



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Event Media Advisory

American Student Assistance, Partners Lead the Conversation on K12 Career-Connected Education Trends and Innovation at Virtual ASU+GSV Summit 2021

Thought leaders will share insights and best practices on topics, such as non-college pathways, middle school career exploration, social capital, work-based learning, 13th year programs, and skill-based hiring

BOSTON – August 6, 2021 – American Student Assistance (ASA) and partners representing experts across the education ecosystem will showcase fresh insights and models of success during virtual panel sessions at the upcoming [ASU+GSV Summit](#), to be held August 9-11 in San Diego and virtually. As a lead sponsor and thought partner, ASA will host virtual panel sessions that bring together national experts and education innovators to illustrate the importance of programs and policies that empower young people to explore their options and get hands-on experience that can translate into practical and affordable plans for long-term economic mobility.

WHO: American Student Assistance (ASA)

WHERE: ASU+GSV Summit Virtual

WHEN: August 9-11, 2021

WHAT: ASU+GSV is a leading gathering of innovators in the career-connected education and workforce innovation space. ASA will feature insightful virtual programming at the conference. Below is an overview of all the ASA-organized panel discussions at ASU+GSV with detailed information on each. ASA will also showcase helpful resources, including its joint publication with Association for Middle Level Educators (AMLE), [“Career Exploration in the Middle Grades: A Playbook for Educators”](#) and its [“Expanding High School Work-Based Learning in the U.S.”](#) microsite detailing a state-by-state analysis of high school work-based learning policies, based on the recently announced ASA/Bellwether Education Partners research study.

[Virtual registration](#) for the ASU+GSV Summit is free of charge.

Activity: ASA-Hosted Virtual Sessions:

1. [Engaging Students Through Technology Enabled Work-based Learning*](#)
LIVE STREAMED! Monday 8/9 | 2:00 PM PT | Julie Lammers, SVP, Advocacy and Government Relations, ASA (moderator); panelists include representatives from San Diego County Office of Education, Apprenticeship Learning, and Skills for Rhode Island’s Future

- Resource: [EXPANDING HIGH SCHOOL WORK-BASED LEARNING IN THE U.S.](#) -- a microsite detailing a state-by-state analysis of high school work-based learning policies.
 - Resource: [Working To Learn And Learning To Work: A State-By-State Analysis Of High School Work-Based Learning Policies](#) -- a research report highlighting the state-by-state analysis of work-based learning policies.
2. [Middle School Career Exploration in the Wake of the Pandemic Recovery*](#)
LIVE STREAMED! Monday 8/9 | 3:30 PM PT | Alisa Wilke, VP, Strategy & Innovation, ASA (moderator); panelists include representatives from Cajon Valley Union School District, Citizen Schools, and Turnaround for Children
 - Resource: AMLE/ASA [“Career Exploration in the Middle Grades: A Playbook for Educators”](#) -- playbook that equips educators with a roadmap for creating effective career exploration programming.
 3. [Skill-Based hiring -- A paradigm Shift for Educators and Employers*](#)
LIVE STREAMED! Tuesday 8/10 | 10:00 AM PT | Julie Lammers, ASA (moderator); panelists include representatives from Skillsline, LinkedIn Learning, and Credly
 4. [The Catalyze Challenge: A Pathways Innovation Challenge](#)
Monday 8/9 | 4:15 PM PT | George Vinton, CEO, The Common Group (moderator); panelists include ASA Chief Strategy Officer Annabel Cellini, and representatives from Charter School Growth Fund and Harvard Business School
 5. [Networked Pathways to Economic Mobility: Tackling Opportunity Gaps by Investing in Networks, Not Just Skills](#)
Monday 8/9 | 2:45 PM PT | Julia Freeland Fisher, Director of Education, Clayton Christensen Institute (moderator); panelists include representatives from Big Picture Learning, Mentor Spaces, Braven, and Basta
 6. [Case Study: Efficacy and Innovation in Middle School Career Exploration](#)
Tuesday 8/10 | 11:30 AM PT | Avery Newton, Ph.D., Educational Outcomes Research Manager, ASA (presenter)
 7. [The 13th Year: Promising Models of Providing Equitable Access to Early College](#) **Wednesday 8/11**
 | 10:55 AM PT Julie Lammers, ASA (moderator); panelists include representatives from Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, Propel America, and SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro

*LIVE STREAMED: Join panelists in real time on the virtual platform. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in live chat and Q&A with panelists.

All sessions listed above will also be available on-demand and can be accessed through the [ASA virtual booth](#) on the ASU+GSV virtual platform.

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About American Student Assistance®

(ASA) American Student Assistance® (ASA) is a national nonprofit committed to helping kids know themselves, know their options, and make informed choices to achieve their education and career goals. ASA® has a 60-year legacy of working directly with students to increase their access to higher education through loans and financial education. ASA has turned its experience into impactful solutions for students in grades 6-12 to help them pursue their dreams. To learn more about ASA, visit www.asa.org/about-us.

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