



# **Sustaining Community Schools After the Post-Pandemic Funding Cliff**

**Tuesday, October 24th, 2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern Time**

# Technical Tips

1. To comment and access resources to the "Chat".
2. Add questions to the "Q&A" feature.
3. Adjust your audio to your own personal settings.

This webinar is being recorded and will be posted on <https://www.communityschools.org/link/join-a-network/research-practice-network/>

# Land Recognition



<https://usdac.us/nativeland> #HonorNativeLand Guide

# Poll Question: Which of the following role best describes your current role?

- I'm a practitioner
- I'm a researcher
- I'm an administrator or a community school coordinator
- I'm a community organizer
- I'm a community school partner
- I'm a policymaker
- I'm a graduate student
- Other

# IEL CCS RPN Research Agenda



[CCS RPN Website](#)



# RPN Research Agenda Topics

## #9 Sustainability



# IEL CCS RPN Co-Chairs



**Dr. Jessica Knapp**  
CCS RPN Practitioner Co-Chair;  
President at Communities in Schools of  
Pennsylvania



**Dr. Naorah Rimkunas**  
CCS RPN Researcher Co-Chair;  
Assistant Professor of Community  
Schools at Binghamton University



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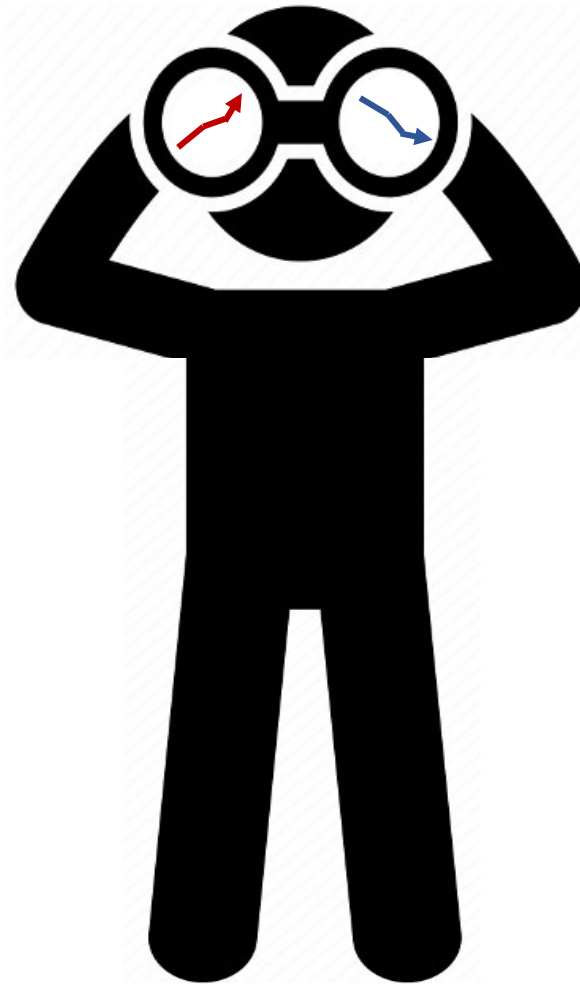
# Speakers & Panelists

- **Dr. Marguerite Roza**, Research Professor and Director of the Edunomics Lab, Georgetown University
- **Tim Mulligan**, CEO, Community Schools of Eastern Pennsylvania

Here comes the fiscal cliff.

