IMPROVING UTAH K-16 EDUCATION:
INNOVATION + COLLABORATION = TRANSFORMATION

“We have heard a lot of talk among policymakers over the past few years about the need to completely reform education. What we ought to be talking about is transforming education. Let’s build upon all our past successes, the good we have already accomplished, and take education in Utah to a whole new level.”

Gov. Gary R. Herbert
10 Year Plan – Education Roadmap
“Unite and Focus”

To unite the work of state entities and community stakeholders, Governor Herbert tasked his Education Excellence Commission to assist with the development of a state strategic education plan – the *Utah Education Roadmap*.

The *Roadmap* is designed to bring together the common elements of previous stakeholder plans, providing greater alignment as well as momentum in the work to improve educational opportunities and outcomes in Utah.

The goal set by the Governor is to become the top-performing state for education as measured by our graduation rates, degree and certificate completion rates, AP pass rates, NAEP scores and ACT scores.
The Education Excellence Commission has 33 members representing these stakeholder groups:

- Governor and Lt. Governor
- Legislature (6)
- Business (5)
- Community (3)
- Utah System of Higher Education (4)
- Utah Applied Technology College (2)
- State Board of Education (2)
- Local School Boards (2)
- Charter Association (1)
- Superintendents (1)
- Parent Organization (1)
- Teachers (2)
- Principals (2)
The following education plans were used as resources in developing the 10 Year Plan:

- Utah Legislature: Education Task Force Reports, 2013 & 2014
- Utah College of Applied Technology: UCAT Strategic Planning 2011-2020
- State Board of Regents: Updated Strategic Directions and Goals, 2015
- Governor’s Office: On PACE to 66% by 2020
- Education First: Prosperity through Education: The Innovation, Accountability, and Investment Plan for Utah’s Future
- Envision Utah: Utahns’ Vision for 2050 – Education
- National Conference of State Legislatures: No Time to Lose
What Works?

In addition to reviewing and synthesizing the content of existing education plans, the Commission also received input from Utah public and higher education experts, and reviewed current research – both national and Utah-specific studies.

The findings from all of this research, review, and study produced surprisingly close alignment and consensus on “what works” to improve K-16 outcomes.

These findings formed the basis of our 10 Year Plan.
Complete Certificates & Degrees

Ensure Early Learning

Ensure Access & Equity

Strengthen & Support Educators
Ensure Early Learning
Strengthen and Support Educators
Ensure Access and Equity
Complete Certificates & Degrees
Increase Family & Community Support
Other Imperatives

-- Maintain commitment to local control. Help provide resources and remove barriers to districts and charters in their work to develop innovative programs and solutions to their unique local challenges.

-- Provide consistent investment in the WPU and funding of student growth.

-- Change the narrative on education, highlighting our successes and identifying our challenges.

-- The National Conference of State Legislature’s education plan stated, as part of four imperatives to improve education, that “individual reforms are connected and aligned as parts of a clearly planned and carefully designed comprehensive system.” We agree. We must unite and focus our efforts on what we know improves student success.