

## 2019 PIE Network Member Priorities



As 2019 approaches, members across the Network are gearing up to build on past successes, tackle new challenges, and defend prior advances. In many states, they will also be navigating significant turnover among state-level leadership. Through the annual Member Priorities Survey, advocates share their priorities—along with insights, challenges, and resource needs—that they anticipate in the upcoming year.

This year, **68 leading advocacy organizations** in 30 states and Washington, D.C. shared plans to pursue key goals through legislative activity, implementation support, and local campaigns, among other avenues. Though some initiatives might move to the backburner in response to issues introduced by other stakeholders, the below findings represent members’ priorities as the opening bells of legislative sessions sound.

Issue Area	Top Priority	On backburner or picking up steam
<b>Educator Policy</b>	<b>37</b>	11
<b>College &amp; Career Readiness</b>	<b>35</b>	4
<b>School Finance</b>	<b>29</b>	10
<b>Charter Schools</b>	<b>28</b>	7
<b>Emerging Issues &amp; More</b>	<b>26</b>	10
<b>Accountability &amp; Transparency</b>	<b>18</b>	6
<b>Early Learning</b>	<b>13</b>	4
<b>School Choice</b>	<b>11</b>	5
<b>Governance &amp; Elections</b>	<b>9</b>	5
<b>Literacy</b>	<b>8</b>	2
<b>Standards &amp; Assessment</b>	<b>5</b>	2

**LEARN MORE** at [pie-network.org/article/2019-pie-network-member-priorities/](http://pie-network.org/article/2019-pie-network-member-priorities/)

On our website, you’ll find further information for each of the 11 key issue areas, including outlook for 2019, member-provided details about each priority, and contact information for potential thought partners. Please reach out to the PIE Network team to gain additional insights and for introductions to colleagues you’d like to meet.

## FINDINGS: A PREVIEW OF 2019

### Educator Policy

Once again, more Network advocates are planning efforts to support teachers and principals than on any other issue in 2019. At least 37 organizations will seek to strengthen teacher prep, increase compensation and career ladders, and advance other educator policies, via legislative changes, implementation work, and educator engagement initiatives.

### College & Career Readiness

Activity around preparing students for college and career continues to swell within the Network. In addition to advancing policies to improve access to advanced coursework, advocates will pursue connections between industry and education in 2019. 35 organizations are prioritizing this issue in 2019.

### School Finance

Members continue to fight for changes to the funding formulas that will distribute money in more equitable means, particularly to schools that primarily serve low-income students. In addition to reworking how the state distributes dollars, advocates in certain states will work to increase education spending. 29 members are prioritizing this issue, with many more keeping an eye on the issue in case it picks up steam.

### Charters & Choice

Work around charter schools continues to expand within the Network, increasing by more than 60 percent since last year, while work on issues concerning school choice has taken a slight dip. Across both issues, access to high-quality seats is still a top concern, and advocates will be seeking to expand both sectors. More equitable funding continues to be a priority of those who are focusing solely on charter schools. 28 members are prioritizing charter school issues, while 11 are prioritizing school choice.

### Accountability & Transparency

With ESSA plans in the books, members are focusing on defending and improving their current accountability systems and increasing transparency of their systems. 18 organizations are prioritizing this issue in 2019.

## FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO COLLEAGUES & RESOURCES

Through this annual survey, advocates connect with thought partners and resources to support their work in the year ahead. In anticipation of 2019 priorities, members most often identified a need for support in the following areas:

- **Educator Policy**, including diversity, preparation, and school leadership
- **School Finance**, including funding formulas and equitable funding models
- **Accountability & Transparency**, including ESSA implementation and advocating for accountability with union stakeholders and new legislative leaders
- **College & Career Readiness**, including dual credit and workforce issues