



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Introduction to the Best Practices Clearinghouse August 4, 2022

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Best Practices Clearinghouse

“Now -- more than ever -- students need to feel supported, seen, heard, and understood by adults within their schools and communities...together, we can help all children make up for unfinished learning, recover from the pandemic, and prepare for future success -- both inside and outside the classroom.”

Secretary Cardona, July 5, 2022



Best Practices Clearinghouse

A screenshot of the Best Practices Clearinghouse website. The header includes the U.S. Department of Education logo, the title "BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE", and navigation links for "PREK-12 EDUCATION", "EARLY CHILDHOOD", and "HIGHER EDUCATION". A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a video player showing a group of people in a meeting, with a progress bar at 0:00 / 3:12. Below the video are three sections: "REOPENING SAFELY", "STUDENT SUPPORTS", and "EDUCATOR SUPPORTS".

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act provided an unprecedented investment in America's preschool through 12th-grade (PreK-12) schools to help them safely reopen and remain open for in-person learning and to provide the academic, mental health, and social and emotional support that students, educators, and schools need to recover from the pandemic.

ARP included \$122 billion for PreK-12 schools in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds, as well as an additional \$8 billion to States and school districts to meet the needs of certain student populations, including over \$3 billion for students with disabilities and \$800 million for children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Across the country, we are already seeing the significant impact ARP has on schools and communities. Since its passage, States, school districts, and schools have used these funds to safely reopen and sustain in-person instruction, support academic learning, and address students' mental health needs. To help deploy funds strategically, States and school districts have been engaging with their communities — including parents, families, community groups, and educators — to develop the best plan for their schools.

To learn more about the promising practices helping students across the country, keep scrolling!

The U.S. Department of Education launched the Safer Schools and Campuses Best Practices Clearinghouse (the Clearinghouse) in accordance with Executive Order 14000 *Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers*. The Clearinghouse is a place to share and highlight best practices and lessons learned during and after the pandemic submitted by teachers, early childhood providers, faculty, staff, schools, districts, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, other places providing educational instruction, and States.



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In July 2022, in an event at the White House, the Administration announced a series of actions to support students' academic recovery and ensure recovery efforts meet student, parent, and family needs. These actions help address President Biden's call for more schools to invest in key strategies to accelerate academic recovery using American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding and galvanize more Americans to serve their communities by becoming tutors and mentors. They build on progress school communities made over the last school year (fact sheet).



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Specifically, the Administration is:

1. Launching the [National Partnership for Student Success](#) (NPSS)
2. Establishing a [National Parents and Families Engagement Council](#) to facilitate strong and effective relationships between schools and parents, families, and caregivers.
3. Expanding the Department's [Best Practices Clearinghouse](#) to share best practices on academic and mental health recovery efforts.
4. Updating the [interactive map](#) of state and local ARP plans ([White House toolkit](#)).

New Feature on Best Practices Clearinghouse: Interactive Map

Click “Resources”, “Interactive Map”

**SAFER SCHOOLS AND CAMPUSES
BEST PRACTICES
CLEARINGHOUSE**

1-833-844-BPCH (2724)  

PREK-12 EDUCATION EARLY CHILDHOOD HIGHER EDUCATION

Search

HOME ABOUT US INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL TOPIC EQUITY FOCUS RESOURCES EVENTS CONTACT US

INTERACTIVE MAP

This interactive map presents a geographic view of the resources from the Resource Library, linking them to the states, U.S. territories, and international organizations that developed the resources. Click on a state, territory, or country below to see the number of resources for that location, then click on the number of resources for a list view. This state level view of resources may also be viewed [here](#) in the Resource Library, using the State level filter.