**Are you ready?**

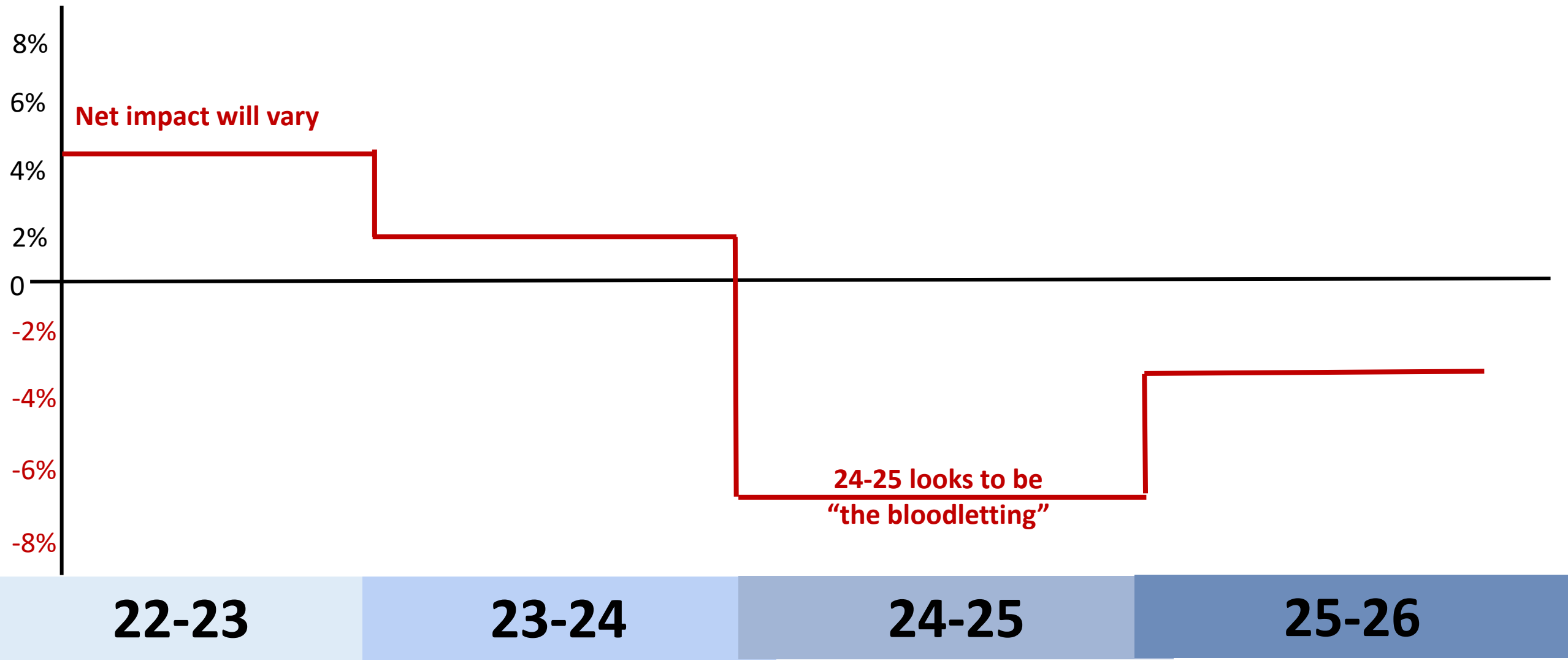
Oct. 24, 2023



Marguerite Roza  
@MargueriteRoza  
[MR1170@georgetown.edu](mailto:MR1170@georgetown.edu)



