

# TRANSFORMING EDUCATION

## Panel One: The Critical Role of Student Voice

**Watch the Recording: September 17, 2024**

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Schools should support students to achieve the goals they have for themselves. We build a new plane while we're trying to fly it every year. We need a longer, sustainable runway. What we're doing isn't working. This is an incentive for people to move to other school options.



We are steeped in tradition. We need to reimagine the paths to success. We are no longer an assembly line nation. Students need to be bolstered to make the decisions they need to make. We need systems not saviors.

The changes we made to accommodate students during the pandemic make it hard to argue that it's okay to go back to the way we used to track attendance, grades and success. While there has been backsliding, the window is still open to make substantive change.

Attendance remains a key issue post-pandemic. The pandemic shifted students' thinking on what they need and what they can live without in preparing for their future.

We need to reconfigure how it is we do school. Student focus groups can inform what schools need school to look like moving forward. Gone are the days where students go off to college and find themselves - K12 has to be about helping students find their place by the time they graduate.

Students are receptors and creators with likeminded people all over the world. Our job is to make sure those experiences are legitimate and safe and something they can learn from. It vastly improves their connection to their learning.



Students need a space inside schools to be entrepreneurs. We need to connect students to people in the community who have skills, experience and knowledge to help them make a living and immediately contribute to society as creatives and employees.

Equity and access is key to every student's trajectory. It's our job to reduce the odds against student success. We must change the current system to ensure that trends of underperforming students do not continue.



Kids are demanding changes. Either we change it or they will change it for us. We have to end working in isolation to collaborate and adapt and show what this can look like moving forward. We can do this. If we say we need to be first in education, we can do it just like we put a man on the moon.