North Carolina ✕
Number of Resources
28

U.S. Territories			
	American Samoa		Puerto Rico
	Commonwealth of Mariana Islands		U.S. Virgin Islands



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Plans for Using American Rescue Plan Funds:

- State and school district/Local Educational Agency (LEAs) plans for using ARP ESSER funds are an **important resource for public transparency** into the use of ARP ESSER funds
- The Department **is encouraging all stakeholders**, including:
 - Parents
 - Families
 - Educators

to **review their State and LEA/school district plans**, and to **contact State and local education officials** to learn more



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What Families and Communities Need to Know:

- ED distributed **\$81,316,533,333.00** of American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER funds to States within 2 weeks of signing
 - This accounted for **two-thirds of each State's total funding**
- To receive remaining ARP funding, **States were required to submit how State would** use ARP ESSER funds to:
 - **Safely re-open** schools
 - Provide **academic and mental health supports** for school communities to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic
- States were required to **provide a way for families and communities to view** their individual district's plan
- All State Plans were approved by the end of 2021 and **may now be accessed on the Clearinghouse**



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Engaging with State and Local Leaders:

- While creating ARP plans, **States and school districts/LEAs were required to engage:**
 - Families
 - Educators
 - Representatives of students with disabilities
 - A broad range of other stakeholders
- School districts/LEAs are expected to **adjust their plans based on the needs** of students



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Increasing Transparency

- All school districts/LEAs are **required to post their ARP plans**
 - States are responsible for ensuring all school district/LEA plans are posted on the SEA website
 - If community stakeholders are unable to access their school district/LEA's plan on their State's website, they're encouraged to contact their school district/LEA or use the school district's website to locate the plan
 - If community stakeholders have questions or concerns about how their State or school district/LEA plans to use its ARP ESSER funds, they're encouraged to engage with their local school district/LEA

For discussion: How can we support transparency around how ARP funds are being used?

Best Practices Clearinghouse: Interactive Map

Click “Resources”, “Interactive Map”



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HOME

ABOUT US

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL ▾

TOPIC ▾

EQUITY FOCUS

RESOURCES ▾

EVENTS

CONTACT US

INTERACTIVE MAP

This interactive map presents a geographic view of the resources from the Resource Library, linking them to the states, U.S. territories, and international organizations that developed the resources. Click on a state, territory, or country below to see the number of resources for that location, then click on the number of resources for a list view. This state level view of resources may also be viewed [here](#) in the Resource Library, using the State level filter.

North Carolina

X

Number of Resources

28



U.S. Territories

	American Samoa		Puerto Rico
	Commonwealth of Mariana Islands		U.S. Virgin Islands

By clicking on any State in the Interactive Map, a list will generate of all Clearinghouse Resources for that State – beginning with the ARP ESSER State and LEA plans.

NORTH CAROLINA RESOURCES

[RETURN TO INTERACTIVE MAP](#)

Results: 30

Search

Keyword

Equity Focus

Select Equity Focus

Topic Area

Select Topic Area

Instructional Level

Select Instructional Level

Resource Type

Select Resource Type

Search

Reset

[North Carolina Local Education Agencies' Use of Funds Plans](#)

This North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Website shares North Carolina local education agencies' American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief use of funds plans. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being, Professional Development, and Supports; PreK-12 Schools)*


Resource Type: LEA Use of Funds Plans




Organization: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

[North Carolina State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund](#)


This Web page hosts North Carolina's approved state plan for the use of their awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being, Professional Development, and Supports; PreK-12 Schools)*

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

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Search 

HOME ABOUT US INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL TOPIC EQUITY FOCUS **RESOURCES** EVENTS CONTACT US


RESOURCE LIBRARY

These resources have been reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education, other Federal agencies (e.g., Department of Health and Human Services [HHS] or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] within HHS), and subject matter experts to provide resources and materials across different topic areas and instructional levels. Filters and key word searches are available to sort the information by various topics, types, and levels.