# The net impact of four atypical financial shocks on public education

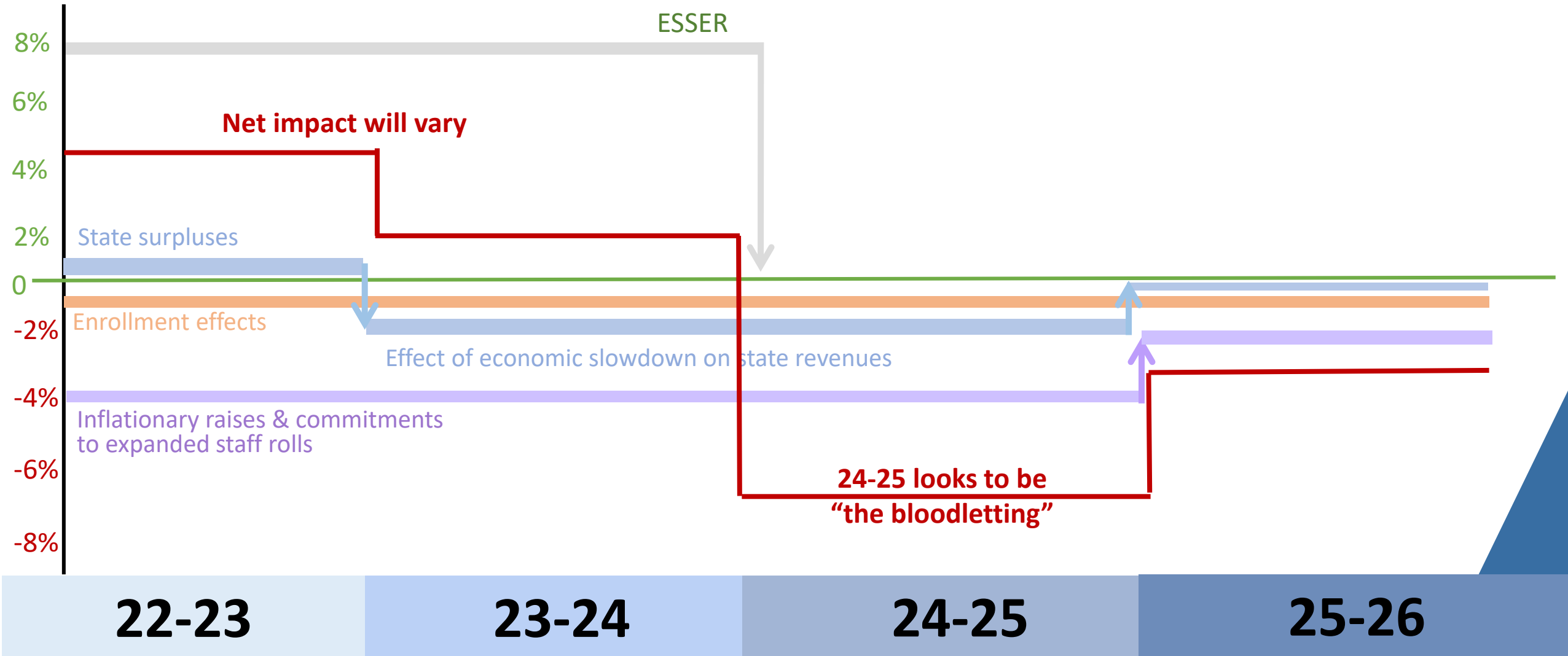


# Four atypical financial shocks coming to a district near you..

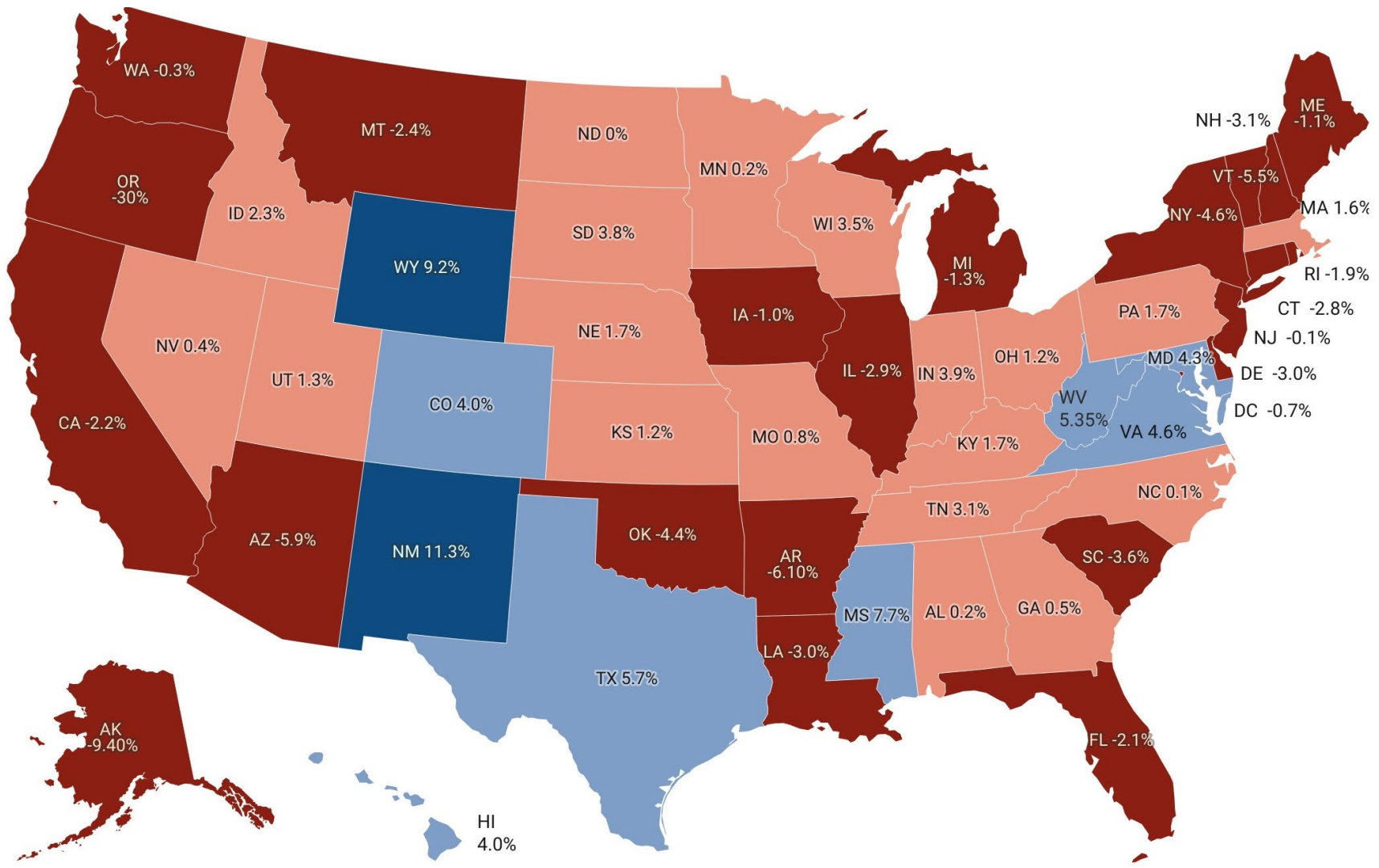
1. ESSER is boosting spending but then ends abruptly 9/24
  - Most at risk: Districts using ESSER for recurring financial commitments via budget backfilling, new hires or permanent raises.
2. Enrollment declines mean fewer revenues in the long run
  - Most at risk: Urban districts. Districts closed longer. Northern states.
3. Inflation, labor scarcity, & new hiring are driving up recurring commitments
  - Most at risk: Those offering permanent raises that are larger than typical (typical is ~1-2% on top of 3% via step/column increases) and those growing their staff rolls.
4. An economic slowdown would affect growth in state revenues
  - Most at risk: Districts that are more dependent on state revenue (or in states more affected by economic slowdowns).



