

JASON E. GLASS, Ed.D.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dr. Jason E. Glass is a nationally recognized education leader with over 25 years of experience leading complex PreK–12 systems, state education agencies, and higher education institutions. His career has focused on advancing equity, deeper learning, and student-centered innovation — while building strong, trusting relationships with communities, educators, and governing boards. He brings a proven record of improving outcomes for all students, leading through complex change, and developing inclusive, future-focused learning environments.

*Dr. Glass most recently served as **Superintendent of the Laguna Beach Unified School District**, where he supported instructional initiatives producing a 19-percentage-point within-year Tier 1 reading gain and a restorative practices framework that reduced district suspension rates to 1%.*

*Previously, Dr. Glass served as **Commissioner of Education** for the Commonwealth of Kentucky — leading 690,000 students, 1,400 schools, and a statewide workforce of 40,000 educators. He launched the United We Learn initiative, a comprehensive vision for deeper learning and equity, implemented statewide DEIB policy reform, and guided Kentucky's COVID-19 response and recovery.*

*Earlier, he served as **Superintendent of Jeffco Public Schools and Eagle County Schools in Colorado**, securing more than \$750 million in funding for school modernization, expanding school choice, and leading transformative instructional redesign. He also served as **Chief State School Officer** for the State of Iowa, leading statewide literacy reform and the creation of the Iowa Reading Research Center and as **Associate Vice President for Teaching & Learning** at Western Michigan University, leading AI, dual enrollment, and online learning initiatives.*

Dr. Glass holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Seton Hall University, a Certificate in Advanced Education Leadership from Harvard University, and three degrees from the University of Kentucky. He is a frequent keynote speaker, published author, and advisor to national education networks including Harvard University, Arizona State University, and Westat.



EDUCATION

Harvard University - Cambridge, MA

Certificate in Advanced Education Leadership, 2019

Seton Hall University - South Orange, NJ

Doctor of Education, Education Leadership, 2011

University of Kentucky - Lexington, KY

Master of Arts, Political Science, 2007

Master of Arts, Education, 1996

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1994

EXPERIENCE

Laguna Beach Unified School District (6/25 – 6/26)

Focus areas: Community trust, student pathways, arts integration, organizational stability

Accomplishments:

- Accelerated K-8 reading growth from 51% to 70% Tier 1 at mid-year - a 19-point gain
- Improved school climate district-wide: 90% of students report feeling safe at school against a 58-61% California statewide average, a roughly 30 percentage point gap — California Healthy Kids Survey, February 2026
- Reduced suspension rate to 1.0% - the lowest recorded figure in district history and well below California (2.9%) average - through implementation of a district-wide restorative practices framework

Jason E. Glass Consulting, LLC (9/23 – present) Clients include:

Harvard University, Human Schools Project/Deeper Learning Dozen
Arizona State University, Center for Reinventing Public Education
Westat, Appalachian (WV, VA, TN, KY) Comprehensive Center

Western Michigan University - Associate Vice President of Teaching & Learning (9/23 – 6/25)

Focus areas: Faculty development, course redesign, online learning systems, early college/dual enrollment programs, artificial intelligence in education, executive education, satellite campus management, and experience-driven learning.

Accomplishments:

- *Provided university-wide leadership on experience-driven learning*
- *Doubled dual credit enrollment*
- *Established and led university teams on artificial intelligence, executive education, and online education*

Kentucky Department of Education (690,000 students) - Commissioner (9/20 to 9/23)

Focus areas: Education policy, governance, leadership, federal/state/local relations, education law, and continuous improvement systems.

Accomplishments:

- Launched United We Learn, a statewide vision for deeper learning and engagement
- Implemented statewide comprehensive DEIB policy support system
- Directed a statewide literacy policy redesign
- Led the state's COVID-19 response and recovery for 690,000 students and 1,400 schools

Jeffco Public Schools (85,000 students) - Superintendent (7/17 to 8/20)

Focus areas: Community relations, bond election, construction management, labor relations, strategic planning.