Search

Keyword


Equity Focus

Select Equity Focus 


Topic Area

Select Topic Area 

Instructional Level


Select Instructional Level 

Resource Type

Select Resource Type 

- Select Resource Type
- Implementation Stories
- Innovative Spotlight
- Best Practices
- Federal Resources
- State or Local Resources
- Lessons Learned
- Technical Assistance Center Resources
- ESSER State Plans
- LEA Use of Funds Plans

State

Select State/Territory/International 

Search **Reset Fields**

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

This Wyoming Department of Education Website shares information regarding Wyoming's awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds, including local education agencies' allocations. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being; Professional Development, and Supports; Pre-K-12 Schools)*

Rather than using the Interactive Map, you can also go directly into the Resource Library and select ESSER State Plans or LEA Use of Funds Plans in the “Resource Type” drop down.

This will generate a comprehensive list of all ESSER State Plans and LEA Fund Use Plans.

Resource Type

ESSER State Plans

State

Select State/Territory/International

Search

Reset Fields

[Wyoming State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund](#)

This Web page hosts Wyoming's approved state plan for the use of their awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being, Professional Development, and Supports; PreK-12 Schools)*

Resource Type: ESSER State Plans

Organization: Wyoming Department of Education

[Wisconsin State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund](#)

This Web page hosts Wisconsin's approved state plan for the use of their awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being, Professional Development, and Supports; PreK-12 Schools)*

Resource Type: ESSER State Plans

Organization: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

[West Virginia's State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund](#)

This Web page hosts West Virginia's approved state plan for the use of their awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being, Professional Development, and Supports; PreK-12 Schools)*

Resource Type: ESSER State Plans

Organization: West Virginia Department of Education




[Washington State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund](#)

This Web page hosts Washington's approved state plan for the use of their awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. *(Tags: Safe and Healthy Environments; Providing Supports to Students, Young Children, and Families; Teacher, Early Childhood Provider, Faculty, and Staff Well-being, Professional Development, and Supports; PreK-12 Schools)*

Resource Type: ESSER State Plans




Organization: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction


Reminder: Another feature on the Best Practices Clearinghouse is a Calendar of Upcoming and Archived Events



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Search 

HOME ABOUT US INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL TOPIC EQUITY FOCUS RESOURCES EVENTS CONTACT US

EVENTS

Calendar and Archived Events have been reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education and subject matter experts to provide access to a diverse set of “Landmark” priorities from the *Return to School Roadmap*. Calendar Events can be filtered in the List View by date, key word searches, and other topic areas.

