

# Jane E. West, Ph.D.

## Education Policy Consultant

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Special Education	University of Maryland	1988
MA	Special Education	Columbia University	1974
BA	English	University of California	1972

### EMPLOYMENT

**Senior Vice President – Policy, Programs & Professional Issues** 2006 – 2013  
**American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education** Washington, DC

**Independent Consultant** 1988 – present

#### Private Sector Clients:

Academy for Education Development  
American Psychological Association  
Association of Tech Act Projects  
Best Buddies International  
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund  
Ed. Roberts Campus  
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education  
Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation  
Milbank Memorial Fund  
Pew Foundation  
National Leadership Coalition on AIDS  
National Organization on Disability  
Teacher Education Division of CEC

#### Government Clients:

National Academy of Sciences  
Orange County Transit Authority, CA  
US Social Security Administration  
US Department of Education  
US Department of Health and Human Services  
Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
Administration  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Health Statistics  
US Department of Housing and Urban  
Development  
US Department of Labor

**Adjunct Faculty – Special Education, Disability Law & Policy** 1991 – 1999  
**The John Hopkins University; University of San Francisco**

**Senior Policy Analyst** 1987 – 1988  
**Presidential Task Force on the HIV Epidemic**

**Staff Director – Subcommittee on Disability Policy** 1983 – 1986  
**United States Senate**

**Special Education Teacher & Administrator** 1976 – 1980  
**Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents at Cheltenham** Upper Marlboro, MD  
**Board of Education of Prince Georges County**

**Special Education Teacher** 1974 – 1976  
**Evaluation and Placement Unit** Brooklyn, NY  
**New York City Board of Education**

## **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **Creating and Sustaining a National Advocacy Voice for Educator Preparation**

- Developed advocacy and policy capacity for AACTE and a coalition of national Presidential higher education associations; activated AACTE state chapters to advocate in their states; created Advocacy Day on the Hill and in state capitals; supervised development of edTPA (a national performance assessment of candidate readiness to teach) for AACTE; led national engagement of higher education in relation to rating and standard setting for educator preparation; created new legislation to reform educator preparation; consult regularly with national policy makers; advocate for a robust federal investment in education.

### **Creating a National Coalition for Teaching Quality (CTQ)**

- Initiated the creation of a 100+ member coalition dedicated to strengthening equal access to quality teaching for all students, particularly low income students, minority students, students in rural areas, English Learners and students with disabilities; focus on equitable distribution, teacher quality policy, transparency, data collection, classroom readiness and teacher effectiveness.

### **Developing and Sustaining a National Advocacy Voice in Disability Policy and Special Education**

- Led the Subcommittee on Disability Policy in the US Senate during the reauthorization of IDEA, the DD Act, the VR Act; participated in the creation of the ADA and edited two books on early implementation; provided leadership to the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (a 100+ national coalition promoting the independence and inclusion of people with disabilities) in higher education and PK-12; developed multiple new programs in higher education legislation to strengthen the preparation of personnel and open access to higher education for students with disabilities; worked with multiple Administrations and members of Congress on special education policy issues including assessment, teacher quality, research, personnel development, restraint and seclusion, discipline policy, budget and appropriations.

### **Educating Education Professionals about Policy Issues and the Policy Process**

- Taught courses on disability law and policy and special education law; educated deans, department chairs, faculty, PK-12 teachers and doctoral students around the country about policy issues, the policy making process and how to be an effective advocate; supervised doctoral student interns in Washington; served as guest lecturer in multiple graduate classes on policy.

## **POLICY EXPERTISE**

- Educator Preparation
- Teaching Quality
- Special Education and Disability Policy
- Educational Equity

## **LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES**

<b>Co-Founder</b> Coalition for Teaching Quality	2010 – Present
<b>Founder and Chair</b> Higher Education Task Force on Teacher Preparation	2009 – Present

**Co-Chair**  
Education Task Force – Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities

2001 – 2009

**Member of Negotiated Rulemaking Panel – TEACH Grants**  
US Department of Education

2008

### **RECENT PRESENTATIONS**

“Federal Policy and Educator Preparation.” Council of Chief State School Officers’ National Teacher Preparation Network. Savannah, GA, January, 2014.

“Instructional Leadership: National and State Policy Perspectives.” National Association of Elementary School Principals. Washington, DC, October, 2013.

“Advocating for Education Policy.” Florida Association of Colleges of Teacher Education. Ft. Meyers, Florida, October, 2013.

“Federal Policy and Educator.” Council of Academic Deans from Research Education Institutions, Naples, Florida, October, 2013.

“Educator Preparation and Federal Policy.” National Council of State Legislators. Atlanta, August, 2013.

“Teacher Preparation, Teacher Evaluation Systems and Teacher Quality.” National Network of State Teachers of the Year, Minneapolis, July, 2013.

“Teacher Quality: A Policy & Advocacy Update from Washington.” Council for Exceptional Children. San Antonio, Texas, April, 2013.

“National Update: Policy and Professional Issues in Educator Preparation.” Virginia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. Sweet Briar, VA, October, 2012.

“Possible New Teacher Preparation Regulations & the Definition of ‘Highly Qualified Teacher.’” Higher Education Consortium for Special Education. Washington, DC. January 2012.

“Education and People with Intellectual Disabilities.” President’s Commission for People with Intellectual Disabilities. Washington, DC. September, 2011.

“Maximizing Data to Improve Teacher Effectiveness.” Data Quality Campaign. Washington, DC. September, 2011.

“Reform Strategy for Educator Preparation: Effectiveness and Accountability.” National Association of Secondary School Principals. Arlington, VA. June, 2011.

“Reflections on the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).” Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities. November, 2010.

“Students with Disabilities and the ESEA.” Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities. 2010.

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

Robinson, Sharon P., and Jane E. West. "Preparing Inclusive Educators: A Call to Action." *Journal of Teacher Education* 63.4 (2012): 291-93. Print.

- West, Jane E., and Michael L. Hardman. "Averting Current and Future Special Education Faculty Shortages: Policy Implications and Recommendations." *Teacher Education and Special Education* 35.2 (2012): 154-60. Print.
- West, Jane E., Deborah D. Smith, Susan M. Robb, and Naomi C. Tyler. "The Changing Education Landscape: How Special Education Leadership Preparation Can Make a Difference for Teachers and Their Students with Disabilities." *Teacher Education and Special Education* 33.1 (2010): 25-43. Print.
- West, Jane E., and Peggy J. Schaefer Whitby. "Federal Policy and the Education of Students with Disabilities: Progress and the Path Forward." *Focus on Exception Children* 41.3 (2008): 1-16. Print.
- West, Jane E. "Increasing Access to Higher Education for Students with Disabilities and Strengthening the Preparation of Professional Who Instruct Them: The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008." *Advances in Learning and Behavioral Disabilities* 22 (2009): 189-225. Print.
- West, Jane, ed. *Implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1996. Print.
- West, Jane. "The Evolution of Disability Rights." *Implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act: Rights and Responsibilities of All Americans*. By Lawrence O. Gostin and Henry Beyer. Baltimore: P.H. Brookes Pub., 1993. 3-15. Print.
- West, Jane, ed. *The Americans with Disabilities Act: From Policy to Practice*. New York: Milbank Memorial Fund, 1991. Print.
- West, Jane E. *The Handicapped Children's Protection Act of 1986: A Case Study of Policy Formation*. Diss. University of Maryland - College Park, 1988. Ann Arbor: University Microfilms International, 1988. Print.