### Lesson Overview
With schools nationwide making budget cuts in schools, education is now one of the most popular topics in America today. Using education as a springboard, this lesson plan calls for students to form into groups of 3 or 4 to research a specific educational time period in American history and compare that era to the current era of education. This project can be chronicling any level of education, and a 10 minute presentation will be given. ReQall will be used to help students remain on-task and organized.

### Length of Lesson
Five 50-minute class periods

### Grade Level / Subject
College level, History of Education courses

### Instructional Objectives
Students will:
- Learn about the progression of education throughout American history
- Compare past movements in education to current movements
- Learn more about current events concerning today’s schooling
- Create a presentation that shows the students’ understanding of current events as well as past events

### Instructional Plan

#### Introduction
Discuss with students the current situation involving teachers, school corporations, and related bills from Congress. Spend the rest of the class time (for the initial class in which the assignment is presented) going over past changes in education that shaped how schools function today. Ask questions that will make students think, such as:

- What significant events changed and evolved schools?
- How/why did these events occur?
- Which period of educational history was most influential?

Posing these questions will get students to think and approach the project on a deeper level.

#### Activity
Discuss with the class each of the various periods of the history of education, and go into detail about the strengths and weaknesses of each time period, as well as notable movements/innovations that occurred. Also, discuss the movers and shakers behind the new reforms for each era, as well as the thought process behind why each decision was made.
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<th><strong>Procedure</strong></th>
<th>Introduce students to the project by first discussing current events that are happening in the field of education (such as budget cuts, No Child Left Behind, etc). Ask for students’ opinions on such matters, then direct the conversation to similar events or significant changes that have happened during the history of education. Conclude the initial lesson with general information about the project. The 2nd lesson will go more in-depth with the assignment: students will break into groups and do research about a specific time period in American education’s history. ReQall will be introduced at this time, and its purpose throughout the assignment will be to keep students up-to-date and on task so that they do not fall behind. ReQall will help them set up meeting times for research, as well as reminders for the rough draft (due the 4th lesson). All students in the class must set up a ReQall account, which can be done during the 2nd lesson, in class. Presentations will be given the next time class meets after the 5th lesson. Each lesson will last 10 minutes, with all group members contributing.</th>
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<td><strong>Closure</strong></td>
<td>After all groups have presented, ask students which period was most influential to the evolution of education, as well as which period was most similar to our current one. Discuss what the most important aspect or contribution each time period had, and ask students what they felt about the project as a whole.</td>
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