# Timing and magnitude of atypical financial effects on typical budgets



# State revenue likely can't replace ESSER: FY23 to FY24 growth in general fund revenues is slowing.



In MA new revenue, directed proportionately to higher need districts, will offset the fiscal cliff for most districts.



# In some states, districts are spending ESSER more quickly than others

% ESSER 3 spent by state by 9/23

Rapid spending in these states leaves little \$ for the final year

Districts in these states are spending their ESSER 3 more slowly, so have more to spend in 23-24. Hard to spend that much while also planning to undo those investments.

>60%

60-51%

50-41%

40-31%

<30%

AK  
AR  
IA  
OK  
WA

DE NV  
FL NC  
GA ND  
KY OH  
MI TX  
MO

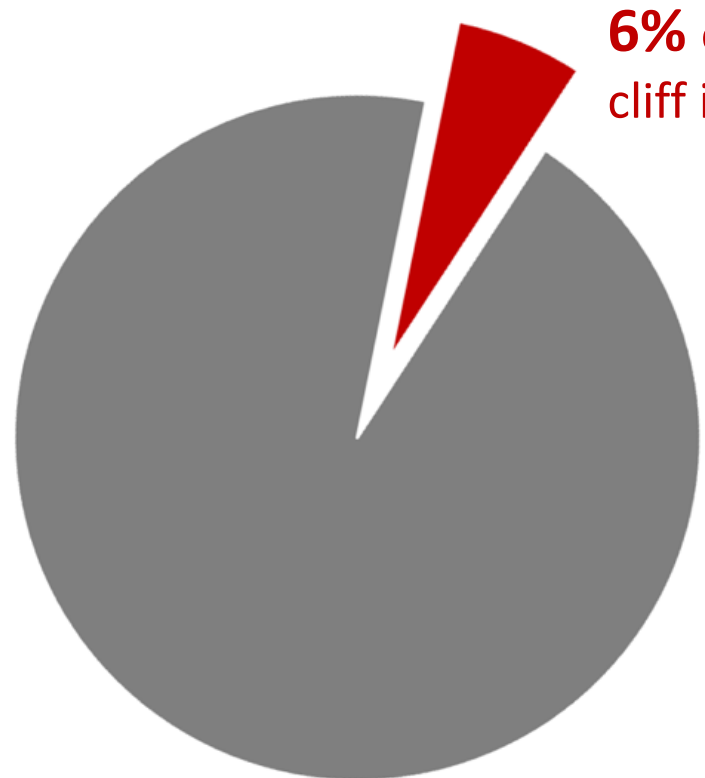
AL ID PA  
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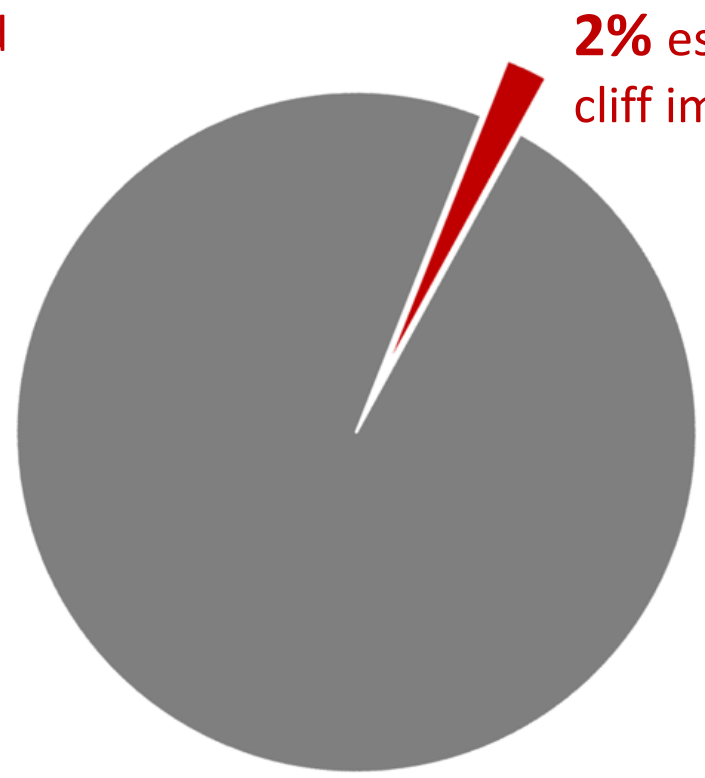
DC RI WI  
NE VT

# Higher poverty districts will have a steeper cliff than lower poverty peers

In WA, higher poverty districts will see a larger reduction in annual spending than more affluent peers



Highest poverty districts (>75% poverty)



Lowest poverty districts (<25% poverty)

Educonomics Lab estimates the cliff impact for each district using unspent ESSER3 as of 7/11/23 (assuming steady spend down through 9/24).



# Timeline for *known* budget cutting decisions

Finance team (FT)  
projects 24-25  
budget from 23-24

FT works on  
budget tradeoffs

Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept

2023-24

2024-25

**Bloodletting**

1<sup>st</sup> Bd budget  
work session:  
set priorities.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bd budget  
work session:  
solidify choices.

Final board  
vote on 24-25  
budget

Last day to  
notify staff  
of layoffs



# Timeline for *known* budget cutting decisions

When does the hard work happen on budget tradeoffs?

Finance team (FT) projects 24-25 budget from 23-24

FT works on budget tradeoffs

Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept

2023-24

2024-25

**Bloodletting**



1<sup>st</sup> Bd budget work session: set priorities.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bd budget work session: solidify choices.

Final board vote on 24-25 budget

Last day to notify staff of layoffs

Any effort here is too late to affect budget!



# Timeline for budget cutting decisions

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Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept  
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solidify choices.

Final board  
vote on 24-25  
budget

Last day to  
notify staff  
of layoffs

Narrow time during  
which leaders must  
make tough decisions  
about what to cut and  
what to keep.



A district has used ESSER to fund several community-based supports delivered by non-profits that are showing great results.

Concerned that these supports are going to end, a district leader suggests that the district could fund these programs with federal Title I dollars.

Nationally:  
ESSER = \$60B/year  
Title I = \$18B/year

Title I is too small to cover even 1/3 of ESSER investments.

