Education Policy Landscape Post-Midterm Elections

Power shifted after the November elections, with the Democratic Party winning a new majority in the House and Republican Party increasing their majority in the Senate. The 116th Congress is the most diverse ever elected. What are the implications for education policy?

Abigail Potts (EPFP ’02-03)
Director of College, Career, and Civic Readiness
National Association of State Boards of Education

Abigail Potts is the NASBE’s director of college, career, and civic readiness. Potts brings over 10 years of experience in federal and state education policy along with a passion for data and educational equity. She previously served as a research scientist at the US Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). At NCES, she worked in partnership with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) to administer the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC). The CRDC provides wide-ranging data on educational access and opportunity covering topics such as early childhood education, college and career readiness, resource equity, and bullying and harassment. Potts has also served as an independent consultant providing technical assistance and policy analysis and as a senior policy advisor within the US Department of Education’s Office of Elementary and Secondary Education working on assessment and accountability issues. Her first job in education was at the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) reporting on education indicators and state education policies. Potts attended public school in Alexandria, Virginia, and currently resides in Alexandria’s Del Ray neighborhood.

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