

**Jane E. West, Ph.D.**

**Education Policy Consultant**

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**EDUCATION**

PhD	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 Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  
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  
National Network of State Teachers of the Year  
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  
US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
US Department of Labor

**Visiting Professor – Education Policy and Politics** 2014 – present  
**University of Maryland**

**Adjunct Faculty – Education Policy and Politics** 2015 - 2021  
**Virginia Commonwealth University**

**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**

**Legislative Assistant & 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**

- Develop and teach courses on disability law and policy and education policy and politics; educate educators (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; designed and deliver doctoral courses on site in Washington.

### **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
<b>Co-Chair</b> Education Task Force – Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities	2001 – 2009
<b>Member of Negotiated Rulemaking Panel – TEACH Grants</b> US Department of Education	2008

## **RECENT PRESENTATIONS**

Testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies, “Tackling Teacher Shortages,” May 25, 2022. Retrieved from: [https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP07/20220525/114831/HHRG-117-AP07-Wstate-West\]-20220525.pdf](https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP07/20220525/114831/HHRG-117-AP07-Wstate-West]-20220525.pdf)

“At the Table, Not on the Menu.” AACTE’s Day on the Hill presentation. June 2022.

“Policy and Political Landscape.” AACTE’s Washington Week. June 2022.

“Personnel Issues in Special Education.” Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education, Leadership convening, July 2021.

“Washington Update.” General Session. Council for Exceptional Children annual meeting. February, 2021.

“Washington Update. General Session. Council for Exceptional Children annual Meeting. February, 2019.

“Educator Preparation: Risks and Opportunities.” Keynote at TED annual convening, Las Vegas, November 2018.

“National Education Policy: How can Educators Engage?” Keynote at the CEEDAR Center annual convening, Chicago, June, 2017.

“The Trump Administration: What is at Stake for Students with Disabilities?” Keynote at Council for Exceptional Children, Boston, April, 2017.

“Teaching Equity in the U.S.: Recruitment, Retention and Distribution”, Keynote at Australian Council for Educational Leaders, Melbourne, Australia, November, 2016.

“The Convergence of Teacher Shortages and Teacher Turnover with Federal Education Policy: What Does it Mean for Teacher Preparation?” University of Washington, Seattle, November 2016.

“Education Policy and Politics in the Trump Era: Recommitting to Our Advocacy,” Keynote at TED Annual Conference, Louisville, KY, November, 2016.

- “Education Policy and Politics in the Nation’s Capital: An Insider’s Update.” Keynote at CEC Annual Conference, St. Louis, April, 2016.
- “The Every Student Succeeds Act: Can Imagination Trump Compliance?” University of Arizona, May, 2016.
- “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**

- West, Jane E. and Yell, M. The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act: An Interview with Dr. Jane West.” Journal of Disability Policy Studies. September 4, 2022. Retrieved from: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/10442073221118863>
- West, Jane E., McLaughlin, Virginia L., Shepherd, Katharine G., and Cokely, R. “The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Act: Intersection, Divergence, and the Path

- Forward,” *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*. August 5, 2022. Retrieved from: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/10442073221114113>
- West, Jane E. “Calling All Teachers: Flexing Your Advocacy Muscles to Address Teacher Shortages.” *Midwest Symposium on Leadership in Behavior Disorders: Rethinking Behavior*. Volume 2, Issue 1, p. 43-48 (Fall, 2018).
- West, Jane E. and Shepherd, Katharine G., eds. Special Issue: The Nexus of Special Education Policy, Practice and Scholarship: Higher Education Special Educators Look to the Future.” *Teacher Education and Special Education* 39.2 (2016). 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. (Study director and lead author on behalf of the National Council on Disability). “The Education of Students with Disabilities: Where Do We Stand?” (1989) Retrieved from: <https://ncd.gov/publications/1989/September1989>
- 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.
- McLaughlin, Virginia L., West, Jane E. and Anderson, Jeffrey A . “Engaging Effectively in the Policy-Making Process. *Teacher Education and Special Education* 39.2 (2016): 134-149. Print.
- Nagro, Sarah A., Shepherd, Katharine G., Knackstedt, Kimberly, West, Jane E., and Nagy, S. “Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy: Fostering Advocacy and Policy Engagement in Special Education Doctoral Students,” *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, May 27, 2019. Retrieved from: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1044207319849930>
- Nagro, Sarah A., Shepherd, Katharine G., West, Jane E., Nagy, S. “Activating Policy and Advocacy Skills: A Strategy for Tomorrow’s Special Education Leaders.” *Journal of Special Education*. 53 (2) (2018). Print.

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

**BLOGS:**

"Washington Update." 2016-2022. See: <https://www.janewestconsulting.com/>

"IDEA 45: The Personnel Who Deliver the Promise." December 2020. Retrieved from: <https://sites.ed.gov/osers/tag/jane-west/>