Moving ESSER-funded efforts to Title I grants means ending existing Title-funded efforts.

**CHAT** If moving the community supports to Title I funds means cutting long-running Title I-funded efforts including reading coaches, interventionists, and PD, would you be for it?

**A. Seems reasonable**

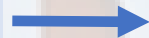
**B. I'm less comfortable with this**

# 4 stages of *hurried* budget cutting

Gaps > 2-3% often require **cuts to LABOR**

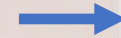
## *Freeze*

- Freeze hiring, travel, pro-cards
- Permit contracts to expire
- Dip into reserves
- Postpone maintenance
- Delay payments
- Offer early retirements



## *Trim from the top*

- Trim contracts, payments to community partners
- Eliminate PD days, prep time
- Cut central administrative positions
- Squeeze supplies and any non-labor expenses
- Consolidate dept.'s



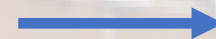
## *Negotiate*

Propose:

- Alter benefits
- Salary adjustments
- Reduce days/furloughs



*Depending on success above*



## *Labor reduction*

Larger staff layoffs: elective staff, librarians, academic coaches, core teachers

Marguerite Roza  
@MargueriteRoza  
[MR1170@georgetown.edu](mailto:MR1170@georgetown.edu)

[EdunomicsLab.org](http://EdunomicsLab.org)

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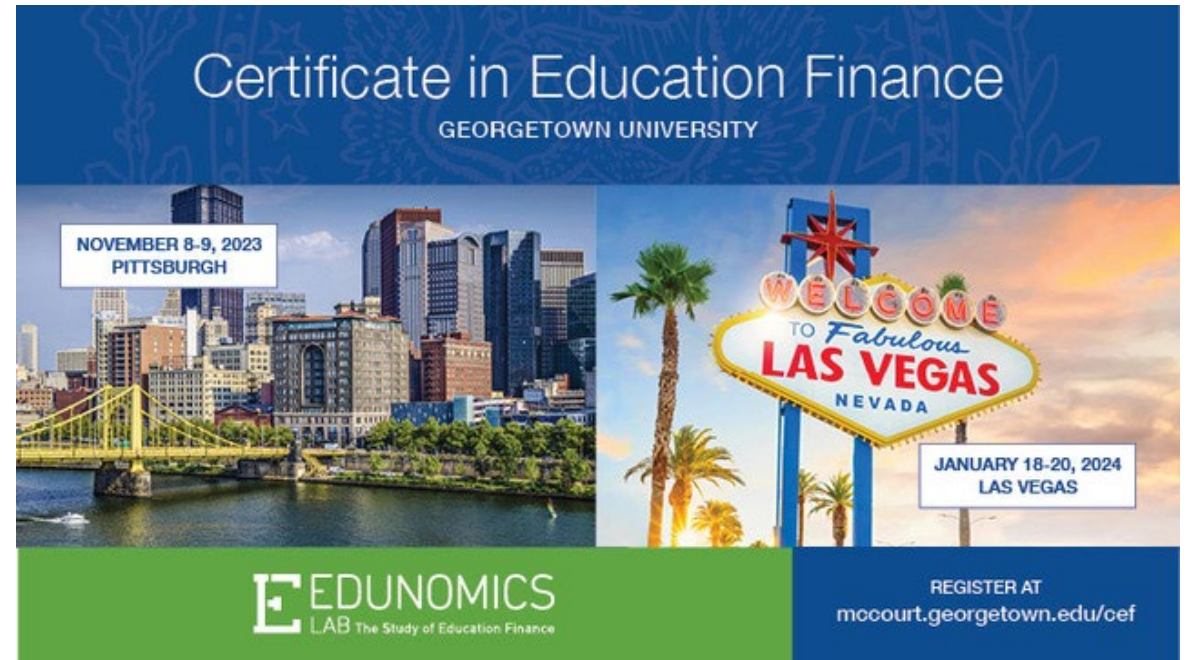
**WILD  
RIDE  
AHEAD**

A Workshop On District  
Finances Post ESSER

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

12-2PM ET

The poster features a roller coaster track against a blue and green background with a pattern of small white dots.