Accomplishments:

- *Secured \$567 million in school construction funds and \$33 million in operational dollars*
- *Implemented a district-wide school choice system*
- *Managed initial COVID-19 response and school restart plan*

Eagle County Schools (6,000 students)

Superintendent (7/13 to 6/17)

Director of Human Resources (8/07 – 9/10)

Director of Research and Assessment (4/07-8/07)

Accomplishments:

- Moved all district schools off the state accountability clock
- Reduced teacher attrition from 21% to 13% and tripled teacher applications
- Passed \$144 million in construction funds and \$8 million in operational dollars

Iowa Dept. of Education (450,000 students) - Director (Commissioner) of Education (12/10 to 6/13)

Accomplishments:

- Designed and passed statewide education reform focused on supporting the teaching profession
- Designed system to reduce bureaucracy and fairly distribute universal PreK funding
- Improved statewide literacy through the Iowa Reading Research Center

Battelle for Kids (Columbus, OH) Senior Director of Human Capital Strategy (9/10 to 12/10)

Qualistar Early Learning (Denver, CO) Vice President – Quality Ratings (10/06 – 4/07)

Colorado Department of Education (Denver, CO)

Principal Consultant – Student Achievement, (7/05 to 10/06)

Senior Consultant – Research and Evaluation, (7/01 to 7/05)

Teaching Experience

University of Kentucky, Teaching/Research Assistant (8/98 - 5/01)

Georgetown College, Instructor (1/99-6/99)

Hazard Independent Schools (Hazard, KY) Social Studies Teacher (6/96 to 6/98)

AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS

- Mary Ann Miller Thrive (Advancement of Student Wellness) Award (2023). KY SHAPE
- PBL (Project Based Learning) State Champion (2023). PBL World Conference
- Amici Linguarum (Language Education) Award (2021). Kentucky World Language Association
- The Decision-Maker (Effective Policymaker) Award (2021). Kentucky Teachers in the Know
- Frank D'Angelis Inspiration Award (2019). Jefferson County Administrators' Association
- Leadership Award (2018). Jefferson County Administrators' Association
- Frazen (Innovation in Education) Award (2017). Columbine Masonic Lodge No. 147, Denver
- Founder's Education Stewardship Award (2017). Walking Mountains Science Center
- President's Award (2016). Colorado Association of Bilingual Educators
- Advocacy Award (2016). Dual Language of New Mexico
- 8 School Chiefs to Watch (2010), #1 State Education Chief to Watch. Christian Science Monitor

BOARDS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Keystone Freedom Academy – Board of Directors (2024 – present)
- Center for Reinventing Public Education – Advisory Board (2023 – present)
- KY Council on Postsecondary Education – Board of Directors, Ex Officio (2020 – 2023)
- Kentucky Science Center – Board of Directors, Ex Officio (2020 – 2023)
- KY Education Professional Standards Board - Executive Secretary (2020 – 2023)
- Junior Achievement Colorado – Board of Directors (2017-2020)
- Jeffco Economic Development Corporation – Board of Governors (2017-2020)
- Colorado Public Education & Business Coalition – Board Member (2017-2020)
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – Executive Advisory Council (2016-2020)
- Jeffco Schools Foundation – Board Member (2017-2020)
- SOS Outreach – Board of Directors (2014-2019)
- Walking Mountains Science Center – Advisory Board (2013-2017)
- Ski & Snowboard Club Vail – Board of Directors (2013-2017)
- National Board of Edu. Sciences – Board of Directors. Nominated by Pres. Obama (2016)
- Colorado Association of School Administrators – Board of Directors (2014-2017)
- Mountain Board of Cooperative Educational Services – Board of Directors (2013-15)
- Council of Chief State School Officers – Executive Board (2012-13)
- REL Midwest – Chair of the Board (2011-13)
- Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium – Governing Board (2011-13)
- Iowa Board of Educational Examiners – Licensure Board (2011-13)
- Iowa State Board of Education – Executive Officer (2011-13)

SELECT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Podcast, Free Range Humans with Jal Mehta and Rod Allen. "Teaching Power: What Schools Communicate About Authority and Democracy." May 2026.

Panelist, ASU+GSV. "High-Quality Competency-Based Learning." April 2026.

Publication, What School Could Be Blog. "Teaching Power: What Schools Teach About Authority and Democracy." February 2026.

Publication, The Hechinger Report. "For our republic to survive, education leaders must remain firm in the face of authoritarianism." April 2025

Publication, Western Michigan University. "A Comprehensive Review of Online Education at Western Michigan University," with Arnold Taylor. October 2024.

Keynote Speaker, Future of Learning Council (Michigan). "Taking Steps & Making Strides for Deeper Learning." March 2024.

Keynote Presentation, University of Kentucky, College of Education 100th Anniversary. "The Future of Education and Democracy." January 2024.

Keynote Presentation, PBL World Conference. "Deeper Learning, Change, and Democracy." June 2023.

