

EMPOWERING EQUITY THROUGH COALITIONS



The Education Trust—New York



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OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

The Education Trust–New York is a statewide education policy and advocacy organization focused first and foremost on doing right by New York’s children. We advocate for students, especially those whose needs and potential are often overlooked. Collaboration across civil rights, education, parent, and business organizations is essential to empowering this work. Consequently, with the help of our partners, we serve as a convener of diverse statewide coalitions, focusing on equity issues from birth to college and through the workforce.

This year presented an unprecedented opportunity for students to catch up and thrive after three years of interrupted instruction with targeted supports from billions of dollars in pandemic relief federal and state funding. At the same time, high-quality and affordable child care and reducing child poverty gained more attention at the state level, and the largest school district in the state and nation moved toward implementing evidence-based early literacy instruction.

With our coalition partners, we celebrated several bills that passed in the New York State Senate and Assembly that set the stage for a better and more equitable future for students, children, and their families — which is no feat to tackle alone. Through it all, we guided thought leadership and policy solutions as part of the New York State Education Department’s Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures and the state’s Child Poverty Reduction Advisory and Governor Hochul’s Child Care Availability Task Force. And with our unified efforts, we empowered parents and students by providing them with the resources needed to advocate for change, all while supplying tools state and district leaders can use to address the longstanding inequities in our education system that existed even before the pandemic.



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

– *Margaret Mead*

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Partners and Supporters,

As New York educators and families resiliently navigate the post-pandemic world and continue to find innovative ways to reach and support young children and students, The Education Trust–New York is always ready to advocate alongside them for educational resources and policies to help New York State get back on track. Yet there is not one person or organization that could achieve such catalytic change alone.

Far too often, students of color and those living in poverty in New York are denied opportunities to thrive from early childhood and through college and the workforce. Only through the collective efforts of our diverse coalitions that are invested in actualizing promising futures for every child can we find solutions and make strides for our state’s students together.

This year, I am inspired by the work Ed Trust–NY and our coalition partners from The New York Equity Coalition, Raising NY, and The Buffalo Education Equity Task Force accomplished to do just that. Our work transcended the bold headlines in the news about reshaping the educational landscape in a post-pandemic world, as we strategically reached stakeholders statewide and led conversations in the media and beyond about how state, community, civil rights, business, parent, and education leaders can build a more equitable future for students.

And ultimately, through amplification, advocacy, and our public data analyses and reports, we ensured our legislative priorities were top of mind for elected officials and guided policy recommendations at the state level.

While the impact of Ed Trust–NY and our coalition partners is documented throughout this report, it is the people behind this critical work and their commitment to creating equitable opportunities for all children and students in New York State that empower change **every day**.

In the coming year, we are looking forward to deepening our impact. We will sharpen our newly introduced early literacy work, explore opportunities to support high school students seeking college credit, and continue our quest for universal child care in New York.

In partnership,

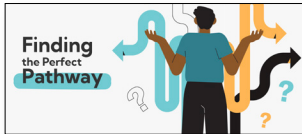
Dr. Dia Bryant
Executive Director, Ed Trust–NY

Dia Bryant

OUR WORK

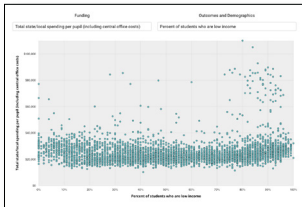
EQUITY-DRIVEN • DATA-CENTERED • STUDENT-FOCUSED

In the past year, we published a series of reports, polls, and resources covering critical equity issues facing children, students, and families in New York State. Here are the highlights:



[Finding the Perfect Pathway: An Interactive Online Tool](#) (September 2022)

As the state aims to support two-thirds of New Yorkers in earning a higher education degree or credential by 2030, our online tool [Finding the Perfect Pathway](#) offers a starting point for helping prospective students — both traditional and nontraditional — identify the pathway that works for them. The tool contains information about five different postsecondary pathways, and for each one offers questions to think about, resources, and guidance on next steps.



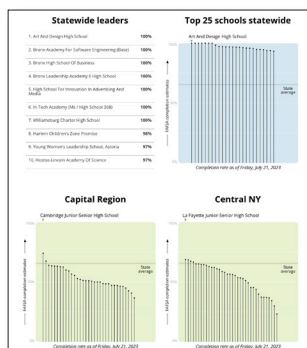
[New York's School Funding Transparency Tool](#) (September 2022)

Equal is not the same as equitable, and schools with significant need require greater funding than other schools. This is especially true given how the pandemic and systemic racism continue to exacerbate pre-existing inequities within New York's education system. Yet among the state's Big 5 school districts, several are failing to ensure funding is reaching the schools with the greatest needs, according to an analysis in our online school funding transparency tool.