Calendar Archived Events

Calendar Events - Monthly View

Calendar Events - List View

<

April 2022

>

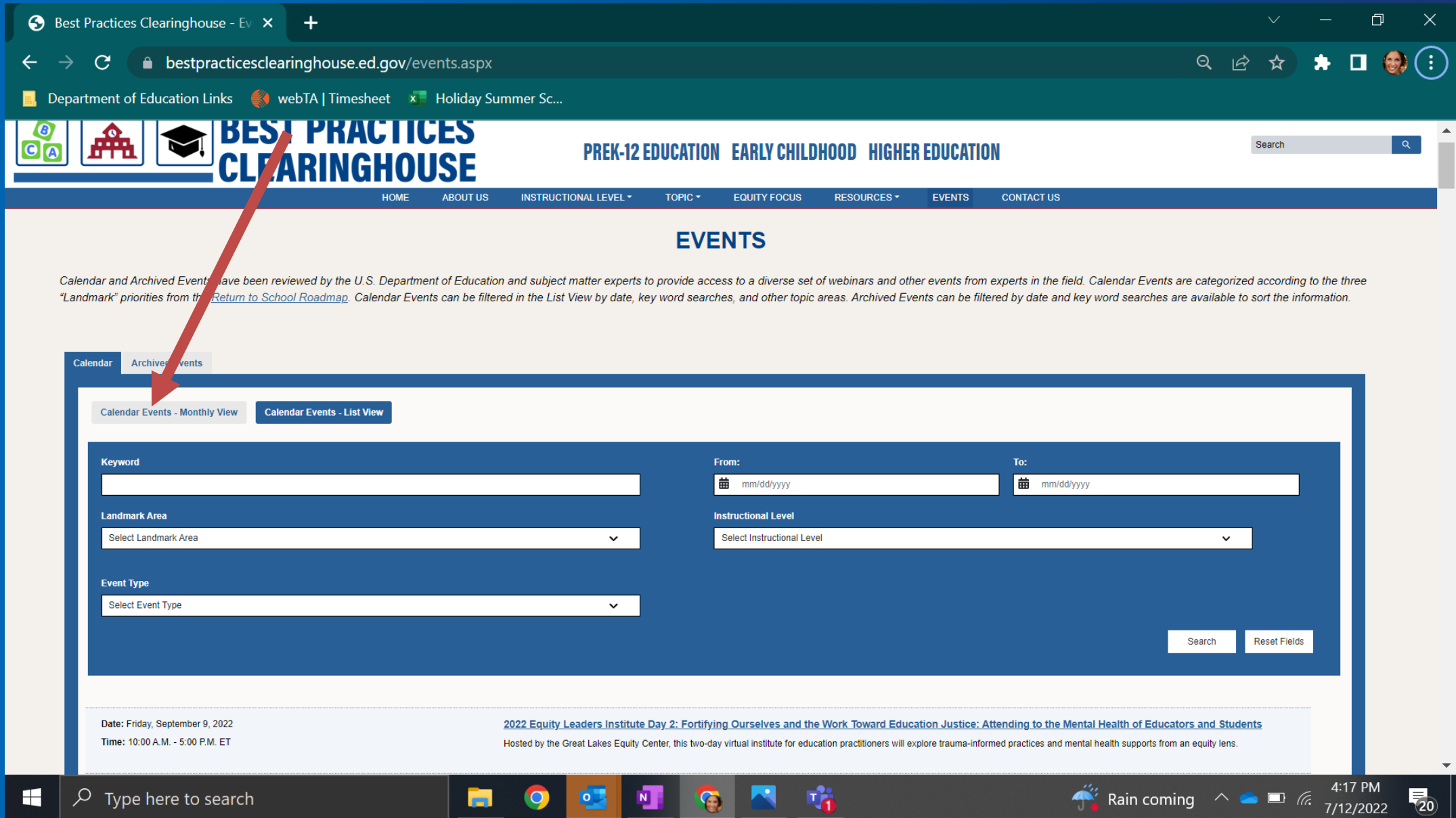
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30 Innovative Partnerships Supporting Family Engagement Lessons from the Field - Expanding School Improvement Strategies	31 Improving School Climate in K-12 Schools	1 Representation Matters: Recruiting and Retaining Diverse Educators	2
3	4	5 Designing and Implementing Social Emotional Learning Programs	6 Understanding the Role of Information Technology in Education	7 Strengthening Partnerships Between Schools and Communities	8	9

Landmark 1: Prioritize the health and safety of students, school personnel, and families

Landmark 2: Build school communities, and support students’ social, emotional, and mental health

Landmark 3: Accelerate academic achievement

On the Events Calendar, you can search upcoming Events.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov/events.aspx`. The page header includes the Best Practices Clearinghouse logo and navigation links for PREK-12 EDUCATION, EARLY CHILDHOOD, and HIGHER EDUCATION. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled "EVENTS" and contains a paragraph explaining the calendar and archived events. Below this, there are tabs for "Calendar" and "Archived Events". The "Calendar" tab is active, showing a "Calendar Events - Monthly View" and a "Calendar Events - List View" button. A red arrow points to the search filters in the "List View" section. The filters include a "Keyword" search box, a "Landmark Area" dropdown menu, an "Event Type" dropdown menu, a "From" date range selector, and an "Instructional Level" dropdown menu. There are "Search" and "Reset Fields" buttons at the bottom right of the filter section. At the bottom of the page, there is a date and time display for Friday, September 9, 2022, and a link to a 2022 Equity Leaders Institute Day 2 event.

