives, yet persistent opportunity gaps have led to significant achievement gaps
- It's been nearly three years since the Arizona Education Progress Meter was developed to provide a clear picture of where we stand today and to outline broadly supported education goals the state aims to meet by 2030.
- While the state has gained ground on all eight indicators, it's clear we won't meet the long-term goals or close achievement gaps without significant investments in the entire education continuum, coupled with effective instruction, policy, and strategy implementation.