Presentation, Council of Chief State School Officers, Imagining More: A Summit on Modernizing our Education System. "Going from Ideas to Implementation: Co-Creation, Emergence, and Reciprocity in Educational Innovation." April 2023.

Publication, The Hechinger Report. "Schools Should Be Shaped with Help from the People They Serve," with Tom Flanagan (Superintendent - Burlington, VT). April 2023.

Panelist, Council of Chief State School Officers, Legislative Summit. "Innovation in Assessment and Accountability Systems." March 2023.

Panelist, Council of Chief State School Officers, Annual Policy Summit. "Building Back Stronger: Emerging from the Pandemic with a Better Education System." November 2022.

Publication, Getting Smart. "Whose Accountability System is this Anyway? Kentucky's Journey Toward Shared Ownership of Assessment and Accountability Systems," with Doannie Tran (Center for Innovation in Education). September 2022.

Publication, Next Generation Learning Challenge. "Amplify, Hospice, and Create: How Schools Should Spend the Money from the American Rescue Plan Act," with Jal Mehta and Rod Allen. May 2021.

Publication, School Administrator Magazine. "Our District's Experience with Deeper Learning." June 2020.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS (continued)

Publication, Colorado Politics. "Road to Recovery: How Colorado Lawmakers Can Ease the Crisis for Schools." May 2020.

Podcast, Getting Smart with Tom Vander Ark. "Leading for Deeper Learning." May 2020.

Presentation, Colorado Association of School Boards. "Using Social Media to Build Support for Public Education and Create Influence." February 2020.

Panelist, Communities in Schools National Town-Hall. "Applying Implementation Science to New Initiatives." September 2019.

Presentation, Colorado Association of School Executives. "Closing the Soft Skills Gap: Making Learning Relevant and Important to Learners." July 2019.

Publication, The Washington Post. "Why I've Asked My District to Consider Tearing Down Columbine High School." July 2019.

Panelist, Colorado School Public Relations Association. "Using Social Media to Engage Parents & Community." November 2018.

Presentation, National Association of State Education Attorneys. "Navigating the New Terrain of School Safety and Security." October 2018.

Panelist, RTM Innovation Congress. "Innovation by Design." October 2018.

Publication, The Vail Daily. Weekly Editorial Columnist, Education Policy. 2014 – 2017.

Presentation, TEDxVail. "The Education Revolution We Need." April 2017.

Panelist, National Association of State Boards of Education. "A view on ESSA from the Field." February 2017.

Publication, "Why I Publicly Discussed My Salary." School Administrator Magazine. November 2016.

Panelist, Colorado School Public Relations Association Annual Conference. "Being Authentic: Making School Communications Connect with Community." Spring 2016

Presentation, Colorado Association of School Executives, Fall Superintendent Meeting. "Strategic Planning and Deliverology" Grand Junction, CO. Fall 2015.

Panelist, Colorado Association of School Executives, Annual Conference. "District Communications and Funding Goals." Breckenridge, CO. Summer 2015.

Publication, The Denver Post. "Colorado's Blizzard of State Tests," with Elizabeth Fagan and Dan McMinimee. Fall 2014.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS (continued)

Publication, “Unparalleled Altitude: A Globally Inspired Vision for Eagle County Schools” Eagle County Schools. Fall 2013.

Publication, “7 Design Principles for Superintendent Evaluations” District Administration Magazine. Spring 2014.

Panelist, TAP Annual Conference, National Institute for Excellence in Teaching. “State Education and the Role of Educator Effectiveness” Washington, DC. Spring 2013.

Panelist, Innovation in Education Network, McREL. “Reliability and Innovation in Education” Denver, CO. Spring 2013.

Panelist, CCSSO Fall Policy Conference, Council of Chief State School Officers. “Educator Evaluation System.” Savannah, GA. Fall 2012.

Publication, “Iowa View: A Doctor/Teacher Parallel” Des Moines Register. Summer 2012.

Panelist, CEO to CEO Exchange, Council of Chief State School Officers. “Past, Present, and Future of the American Education System” Napa, CA. Summer 2012.

Keynote Speaker, Iowa Teacher and Principal Leadership Symposium, Drake University. “Raising the Education Profession and Building a Great Teacher Workforce” Des Moines, IA. Summer 2012.

Publication, “Education Reform can put Iowa on Top.” Des Moines Register. Spring 2012.

Moderator, Competency-Based Education Forum, REL Midwest. Des Moines, IA. Fall 2011.