Best Practices Clearinghouse - Ev x +

bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov/events.aspx

Department of Education Links webTA | Timesheet Holiday Summer Sc...

BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE

PREK-12 EDUCATION EARLY CHILDHOOD HIGHER EDUCATION

HOME ABOUT US INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL TOPIC EQUITY FOCUS RESOURCES EVENTS CONTACT US

EVENTS

Calendar and Archived Events have been reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education and subject matter experts to provide access to a diverse set of webinars and other events from experts in the field. Calendar Events are categorized according to the three "Landmark" priorities from the [Return to School Roadmap](#). Calendar Events can be filtered in the List View by date, key word searches, and other topic areas. Archived Events can be filtered by date and key word searches are available to sort the information.

Calendar Archived Events

Calendar Events - Monthly View Calendar Events - List View

Keyword

Landmark Area

Select Landmark Area

Event Type

Select Event Type

From:

To:

Instructional Level

Select Instructional Level

Search Reset Fields

Date: Friday, September 9, 2022
Time: 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. ET

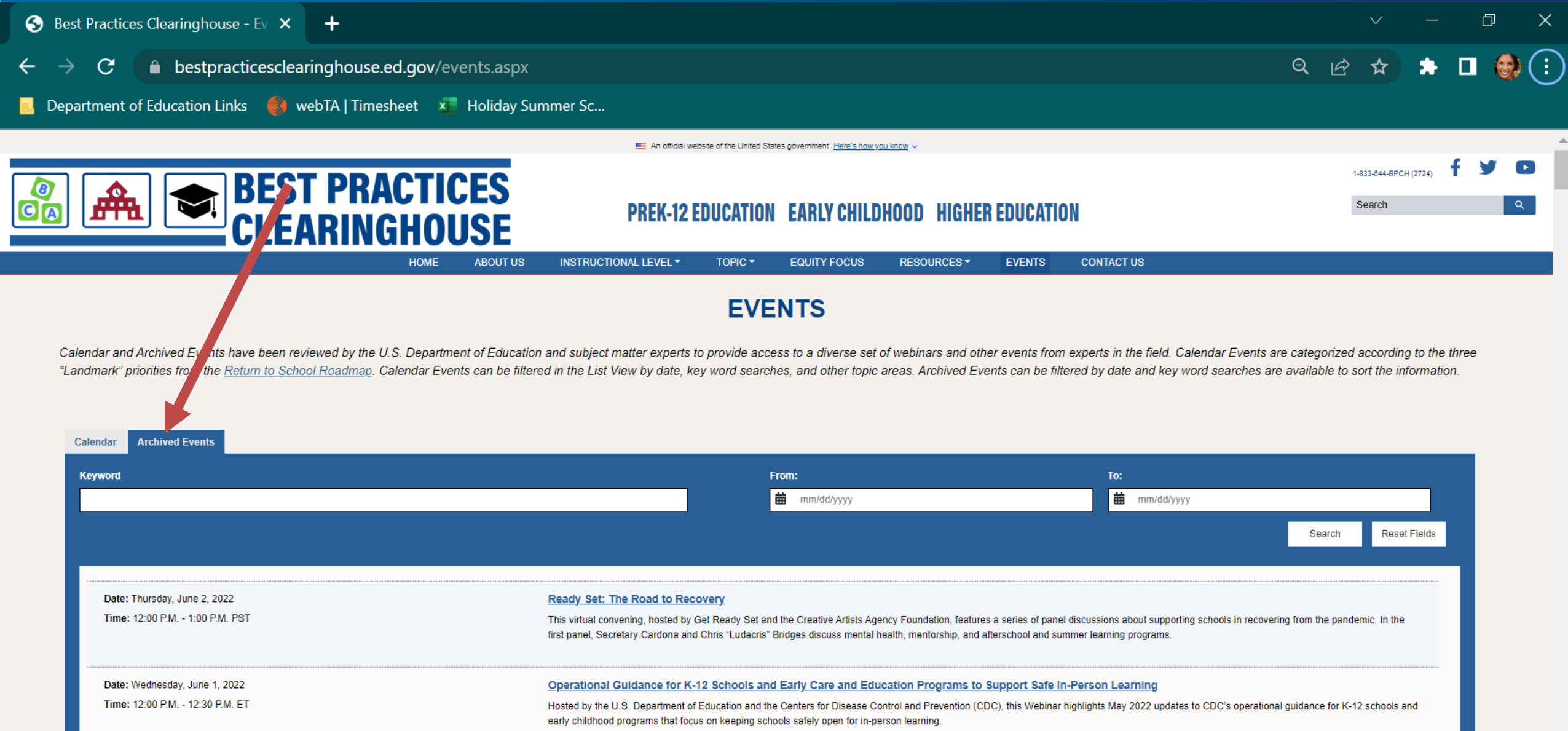
[2022 Equity Leaders Institute Day 2: Fortifying Ourselves and the Work Toward Education Justice: Attending to the Mental Health of Educators and Students](#)

