

SESSION E

A New Way for Arizona

Presenters

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Key Points

We work with about 60 schools in AZ. 20% in charter schools. Early adopters of choice. Trying to get low income students access to A schools. Wish to incentivize and prioritize this behavior. Business community is invested in A for Arizona in the school funding conversation. In one year, we want a rapid increase of 10% in seats. This would reflect the national data. We want to close the achievement gap. Pockets of excellence and high-performance clusters of schools, trying to unite them, grow them, and sustain them-- trying to improve them and empower them to do more. Want to reform and evaluate the existing school finance system, get rid of burdensome regulations and invest in what works. Arizona's "old way" of approaching ed. finance: Centralized - funding -budgeting -reporting Inequitable: -community wealth -charter v district -dollars following tenure, not kids.

The New Priorities:

Achievement weight --support and expand what is excellent -school based budgeting and reporting --start with effective school leaders -equity --student and taxpayer

Grow Excellence. -don't make achievement wait -a shared formula with achievement weights will motivate Embrace the Backpack Tax complexity is rarely in service of equity -a simplified and central collection of taxes to support students will be stronger and more equitable.