



February 13, 2025

The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
Chair  
U.S. Senate HELP Committee  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate HELP Committee  
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Cassidy and Ranking Member Sanders:

As the Chairman, the Ranking Member, and the distinguished members of this Committee know, our nation's public education system unlocks the promise of America. A promise that all of our children, regardless of zip code, circumstance, or individual exceptionalities, will be given the opportunity to thrive, to have their potential recognized and fostered, and to be seen as critical members of our diverse and complex democracy. A promise that children growing up on a farm in rural Appalachia or a high-rise apartment in New York, children from families of means or low-income families, and children who need support for their giftedness and their dyslexia will all have a world of opportunities open to them.

Over the last forty-five years, our Department of Education has worked to meet this promise, to ensure that every child in our nation is afforded those opportunities. Each of the over 16,500 days that the Department has existed has seen the work of dedicated, world-renowned experts, educators, and educational leaders striving to make our public education system the best that it can be.

The question before this Committee is how will we move this work forward?

Will we, as a nation, commit to guaranteeing that the Department of Education remains the cornerstone of our nation's commitment to ensuring every child has access to quality education?

Will we support students, families, educators, and school and district leaders across the country in continuing to see all of our children as the future of our nation? And in continuing to believe that education is the springboard to opportunity for all?

As Congressional leaders, we expect you to stand in the gap, uphold the Constitution, and ensure this administration does not destroy the future of our young people with its policies. That policy agenda is why All4Ed opposes the nomination of the Honorable Linda McMahon to be the next Secretary of Education.

In our ever-changing world, our nation's children deserve a Secretary of Education who will take the helm of the Department and strengthen, rather than dismantle, these core functions while addressing education's pressing challenges today. Our students navigate an increasingly complex world that demands new skills and competencies. They need safe, supportive learning environments to develop critical thinking abilities, emotional intelligence, and the knowledge necessary to succeed in the 21st century.

As our Congressional leaders, we urge you to ask whether Secretary-Designate McMahon is committed to:

1. Maintaining robust civil rights enforcement to protect all students from discrimination and ensure equal educational opportunities, as required by federal law.
2. Preserving and enhancing federal funding streams that support high-need schools and students, including Title I and IDEA.
3. Strengthening data collection and research initiatives that help identify effective educational practices and improvement areas.
4. Continuing federal oversight of student loan programs while working to make higher education more affordable and accessible.
5. Supporting initiatives that promote safe and healthy learning environments, including efforts to address school safety and mental health.
6. Protecting and enforcing policies that safeguard vulnerable student populations.
7. Strengthening coordination with other federal agencies to ensure seamless delivery of essential services to students and families, including healthcare, nutrition assistance, and digital connectivity programs.

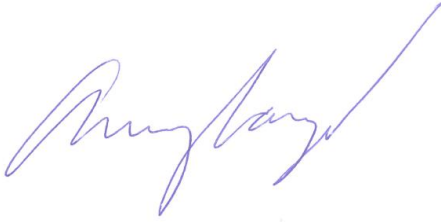
The Department of Education's role in establishing protections helps ensure all students can access the promise of education - a fundamental pillar of our nation's commitment to its young people. Dismantling these protections would betray that promise and their future. Now more than ever, we must strengthen, not weaken, the Department so it can advance educational equity, support educators, and prepare students for tomorrow's challenges.

As a leading education advocacy organization, All4Ed stands firmly committed to protecting our young people and our public education system, no matter the obstacles. Our experience shows that a strong federal role in education, partnering with states and local communities, is essential for nurturing the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and innovators.

Your leadership is crucial for maintaining these protections while fostering innovation and excellence in American education. All4Ed stands ready to work with you to strengthen the Department of Education and advance its vital mission of promoting student achievement, ensuring equal access, and preparing all students for global competitiveness.

Unfortunately, we must oppose the nomination of the Honorable Linda McMahon because she has committed to implementing policies that we believe will be harmful to public education and, ultimately, to our students.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Loyd", with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Amy Loyd, Ed.L.D.  
Chief Executive Officer  
All4Ed

CC: The Honorable Rand Paul, The Honorable Susan Collins, The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, The Honorable Markwayne Mullin, The Honorable Roger Marshall, The Honorable Tim Scott, The Honorable Josh Hawley, The Honorable Tommy Tuberville, The Honorable Jim Banks, The Honorable Jon Husted, The Honorable Ashley Moody, The Honorable Patty Murray, The Honorable Tammy Baldwin, The Honorable Christopher Murphy, The Honorable Tim Kaine, The Honorable Maggie Hassan, The Honorable John Hickenlooper, The Honorable Ed Markey, The Honorable Andy Kim, The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester, The Honorable Angela Alsobrooks