Hosted by the Great Lakes Equity Center, this two-day virtual institute for education practitioners will explore trauma-informed practices and mental health supports from an equity lens.

Type here to search

Rain coming 4:17 PM 7/12/2022

You can also click the second tab and explore a list of Archive Events.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov/events.aspx`. The browser's tab bar shows the current tab as "Best Practices Clearinghouse - Ev" and a plus sign to add more tabs. Below the address bar, there are links for "Department of Education Links", "webTA | Timesheet", and "Holiday Summer Sc...".

The website header features the "BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE" logo on the left, which includes icons for a building, a graduation cap, and a book. To the right of the logo are the categories "PREK-12 EDUCATION", "EARLY CHILDHOOD", and "HIGHER EDUCATION". Further right is a search bar with the text "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube are also present, along with the phone number "1-833-844-BPCH (2724)".

The navigation menu includes links for "HOME", "ABOUT US", "INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL", "TOPIC", "EQUITY FOCUS", "RESOURCES", "EVENTS", and "CONTACT US". The "EVENTS" link is highlighted.

The main heading is "EVENTS". Below it, a paragraph states: "Calendar and Archived Events have been reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education and subject matter experts to provide access to a diverse set of webinars and other events from experts in the field. Calendar Events are categorized according to the three 'Landmark' priorities from the [Return to School Roadmap](#). Calendar Events can be filtered in the List View by date, key word searches, and other topic areas. Archived Events can be filtered by date and key word searches are available to sort the information."

Below the paragraph are two tabs: "Calendar" and "Archived Events". A red arrow points from the "Archived Events" tab to the "Ready Set: The Road to Recovery" event listing.

The "Archived Events" section contains a search form with the following fields:

- Keyword:
- From:
- To:

Buttons for "Search" and "Reset Fields" are located to the right of the search fields.

The event listings are as follows:

Date	Event Title	Description
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 Time: 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. PST	Ready Set: The Road to Recovery	This virtual convening, hosted by Get Ready Set and the Creative Artists Agency Foundation, features a series of panel discussions about supporting schools in recovering from the pandemic. In the first panel, Secretary Cardona and Chris "Ludacris" Bridges discuss mental health, mentorship, and afterschool and summer learning programs.
Date: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 Time: 12:00 P.M. - 12:30 P.M. ET	Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning	Hosted by the U.S. Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), this Webinar highlights May 2022 updates to CDC's operational guidance for K-12 schools and early childhood programs that focus on keeping schools safely open for in-person learning.



Best Practices Clearinghouse

There are many great resources on the [Best Practices Clearinghouse](https://bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov). Take 5 min to explore the Clearinghouse website and bookmark 2-3 resources you want to revisit after this conference.

<https://bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov>





**U.S. Department
of Education**



Thank you!

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