

STUDENT STIMULUS PLAN
for
School Grades 1-8 and 9-12
Public, Private, Charter, Alternative, Home

PROGRESSIVE MATRICULATION
The Operations Policy Overlay That
Fast-Tracks America's Education System Back To Prominence

Main Points

- (1) **Motivate and Reward** - it allows for hard working students to progress through 4th – 8th & 9th – 12th grades at their advanced pace.
- (2) **Students Could Progress up to 2 Grade Levels in Elementary School and 1 Grade Level in High School.** (Conduct & Academic Proficiency Based)

Likening the classroom to a freeway system,
students that work harder and show the proficiency—along with exemplary conduct,
get in the fast lane and progress to the next grade level!

The U.S. Education Situation.

Out of the 30 most industrialized nations globally, U.S. students rank between 17-24 in major academic categories (Math – 24, Reading – 17, Comprehension – 10, Science – 22). Pundits and experts have assigned a letter grade of D—practically failing. Let's examine what we need to do to climb up from here. Make no mistake, the situation's critical. Student apathy is rampantly rising and academic performance is steadily decreasing—both to the detriment of America's future as economic and technology world leader. Dropout rates are enigmatic considering the times. Unruly student behavior has resulted in horrid acts of violence, bullying and shootings perpetrated against peers and faculty alike as well as destruction of property and potential.

The U.S. spends more education dollars per student than every other country in the study. The dismal academic proficiency rankings portend an ominous status downgrade for the world's reigning—but declining, economic super power. Plainly put, fixing this education situation is tantamount to decreasing the national debt, rebuilding and future-proofing the U.S. economy and safeguarding our national security & global interests. Education starts with academics at its base but quickly and completely influences & impacts every other factor that determines our quality of life, as we know it.

Future and Technology Industries dominance is at stake. Patriotism & neighborly goodwill are byproducts of education. Racial, sexual and social injustices—all are fueled by ignorance. Many of the world's greatest inventions and human advances of the 20th century came about due to American ingenuity and the fervent intrinsic drive to be a great society. Finally, after about 25 years of resting on our laurels, we look around and find more than a few tortoises have surpassed the hare. The yellow brick road we've always traveled on while chasing the rainbow in the sky is full of potholes and has veered towards a landfill.

National broadcast TV and radio programs are discussing the problem. Corporations and philanthropists are stepping up pledging hundreds of millions of private dollars to raise the hobbled and sinking education ship. Twitter is tweeting, blogs are bleeping; everybody's weighing in. No sense in waiting for Superman, he has kryptonite issues and has left the building. Wonder Woman reminds us that working a 7 A.M. to 6 P.M. shift is more than what should be expected, after all she has a life to tend to of her own when she gets home. Wouldn't want her guilty of child or spousal neglect while she takes more hours from her family grading papers and creating lesson plans.

The Fixuation: Progressive Matriculation.

Keep in mind, the U.S. education system is a stakeholder-model, designed to be a three-part operation—parents, teachers, community and students. We've pointed the finger at parents & guardians; found fault with the teachers and administrators; chided the unions to embrace performance based pay & teacher dismissals and lambasted politicians for budget cuts in education programs and inequitable funding. All this external tinkering, fine-tuning and pencil sharpening evades the most critical piece to the problem and solution—the student.

Likening education to a car, working on the solution to get it running by focusing on just 2 out of the 3 components is fruitless, especially when you leave the engine out—the student. What General goes into battle expecting victory and doesn't first heighten the morale and preparation of the troops?

We've got to minimize the effects that apathetic, behaviorally challenged, values-deficient students inject into the system. This isn't 1950s or 1970s America. This is 21st Century America and students today live in a technology driven, instant access world that's as adulterated and crime-filled like no time in history. At the earliest ages they're exposed to life and all its temptations, pleasures and pitfalls; be it in suburban, urban or rural areas; affluent or impoverished neighborhoods; crime riddled or safer haven communities. Students everywhere aren't performing in acceptable numbers.