Using publicly available data from a state law that requires all 673 New York school districts receiving foundation aid to report their 2021-22 school-level budgets, our data tool — available at nyschoolfunding.org — allows users to see how schools and districts allocate resources, and whether students from low-income backgrounds, students with disabilities, and multilingual learners are receiving the resources they need to succeed.



Equal is not the same as equitable, and schools with significant need require greater funding than other schools. This is especially true given how the pandemic and systemic racism continue to exacerbate pre-existing inequities.



New York FAFSA Completion Project (October 2022, February 2023, and June 2023)

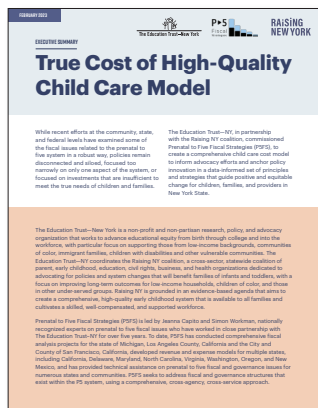
As of June 2023, the statewide FAFSA completion rate reached 60%, a slight increase of over 1% compared to last year. Our [Financial Aid for College: High School Toolkit](#) provides 10 evidence-based strategies for schools to assist students in completing financial aid applications, whether in-person or remotely. The toolkit includes tips for tracking progress, as well as English and Spanish materials for effective communication with students and families.

Annually, we release the toolkit while launching the New York State FAFSA Challenge in October, which acknowledges schools with high FAFSA completion rates and improvements since 2019. Awards are given to winning schools in June — where at least half of the students are from low-income backgrounds — allowing them to grant a \$750 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who plans to attend college in the fall.



Representation Matters (December 2022)

Despite bodies of research that show access to diverse teachers is important for *all* students and efforts to improve diversity across the state, our report [Representation Matters](#) found that between the 2018-19 and 2021-22 school years, New York did not move the needle on cultivating a more diverse teacher workforce. As a result, many students of color do not have access to teachers of the same race. These findings emphasize the need for significant efforts to build a teacher workforce that better reflects the diversity of New York's student population.



True Cost of High-Quality Child Care Model (February 2023)

Recent efforts at the community, state, and federal levels have examined some of the fiscal issues related to the prenatal-to-five system in a robust way, yet policies remain disconnected and siloed. In partnership with the Raising NY coalition, we commissioned Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies (P5FS), to create a comprehensive [child care cost model](#) to inform advocacy efforts and anchor policy innovation in a data-informed set of principles and strategies that guide positive and equitable change for children, families, and providers in New York State.



Shifting Student Populations: Enrollment Trends in New York State (February 2023)

While New York State schools have been experiencing declining enrollment for much of the past decade, the pandemic accelerated this trend in every region in the state, with New York leading the nation in enrollment loss between 2019-20 and 2021-22.

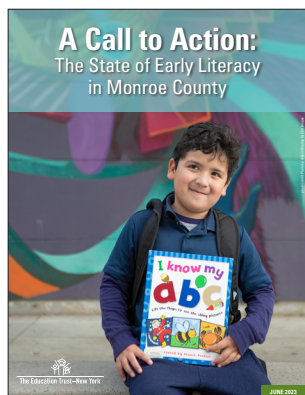
Our analysis of K-12 enrollment trends over the past five years revealed major shifts across the state, showing decreases at traditional public and private schools and increases at charters and homeschools, signaling that our traditional school systems may not be meeting the evolving needs of New York families.



The State of Early Literacy in New York (April 2023)

While New York struggles with an early education literacy crisis, the widespread use of non-evidence-based practices in teaching reading across the state is compounding the problem. Even with state leaders aware of the crisis, their inaction is denying the state’s earliest learners access to proven resources shown to boost reading skills.

Our report, [A Call to Action: The State of Early Literacy in New York](#), uncovered a disjointed early literacy landscape in New York. The report highlights the widespread use of non-evidence-based practices in reading instruction, and shares recommendations on how state and local leaders can address New York’s poor reading outcomes by anchoring reading and literacy instruction in the science of reading, a proven, evidence-based approach.



The State of Early Literacy in Monroe County (June 2023)

As a follow up to our statewide report on early literacy, we published [A Call to Action: The State of Early Literacy in Monroe County](#). The report found that Monroe County’s early literacy crisis is driven by a combination of low expectations for students, unstable leadership, and the use of non-evidence-based instructional materials and practices that are ultimately denying students of their right to read.