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The poster is split into two main sections. The left section shows a city skyline with a yellow bridge over a river. The right section shows the 'Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas' sign with palm trees. The bottom section is a green bar with the Edunomics Lab logo and registration information.

# IEL Forum

## Blended and Braided Funding



Communities  
In Schools

In schools to help kids stay in school.

# Agenda

- Federal Funding Opportunities
- Local Strategies



# Federal/State Opportunities

Title I A Including School Improvement Funding

Title II A Supporting Teachers and School Leaders

Title IV A Student Support and Academic Achievement Grants SSAE

Title IV A 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Title IV B Safe and Stable Families

Title IV F Full Service Community School Grant

WIOA –Workforce readiness/in school youth

TANF – Various programs including Truancy Prevention

AmeriCorp/VISTA –Support CS staffing and capacity needs

CDBG --Workforce readiness

# Federal/State Opportunities

Juvenile Justice

Substance Abuse/ Opioid Prevention

Health/ Mental Health

Truancy Prevention

# Local Ideas

School District Investment

Legislative Designations, Earmark

Corporate Sponsorship

County TANF/Truancy funding

# My Contact info

Tim Mulligan  
President/CEO  
Communities In Schools of Eastern PA  
[mulligant@ciseasternpa.org](mailto:mulligant@ciseasternpa.org)  
484.834.8830

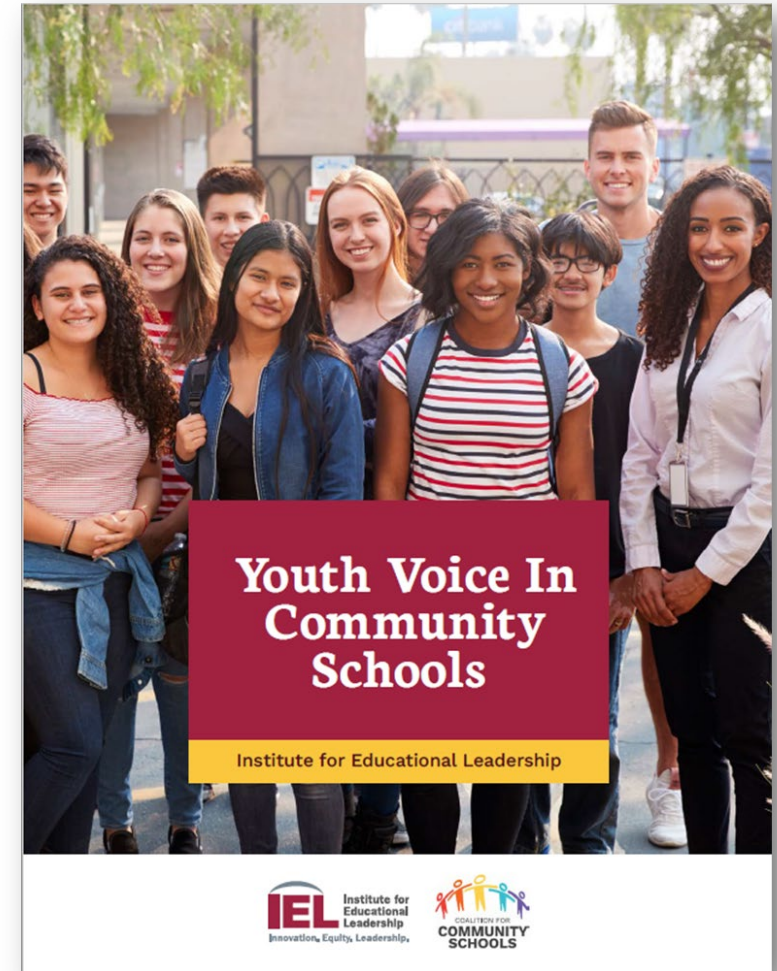
# Questions



# Youth Voice in Community Schools Guide & Communication Survey

Please read the Youth Voice Guide and let us know if the guide is helpful through a 2-minute communication survey.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7203935/Youth-Voice-in-Community-Schools-Communication-Survey>





**Join us next month for  
“Out of School Time”  
November 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm EST**

**To view previous webinar recordings, access our research agenda, and the Community Schools Research Clearinghouse, visit <https://www.communityschools.org/link/join-a-network/research-practice-network/>**





# Thank You!

[Please fill out the post-webinar feedback form!](#)