Education's value proposition must be amended expeditiously. Operationally, America's education system dwells in Mayberry while students reside amongst the bright lights & deafening sounds of the Big Apple and live on the information super highway. We're living in stimulus-based times. Wall Street & Banks, the Auto Industry, Tech Companies, etc. all received stimulation to turn around their dire situations. Teachers are being stimulated to perform better via bonuses, grants and pay raises. The U.S. Education Operations System needs a policy upgrade that will provide students with their stimulus:

Progressive Matriculation

will motivate and reward students to apply their maximum effort. Progressive Matriculation allows for determined hard working students to progress through 4th – 8th and 9th – 12th grades at an advanced pace. Students would be able to progress up to two (2) grade levels in elementary school and 1 grade level in high school. Likening the classroom to a freeway system, students that work harder and show the proficiency—along with exemplary conduct, would first be placed in the fast lane— more rigorous classes (Honors, AP).

If they excel there, they'd have the opportunity to take a State administered exam to progress to the next grade level if certain social, academic, parental and behavioral benchmarks are met as deemed by the Oversight Panel. Progressive Matriculation would become the new US Dept. Of Education mandated System Operations Policy across the Nation as compared to what now is the random opportunity to advance based on conduct and academic proficiency. **Progressive Matriculation is not the panacea but is invaluable in its contribution to the solution.**

Presently, many schools and districts offer Honors and Advanced Placement classes. In many cases, students are advanced grade levels depending on their academic proficiency. Schools have creatively sought to entice students to perform better and attend classes more consistently by offering prizes and trips and gadgets and money in some cases. School buildings and properties have been built and outfitted with state-of-the-art technology and conveniences that rival some of the most posh hotels and resorts. Yet and still America's education system results are on the decline. Our prescription for educational wellness and rejuvenation is insufficient; we haven't taken into account the needs of the patient.

Progressive Matriculation's goal is not to place pressure on any student to over-indulge in academics nor speed them along before they're developmentally prepared. The goal is to untether those dedicated and focused students that are either unchallenged by the normal pace of their grade level curriculum and/or trapped amongst unruly classmates.

Progressive Matriculation will also inspire the behaviorally challenged student to improve and focus. We'll be energizing and exciting students to meet the teachers and community halfway in fixing America's Education Situation by coming to class focused, motivated, prepared and enthused—perhaps in spite of any personal, external or family issues.

Progressive Matriculation is a U.S. Education Operations System Policy Overlay.

Progressive Matriculation is a Student Stimulus Plan designed to motivate and reward every student to reach his or her maximum effort.

Progressive Matriculation is the missing piece of the Operations Solution that modernizes and provides immediate, direct and personal benefit to the students.

The U.S. Education System was the Cadillac to the world until about 1990; Progressive Matriculation fine tunes and super charges the engine to this outdated, high carbon emission education vehicle from an operations policy standpoint.

The U.S. Education Operations System needs this major overhaul overlay to inspire students and produce graduates that will regain lead position and outpace the expanded global economic racetrack.

A Student Stimulus is what this problem of this magnitude and complexity calls for. All 3 stakeholder components have to be addressed concurrently and make no mistake about it; the student is the most important driver of the three.

It doesn't take x-ray vision to foresee the immediate impact and results that Progressive Matriculation will have on students and their vastly improved conduct and academic performances. I'm not denying the role but I'm unwilling to expect that Superman or Wonder Woman alone—or bolstered by the Community, can be the fixuation to this education situation absent this Progressive Matriculation Student Stimulus Plan.

If given the operational opportunity to compete and excel within themselves, America's elementary and high school students will rise to the challenge and be in the pole position entering college to sustain America's global Super Power status throughout the 21st century and beyond. So, the sooner we upgrade the Operations horse & buggy to a Nascar, America's students can get back on the track and Climb Up to #1. Boys and girls, start your engines!

PROGRESSIVE MATRICULATION TALKING POINTS
7 Benefits of the CAP* Based
STUDENT STIMULUS PLAN

1. Vitalizes the U.S. Education System Operations Policy 2. Motivates & Focuses 4th – 8th Graders to advance up to 2 grade levels 3. Excites High School Students to progress 1 grade level 4. Supports & Reinforces the Efforts of all Stakeholders 5. Amends the Education Value Proposition 6. Stress Reduction and Job Satisfaction for Teachers 7. Uncomplicated System Integration, Implementation and Administration

2. * CAP – Conduct and Academic Proficiency Performance