THE EDUCATION TRUST–NY'S EQUITY WINS

2024 New York State Budget


From early childhood through the workforce, we advanced initiatives that will promote educational equity in New York State during this year's budget season and legislative session, including equitable school funding, access to advanced coursework, evidence-based literacy instruction, a diverse teacher pipeline, and inclusive child care. We spearheaded advocacy campaigns with our New York Equity Coalition and Raising NY partners to provide public testimony, send letters to lawmakers, and engage in digital advocacy.

Here is a snapshot of our wins:

\$500 Million 
will be used to recruit and retain child care workers


Child care investments in the New York State budget

Governor Hochul and the NYS Legislature continue to invest in child care with the 2024 New York State budget. The State expanded eligibility by capping co-pays at 1% of income (previously at 10%), and further expanded access to families by raising the income limit from 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$83,250 for a family of four) to 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) (\$93,258 for a family of four) — a fairer poverty guideline. In addition, \$500 million in federal pandemic relief funding is being used to recruit and retain child care workers with one-time bonuses. The State also made the following investments: \$1 million for a business navigator program, \$4.8 million for an employer-supported child care pilot program — which will split the cost of care three ways — and \$1.4 million for Facilitated Enrollment to expand access to children regardless of immigration status.

\$20 Million 
into the establishment of new early college high school and P-TECH programs

Increased investments to expand early college high school and P-TECH programs statewide

Access to college-level coursework not only prepares students for the rigors of higher education, but it also allows students to earn college credits that will ultimately save them time and money. The 2024 New York State budget invests \$20 million into the establishment of new early college high school and P-TECH programs, which is a significant step toward ensuring that more students have an opportunity to enroll in courses that lead to competitive credentials.

\$256 Million 
for SUNY and CUNY colleges

Historic investments in the State University and City University of New York

The 2024 New York State budget included historic investments for education, including an increase in funding for SUNY schools at an additional \$163 million and an increase for CUNY schools at \$93 million. The budget also includes new funds for capital projects and transformational initiatives at campuses that will help meet the New York State's workforce needs.

Advocacy and Legislative Wins



#ReleaseTheDataNY Campaign Drives Release of 2021-22 Student Assessment Results *(September 2022)*

After two years of pandemic instruction without assessment data and our [parent polls](#) consistently revealing that parents want information about whether their children are meeting state academic standards, we found that it was critical for the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to release 2021-22 student assessment data in a timely manner. However, in September 2022 the department charged school districts with releasing the assessment data without any requirement or guidance that they do so. In response, we launched an advocacy campaign on social media — [#ReleaseTheDataNY](#) — which enlisted our partners and supporters to send an email urging leaders to release the data. Advocates sent nearly 1,000 messages to the Board of Regents and the State Education Commissioner, resulting in NYSED releasing the data in the following weeks.



Changes to New York City public school's funding formula promote equity *(January 2023)*

Many New York City public school students will benefit from new changes to the [Fair Student Funding Formula](#), which were proposed by a working group co-chaired by our executive director Dr. Dia Bryant, and approved by city leaders in May. Fair Student Funding is the main source of discretionary money for most New York City public schools. The formula overhaul increased equity in funding by targeting students experiencing homelessness, recent asylum-seeking students, and students who attend schools that have higher concentrations of students with needs.



New York students to be directly admitted to their local community college *(January 2023)*

To follow last year's commitment by Governor Hochul to support two-thirds of all New Yorkers in earning a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030, a new initiative will ensure all graduating students know they are accepted into their local community colleges. The initiative will enable more New Yorkers to realize the dream of a higher education.

Advocacy and Legislative Wins



Raising NY and partners' advocacy leads to the expansion of state child tax credit

(May 2023)

The 2024 New York State budget expands the Empire State Child Tax Credit to include children under the age of four, which Raising NY and its coalition members have historically [called on](#) state leaders to enact. This expansion is a win for families of young children — but there is still work to do. Raising NY will continue to advocate for expansion of the credit to those with the lowest incomes, as well as immigrant families in the next budget season.



New York City Public School leaders commit to improving reading outcomes

(May 2023)

New York City Public Schools led the way by [publicly committing](#) to improving early literacy curriculum in May. Together with our partners, Ed Trust—NY advocated to make early literacy a priority in NYCPS, and we will continue to urge state leaders to follow the city's lead and address the early literacy crisis at the state level.



Buffalo Public Schools approve new three-bell schedule *(May 2023)*

Buffalo Public Schools' (BPS) transportation system has a history of inefficient transportation services that cause students to miss valuable instructional time. An initiative proposed by Buffalo Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Tonja Williams, with input from teachers and parents, passed that will institute a three-bell system. The three-bell system will shift school start times by 30 minutes at three different intervals to accommodate school busing. Our partners from the Buffalo Education Equity Task Force advocated relentlessly to ensure this initiative would move forward — from speaking to the media, as well as local and state officials, and rallying the community around the issue.



