



NEPC Fellows Briggs, Lubienski, and Welner Elected to the National Academy of Education



Three Fellows of the National Education Policy Center are among the newest members of the National Academy of Education (NAEd), elected on the basis of outstanding scholarship related to education.

Derek Briggs, Chris Lubienski, and Kevin Welner were elected this year to the 60-year-old honorific society, which supports the use of high-quality education research in policy and practice. A total of [22 scholars](#) were elected in 2025, joining [240 other regular members](#) of the organization.

The Academy's active members serve on expert panels for NAEd's studies and contribute to the organization's professional development programs for early-career education scholars.

[Dr. Briggs](#) is a professor at the University of Colorado Boulder, where his research focuses on advancing methods for sound measurement and evaluation of student learning and the effects of educational interventions on student achievement. He is also the director and founder of CU Boulder's [Center for Assessment, Design, Research and Evaluation \(CADRE\)](#), and he's past president of the National Council on Measurement in Education. For NEPC, he has authored or co-authored three reviews of think tank reports, as well as a [2011 research brief](#) that exposed serious weaknesses in the research relied upon by the *Los Angeles Times* when it published value-added scores of individual teachers in the L.A. Unified School District.

[Dr. Lubienski](#) is a professor of education policy at Indiana University and director of IU's [Center for Evaluation and Education Policy](#). His research focuses on education policy, reform and the political economy of education, with a particular concern for issues of equity, access and evidence use in policymaking. His work on private-school voucher programs and charter schools critically examines claims regarding achievement and innovation. For

NEPC, he has authored or co-authored 15 reviews of think tank reports, plus several policy briefs or policy memos.

[Dr. Welner](#) is a research professor focused on education law and policy at CU Boulder, where he is director of the [National Education Policy Center](#). His work focuses on opportunity gaps, educational reform, charter schools, private-school vouchers, ability grouping, and the area of interplay between education policy and the law. He chairs the Board of Trustees of the [Education Law Center](#).

The election of Briggs, Lubienski, and Welner brings to 34 the number of NEPC Fellows who are members of the NAEd. “While this certainly speaks to the high quality of NEPC’s Fellows,” said Welner, “it speaks even more to the value placed on public scholarship by top researchers in our field and by the National Academy.”

NEPC Resources on Research Issues

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The National Education Policy Center (NEPC), a university research center housed at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Education, sponsors research, produces policy briefs, and publishes expert third-party reviews of think tank reports. NEPC publications are written in accessible language and are intended for a broad audience that includes academic experts, policymakers, the media, and the general public. Our mission is to provide high-quality information in support of democratic deliberation about education policy. We are guided by the belief that the democratic governance of public education is strengthened when policies are based on sound evidence and support a multiracial society that is inclusive, kind, and just. Visit us at: <http://nepc.colorado.edu>