Keynote Speaker, Suburban School Superintendents Annual Meeting, Suburban School Superintendents. “Strategic Compensation & Using Value Added Measures” Washington, DC. Fall 2011.

Keynote Speaker, Iowa Policy Forum, University of Iowa. “Building World-Class Schools for Iowa” Iowa City, IA. Fall 2011.

Publication, “One Unshakable Vision: World-Class Schools for Iowa.” Iowa Department of Education. Fall 2011.

Featured Panelist, International Summit on Education Policy, Council of Chief State School Officers. “State Innovations in Education Policy” Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Fall 2011.

Panelist, CCSSO Summer Institute, Council of Chief State School Officers. “Measuring Educator Effectiveness” Stowe, VT. Summer 2011.

Keynote Speaker, Ohio Leadership Council, Battelle for Kids. “Raising the Debate in the Say on Pay: Moving toward Strategic Compensation.” Columbus, OH. Spring 2011.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS (continued)

Moderator, Governor Terry Branstad's Summit on Education Policy, State of Iowa. Des Moines, IA. Summer 2011.

Moderator, National Legislative Conference, Council of Chief State School Officers. "The Future of No Child Left Behind: A Conversation with Senator Tom Harkin" Washington, DC. Spring 2011.

Panelist, Vanderbilt Symposium on Teacher Effectiveness, Vanderbilt University. "Challenges in Measuring Educator Effectiveness" Nashville, TN. Fall 2010.

Panelist, Rhode Island Symposium on Human Resources, National Governors' Association "Recapturing the Spirit of Innovation" Providence, RI. Spring 2010.

Presentation, Cincinnati Education Leadership Forum, "Myth-busting Performance Pay" Cincinnati, OH. Spring 2010.

Presentation, Innovation in Colorado Districts, Rose Community Foundation. Presenting to Secretary Arne Duncan, U.S. Senator Michael Bennett, the Center for American Progress, and the NEA on innovative programs being used in Colorado public school districts. Washington, DC. Spring 2010.

Panelist, Measuring Educator Effectiveness, University of Texas Institute for Public Initiatives, Dallas. "Using Educator Effectiveness Measures in Practice" Spring 2010.

Presentation, Differentiated Compensation in Education, Battelle for Kids & Houston School District. "Sustainability for Performance Based Compensation Systems." Houston, TX. Fall 2009.

Presentation, Technology and Learning Conference, National School Board Association. "Technology to Support Performance Pay Systems" Denver, CO. Fall 2009.

Publication, "Districts and Unions Must Collaborate" Education News Colorado. Summer 2009.

Panelist & Publication, Statewide Teacher Identifier Symposium, Colorado Children's Campaign "Using Unique Teacher Identifiers: Problems and Promise" Denver, CO. Spring 2009.

Panelist, Differentiated Compensation in Education, Battelle for Kids & Houston School District. "Practical Applications and Lessons Learned" Houston, TX. Fall 2008.

Panelist, Pay for Performance in Colorado Public Schools, Governor Ritter's P-20 Education Coordinating Council, Denver. "Eagle County Schools' Performance Pay System" Spring 2007.

Research Presentation, Large Scale Assessment Conference, Council of Chief State School Officers. "What We Know about Student Achievement in Colorado: A Look at 8th Grade Math" San Francisco, CA. Summer 2006.

Publication, "District Alternate Assessments" in the Colorado Department of Education's *Fast Facts* guide. Spring 2006.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS (continued)

Publication, "Assessing Colorado's Students in the Gap" Spring 2006.

Publication, "Assessing Students with Disabilities" in the Colorado Department of Education's *Fast Facts* guide. Fall 2005.

Publication, "The Early Childhood Outcomes Project" in *Inside Special Education*. Spring 2003.

Publication, "Race Matters: The News Media and Public Support for Welfare Reform" with Mark Peffley and James M. Avery in *Race, Welfare, and the Politics of Reform*, Richard Fording, Joe Soss and Sanford Schram (eds.) University of Michigan Press, 2001.

Publication, "The Tangled Web of Causality – The System of Special Education Data Collection." In *Inside Special Education*. Winter 2001.

Research Presentation, Teacher Recruitment and Retention in Colorado, Alliance for Quality Teaching, Denver. Fall 2002.

Research Presentation, American Political Science Association, Annual Convention, Washington DC "Race, Welfare, and the American News Media: A Framing Analysis" Spring 2000.

Research Presentation, Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Convention, Chicago, "Citizen Values and the Perception of Bias in the News Media" Nominated for Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Best Research at Conference. Spring 2000.