Science of Reading Center of Excellence to be established at State University of New York New Paltz *(June 2023)*

Leaders at SUNY New Paltz [announced](#) that the school will establish the Science of Reading Center of Excellence on campus, which will build knowledge of the science of reading in New York State's educator pipeline and is in line with our recommendations to strengthen the alignment between teacher preparation programs and the science of reading. The center will feature a first-of-its-kind Science of Reading Fundamentals microcredential for New York teachers, which will launch in fall 2023.

Advocacy and Legislative Wins



Bill that will improve access to advanced coursework passes unanimously

(June 2023)

The New York Equity Coalition advocated throughout the year for initiatives to improve access to advanced coursework for students, particularly students of color and those from low-income backgrounds. Versions of a bill that would improve access have been discussed ongoing in the past years. As of June 2023, thanks to our collective advocacy, [A514A/S5650A](#) passed the Assembly and Senate unanimously. The bill will direct school districts to inform families early about the benefits of enrolling in advanced classes, and ensure families have information about what courses are offered, what supports are available for students, and how students can enroll.



Grow Your Own initiatives make moves in the New York State Legislature

(June 2023)

New York’s educator workforce does not come close to matching the rich diversity of our state’s students. An initiative that will help solve this problem and improve teacher diversity in New York State passed the Senate and Assembly. [A68A/S2140B](#) will direct the New York State Commissioner of Education, in consultation with higher education institutions, to issue guidance for school districts and boards of cooperative educational services to help districts develop “Grow Your Own” initiatives. With the unwavering support of our partners, we submitted memorandums of support to our respective state leaders.



The Legislature advances a bill that will expand child care access to parents with differing work hours *(June 2023)*

Parents are consistently unable to access child care in New York State, especially those who have rotating, part-time work schedules, are experiencing homelessness, or have other “non-traditional” arrangements. [S5327A/A4986A](#) passed the Senate and Assembly; it decouples a parent’s work hours from the hours that child care subsidy is available to them, thus expanding access to care and increasing equity. The Raising NY coalition pushed for this change by meeting with decision-makers; submitting testimony, sign-on letters, and memorandums of support; and supporting the legislation on social media. The coalition will continue its work until Governor Hochul signs the bill into law.

MOVEMENT BUILDING

The work we do impacts many aspects of New York State, such as the economy, workforce, and much more. Because of this, it is crucial we collaborate with civil rights, education, and business organizations to maximize our impact. In light of this, we convene two diverse, statewide coalitions: The New York Equity Coalition and Raising New York.

The New York Equity Coalition

With our partners across New York State, we developed a strong, growing coalition of civil rights, education, parent, and business organizations dedicated to educational equity. Initially, The New York Equity Coalition came together in 2016 with a belief that the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) offers a significant opportunity to address the deep inequities in New York's education system. In recent years, The New York Equity Coalition has since expanded to focus on other education equity issues that can hinder students from a bright future, including meaningful graduation standards and accountability, access to advanced coursework, the state's suspension crisis, and more.

This year, we invited our partners in the higher education space to join The New York Equity Coalition, considering many of the equity issues that we address intersect. To that end, our K-12 and higher education partners also share the same goal of ensuring New York State students — especially students of color, students from low-income backgrounds, students with disabilities, and English language learners — graduate prepared for college and the workforce.



The New York Equity Coalition gave us the research that helped us back up our issues as parents. We weren't just responding emotionally to what was going on with our children.



– Samuel L. Radford, III, parent leader and New York Equity Coalition member in Buffalo

The New York Equity Coalition

Here are some coalition highlights:



The New York State Education Department Commission on the Blue Ribbon Commission

In 2022, the New York State Education Department convened a [Blue Ribbon Commission](#) on Graduation Measures to rethink state graduation requirements. Ed Trust–NY’s executive director Dr. Dia Bryant, along with other New York Equity Coalition partners, are on the commission, which has been meeting for several months. The goal of the commission is to develop recommendations to the Board of Regents on potential new ways of measuring learning and achievement while ensuring that New York students are prepared for college, career, and civic life. Thus far, the New York State Education Department has expressed support for multiple pathways to earning a diploma that may or may not include Regents exams, while expanding the use of [performance-based learning assessments](#).

While The New York Equity Coalition is open to the exploration of multiple pathways, particularly for student subgroups that have struggled with current graduation requirements, [the coalition is concerned](#) about district capacity to implement new strategies such as performance-based learning assessments. At the same time, we are concerned that a shift away from objective measures such as Regents exams may exacerbate longstanding inequities in postsecondary preparedness for students who have been historically underserved by our education system.

