

CONSORTIUM MILESTONES

as of May 2020

2011	<p><i>The concept of the Consortium emerges</i> from conversations with district leaders regarding the need for large suburban and countywide districts to establish a national voice and policy leadership on key public policy and practice issues. Numerous steering committee meetings regarding the vision, mission, and structure of the Consortium are held.</p>
2012 New Members Include: Fairfax County Public Schools (VA) Greenville County Public Schools (SC) Gwinnett County Public Schools (GA) Montgomery County Public Schools (MD) <hr/> Arlington Public Schools (VA) Baltimore County Public Schools (MD) Bellevue School District (WA) Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (NC) Cobb County School District (GA) Fulton County Schools (GA) Poway Unified School District (CA)	<p><i>The Consortium is officially launched</i> as an independent affiliate of AASA. Organizational mission, membership criteria/targets, and operational structures are established, following lengthy deliberations among founding districts and AASA executives.</p>
2013 New Members Include: Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VA) Mesa Public Schools (AZ) Beaverton School District (OR) School District U-46 (IL)	<p><i>The Consortium develops a strategic plan and policy platform</i> that serve as key foundations to guide the work of the Consortium over time. Informed by a national landscape analysis and an assessment of core district interests and needs, the plan and platform establish parameters and guiding principles for pursuit of a focused, impactful policy and practice agenda.</p> <p><i>The Consortium pursues significant federal advocacy efforts</i>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with twelve Members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to discuss key goals regarding ESEA reauthorization and related federal policy efforts • Meeting with Secretary of Labor Tom Perez to discuss key issues of education and workforce readiness

<p>2014</p> <p>New Members Include:</p> <p>Wake County Public School System (NC)</p>	<p>The Consortium significantly expands its federal policy action plan and positions to guide 2015-16 ESEA reauthorization advocacy with a focus on issues of high standards, accountability and innovation in assessment.</p> <p>The Consortium initiates focused community of practice conversations, as a foundation for recommendations regarding areas of focus.</p> <p>The Consortium initiates benchmarking discussions, as a foundation for the establishment of data-driven, systemic collaboration over time.</p>
<p>2015</p> <p>New Members Include:</p> <p>Garland Independent School District (TX)</p> <p>Knox County Schools (TN)</p> <p>School District of Palm Beach County (FL)</p>	<p>The Consortium develops and submits specific, actionable ESEA recommendations regarding standards, accountability and innovation in assessment. Direct Hill and Administration outreach follows—including all-member meetings with senior House education staff.</p> <p>The Consortium publishes a commentary in Education Week regarding its assessment beliefs and ESEA recommendations.</p> <p>The Consortium elects a new Chair and Vice-Chair, firmly establishing the sustainability and strong governance of the organization.</p> <p>The ESEA is reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which incorporates many of the Consortium's priorities and suggestions.</p> <p>The Consortium engages in a deep dive into CTE and performance assessment during a fall meeting hosted by Virginia Beach City Public Schools.</p>
<p>2016</p> <p>New Members Include:</p> <p>Chesterfield County Public Schools (VA)</p>	<p>The Consortium submits recommendations regarding effective implementation of ESSA regarding regulations, guidance, and other issues related to the reauthorized ESEA.</p> <p>The Consortium successfully nominates Alvin Wilbanks to serve on the ESSA negotiated rulemaking committee, representing all local school district superintendents and school board members.</p> <p>The Consortium is named one of twelve winners of the national Assessment for Learning Project grant competition to support five members of the innovative assessment community of practice to collaborate specifically on the development and use of performance-based assessments (the Performance Assessment Collaborative (PAC)).</p> <p>The Consortium partners with Education Resource Strategies (ERS) to launch a second community of practice initiative with four members, focused on resource allocation and how to leverage ESSA's new financial transparency rules to advance equity.</p> <p>The Consortium engages in a deep dive into district-wide literacy initiatives during a fall meeting hosted by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.</p>

2017	<p><i>The Consortium reviews and revises its mission, vision, and priorities,</i> focusing on four primary areas of common interest: equity, effective human capital, high-quality systems of assessment, and personalized learning.</p> <p><i>Consortium members meet with U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos</i> to discuss policy priorities, including ESSA implementation.</p> <p><i>The Consortium produces its second annual Benchmarking Report,</i> which provides members the opportunity to compare progress and performance across participating districts.</p> <p><i>The PAC districts pilot new approaches to building educators' capacity to design high-quality performance-based assessments,</i> using a common rubric for evaluating assessment quality.</p> <p><i>Consortium members share promising practices at AASA's 2018 National Conference on Education,</i> hosting one panel with ERS about ESSA's new financial transparency requirements and another on increasing participation in and performance on rigorous academic opportunities.</p> <p><i>The Consortium engages in a deep dive into personalized learning</i> during a fall meeting hosted by Chesterfield County Public Schools.</p>
2018 <p>New Members Include:</p> <p>Boulder Valley School District (CO)</p>	<p><i>The Consortium launches a CFO Strategy Network in partnership with Education Resource Strategies</i> to deepen members' Chief Financial Officers' (and other strategy officers) collective understanding of the role the CFO must play to support decision-making to reallocate resources and realign system strategy accordingly and to build a community of collaboration and support for network participants.</p> <p><i>Consortium members provide feedback to national initiatives</i> including the National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.</p> <p><i>The Consortium engages in a deep dive into school and district leadership</i> during a fall meeting hosted by Gwinnett County Public Schools.</p>

<p>2019</p> <p>New Members Include:</p> <p>Cumberland County Schools (NC)</p>	<p><i>The Consortium rounds out its work with the Performance Assessment Collaborative</i>, continuing to share innovative approaches with members and participating in the national assessment learning community.</p> <p><i>Consortium members meet with former U.S. Secretary of Education Dick Riley</i> in Greenville, South Carolina for a conversation on public leadership at the federal, state, and local levels.</p> <p><i>The CFO Strategy Network continues to build on a successful launch</i>, now supporting seven member districts through regular convenings and hands-on technical assistance.</p> <p><i>Consortium members develop and commit to a cross-district data sharing agreement</i> to bolster the annual Benchmarking initiative and ensure consistent and appropriate use of the report.</p> <p><i>The Consortium engages in a deep dive into initiatives preparing students for on-time graduation and post-secondary success</i> during a fall meeting hosted by Greenville County Schools.</p>
<p>2020</p>	<p><i>Consortium members convene virtually for six Consortium Connection Calls in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic</i> to collaborate and share resources across districts for how best to serve at-risk students and plan for crisis mitigation.</p>