The New York Equity Coalition launched a [statewide campaign](#) in summer 2023 to influence the Blue Ribbon Commission.



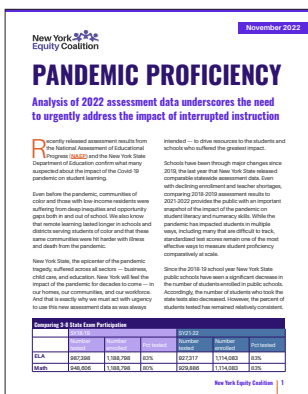
[Protecting New York’s Graduation Standards Advocacy Campaign](#) (July and August 2022)

The New York Equity Coalition led an [advocacy campaign](#) during July and August with the goal of maintaining high expectations for all students and rejecting amendments to graduation measures that perpetuate the adverse effects. While the Board of Regents passed measures allowing students with a 50% score on any Regents exam to earn a high school diploma and students unable to pass with more than a 50% score to earn a local diploma through a “special determination” process, our coalition partners made their voices heard by sending nearly 450 messages to the board’s members, which helped us continue the conversation around ensuring students graduate from high school with a competitive diploma that will set them up for future success.



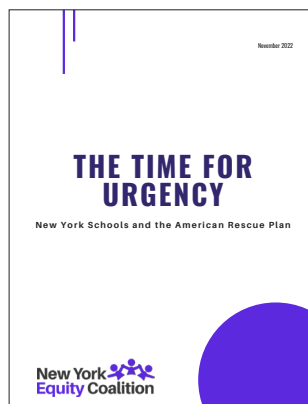
What's behind New York's graduation rates? (August 2022)

A coalition [analysis](#) found that while New York State's graduation rate has steadily risen in recent years, a reliance on exemptions from Regents exams and regulatory changes designed to give flexibility during the pandemic may have inflated the increases. Since 2016, New York's graduation rate has risen 9.4 percentage points, with double-digit increases in Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse. According to the analysis, 71% of students in the Class of 2021 utilized at least one Regents exam exemption to graduate. Additionally, students with disabilities, students from low-income backgrounds, and English language learners disproportionately relied on the exemptions to earn a diploma.



Pandemic Proficiency (November 2022)

An [analysis](#) of assessment results from the New York State Department of Education by the coalition revealed the impact of interrupted instruction on student learning in English language arts (ELA) and math. Statewide in 2021-22, less than half of all students in grades three through eight were proficient in ELA and math. And while there were gains in ELA and losses in math proficiency across all racial groups, the proficiency gaps between student groups were alarmingly wide. Students of color and those with low-income backgrounds were suffering from deep inequities and opportunity gaps even before the pandemic, and these same students were disproportionately impacted by school closures and prolonged remote instruction.



The Time for Urgency (November 2022)

Even as aforementioned assessment data revealed that half of all students tested in the spring of 2022 lack proficiency in math and literacy, an [analysis](#) by the coalition found that as of August 2022 school districts across New York State had spent less than 10 percent of their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, which are aimed at accelerating learning after the pandemic. The analysis of spending also found that when combined with the two other rounds of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding, New York State ranks 49th nationally in the percentage of total funds spent – 19 percent. To strengthen the effectiveness of ARPA spending across the state, the coalition outlined steps the New York State Education Department and district leaders can take to meet student needs.

The New York Equity Coalition

Within Our Reach: Who's in? Who's Out? March 2023

An analysis of advanced coursework enrollment in New York State 2021-22

Parents often wonder why their child is not enrolled in an honors or advanced course or their students don't have as many choices for advanced courses. The answer is that students of color and students from low-income backgrounds are disproportionately excluded from advanced and rigorous coursework.

The presents serious equity challenges since advanced courses provide students with an opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in college and their career. Courses such as computer science and Calculus, along with dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB) can provide students with an edge in college admissions, while improving the likelihood of postsecondary degree attainment and career success in highly skilled industries.

Yet, for too long students of color and students from low-income backgrounds have been less likely to be enrolled in these courses compared to their non-low income and white peers – and many opportunities have gone unused. There are several reasons for this persistent challenge:

- Students of color and students from low-income backgrounds are less likely to attend schools that offer a range of advanced courses.
- Even when students of color and those from low-income backgrounds attend schools where advanced courses are offered, they and students from other historically underserved groups are less likely to be enrolled in the advanced courses.
- Educators face a lack of teacher diversity that has led to students of color being tracked away from advanced courses by their teachers and school counselors.
- Inadequate access to high-quality early childhood learning opportunities for students of color and those from low-income backgrounds contributes to learning gaps leading to lower enrollment in coursework that leads students to advanced courses for these student groups.

New York State Equity Coalition

Within Our Reach (March 2023)

An updated [analysis](#) of course access disparities across New York State by the coalition found that the New York State education system continues to deny students of color and students from low-income backgrounds access to rigorous instruction in a range of courses that will prepare them for success in college and careers — such as key advanced courses like physics, calculus, computer science, Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB). The analysis also exhibited that there was little change in access to these advanced courses between the 2019-20 and 2021-22 school year, despite important guidance from the New York State Education Department to help districts expand equitable access to advanced coursework.

TEACHER RETENTION IN NEW YORK STATE

An analysis of educator retention data in New York State (NYS) from SY 2018-19 to 2021-22 shows that New York State public schools are challenged to retain teachers of color, in particular Black, American Indian, and Latinx teachers.

9-point percentage gap

Teacher data from the last four years, including the Department's 2021-22 report, reveal that New York State public schools have lost 9% of their teachers, with 10% of those teachers being teachers of color. In particular, Black, American Indian, and Latinx teachers are disproportionately impacted. There is a 9-point percentage gap between the retention rate of Black teachers in the state and their white colleagues.

The analysis shows that over the four-year period, teachers of color are disproportionately concentrated in schools with the lowest teacher retention.

9-point percentage gap

Black teachers: 90% retention rate
White teachers: 99% retention rate

New York State Equity Coalition

Teacher Retention in New York State (June 2023)

New York State public schools are challenged to retain teachers of color, in particular Black, American Indian, and Latinx teachers, according to an [analysis](#) by The New York Equity Coalition. The analysis found that from a four-year period (2018-19 to 2021-22) teachers of color and students of color are disproportionately concentrated in schools with the lowest teacher retention rates. Additionally, teacher retention rates are the highest amongst schools in low-need districts, whereas charter schools, New York City schools, and schools in Buffalo, Yonkers, and Syracuse have some of the lowest retention rates in the state.



Raising New York

Raising New York is a cross-sector, statewide coalition of parent, early childhood, education, civil rights, business, and health organizations dedicated to advocating for policies and system changes that will benefit families of infants and toddlers, with a focus on improving long-term outcomes for low-income households, children of color, and those in other underserved groups.



We launched Raising NY in 2019 with a data-driven lens focused on how leaders and agencies can advance equitable early childhood systems for infants and toddlers in New York State. The coalition's key priorities are: improving access to health and developmental care; improving access to high-quality affordable child care for infants and toddlers; reducing child poverty; and developing a system that coordinates early development, child care, and health care programs and services.



Here are some highlights from the coalition:

Child Poverty Reduction Council and Child Care Availability Task Force

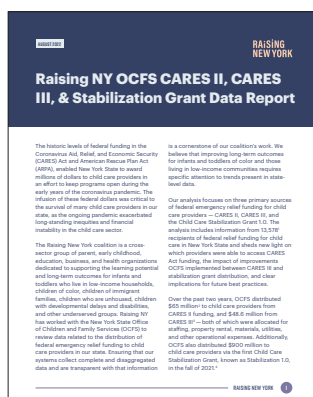
In 2022, we advocated for the creation of the Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council, which started meeting this year. Ed Trust–NY's executive director Dr. Dia Bryant is a member of the advisory council, which is tasked with making recommendations to cut child poverty in half in ten years.

Raising NY coalition members also advocated for the reconvening of the Child Care Availability Task Force, which has been reinstated. Dr. Bryant sits on this group, as well. It will publish a second report on child care availability in New York State in December 2023.

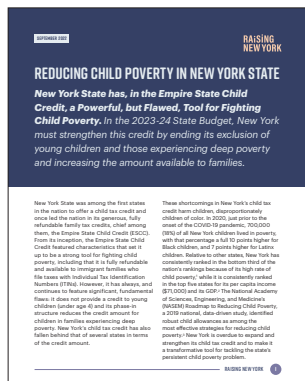
OCFS CARES II, CARES III, and Stabilization Grant Data Report (August 2022)

The historic levels of federal funding in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), combined with the state's Child Care Stabilization Grant, enabled New York to award millions of dollars to child care providers in an effort to keep programs open during the early years of the coronavirus pandemic.

An analysis by Raising NY revealed how child care providers utilized federal and state pandemic relief funding and highlighted which providers were able to access the money, how it was spent, and how New York can improve its systems to ensure that future funding streams are equitably distributed.



Raising New York



Reducing Child Poverty in New York State (September 2022)

As New York continues its economic recovery amid the ongoing pandemic, the Raising NY coalition [called on](#) state leaders to expand the Empire State Child Credit to help reduce the number of children living in poverty.

New York was among the first states in the nation to offer a child tax credit and once led the country in its generous, fully refundable family tax credits, primarily the Empire State Child Credit. But New York has quickly fallen behind as other states have instituted more generous credits, especially by not including children under four. Since Raising NY released this report, the Governor included children under four in the Empire State Child Credit in the 2024 Executive Budget.



New York's Child Care Crisis (October 2022)

A [parent poll](#) commissioned by the Global Strategy Group found that across all racial groups, parents of young children have encountered challenges accessing child care. Among other key findings, the poll revealed that while parents overall are satisfied with their child care program, their experiences with some areas of the system can vary widely across racial lines. These poll findings underscore the need for New York to invest in a high-quality universal child care system that will serve all families equitably.



Access to high-quality child care is crucial to getting more New Yorkers back to work as the state continues its economic recovery amid the ongoing pandemic and persistent inflation.

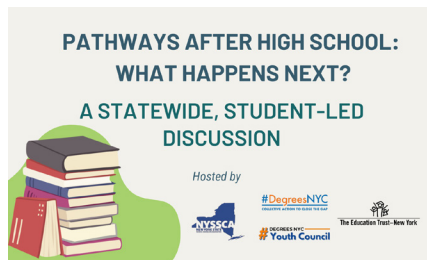
Equity Partnership Program

Partnering with organizations that advance educational equity statewide is core to our advocacy work. The organizations we partner with are deeply rooted in their communities and work directly with students, parents, community stakeholders, and more.

Each year, through our Equity Partnership Program, we provide technical assistance and grants to support advocacy capacity to community-based and parent-serving organizations. This year, we awarded grants to [eight organizations](#) that will be taking on critical equity work in their respective regions of the state that are central to our mission.



Elevating Student Voice



[Pathways After High School: What Comes Next?](#)

Students often do not have opportunities to connect with their peers across the state about how they are approaching their postsecondary paths to help them make the best decisions for their future. In September 2022, we hosted a [virtual townhall](#) with our partners Degrees NYC, Degrees NYC Youth Council, and The New York State School Counselor Association where current college students led a discussion and held a space for high school students to ask them questions about what life after high school is like, as well as share their concerns and aspirations for the future with one another.



[#MyHistoryMyFuture Black History Month Campaign](#)

Since 2018, we have partnered with the New York State Education Department and My Brother's Keeper programs statewide to host the [#MyHistoryMyFuture](#) campaign that amplifies extraordinary young people's voices and hopes and dreams for the future by sharing on social media. These students are the future — and are writing the next chapter of Black history.

Parent Advocate Policy Lab

We designed the Parent Advocate Policy Lab to expand parent leaders' knowledge of new funding sources and to support their advocacy efforts.

Throughout the 10-month Lab experience, parents from across the state develop skills in policy

writing, power mapping, and advocacy strategies to help advance education equity. We are proud to work with this year's eight inspiring [Lab participants](#) who developed new ideas of how new resources can be used in their respective districts.



We must always remember one size doesn't fix all when it comes to educating our children. We must always be reaching them where they are, encouraging and showing them how far they are going and how well they are doing.

– Parent Lab participant

BUILDING THE EQUITY NARRATIVE STATEWIDE

We leveraged our longstanding relationships with media outlets across New York State to promote an equity agenda through news articles, editorials, opinion pieces, and broadcast and radio segments.



Newsday

LONG ISLAND / EDUCATION
ONLY IN NEWSDAY

NY schools have spent only about 20% of billions received in federal COVID aid. Advocates want them to pick up the pace.

POLITICO PRO

Schools with disadvantaged students would get a boost under proposed funding changes

BY: MADINA TOURÉ | 01/23/2023 05:55 PM EST

NEW YORK — Schools with greater numbers of students in temporary housing and living in poverty would get additional financial support with an updated funding formula, the Dept. of Education announced Monday.

DAILY NEWS

OPINION

New NYC curricula plan will transform learning: Chancellor David Banks delivers to help get all kids reading

By Marielys Divonne and Dia Bryant
New York Daily News - May 10, 2023 at 5:00 am

SPECTRUM NEWS 1

CAPITAL TONIGHT

New Education Trust NY study analyzes true costs of child care

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BY SUSAN ARBETTER | NEW YORK STATE
PUBLISHED 7:39 PM ET FEB. 02, 2023

Child care is a major issue both generally and within the context of the New York state budget. The Education Trust NY, in partnership with the Raising NY Coalition, took a deep dive into the real costs of child care with the number-crunchers at "Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies" (P5FS), and came out with a new study titled "True Cost of High-Quality Child Care Model," which will be released on Friday, Feb. 3.

Capital Tonight previewed the report with the Education Trust NY's executive director, Dia Bryant.

"Last year, we had numbers flying all over the place. We were talking about \$11 billion and \$12 billion. So, we, what we did at Ed Trust NY, along with the other organizations you mentioned, is we went to the lab," Bryant said. "We came up with what would it actually cost to provide quality care for children around the state across a continuum."

WXXI Go Public

How should schools in New York State teach reading?

By Evan Dawson, Megan Mack

Published June 12, 2023 at 2:33 PM EDT

▶ LISTEN • 52:10



7 abc BUFFALO WKBW

New study released shows declining enrollment of students in every region of NYS

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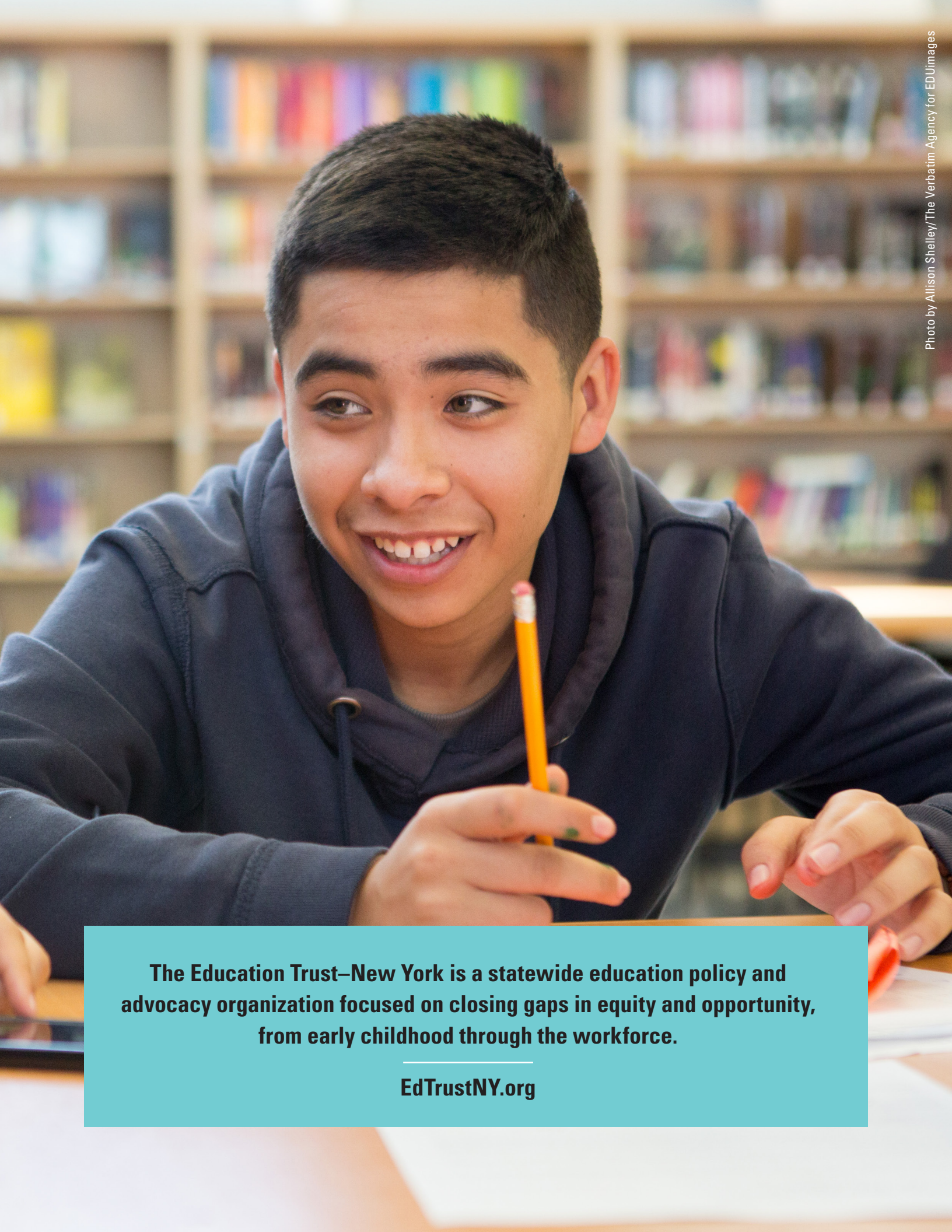


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Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen
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The Education Trust–New York is a statewide education policy and advocacy organization focused on closing gaps in equity and opportunity, from early childhood through the workforce.

EdTrustNY.org

