IMPACT SUMMITS: Isolated Students is an invitation-only event bringing together education leaders and blended and online learning practitioners to discuss how digital learning can address the needs of isolated students.

Online and blended learning programs have been helping students and schools in a variety ways for years. Yet for many educators and advocates who work with isolated student populations, the important instructional role they play has not been front and center in discussions. IMPACT SUMMITS: Isolated Students aims to change that, allowing for connection and learning about the issues these students face and the opportunities for blended and online learning to improve secondary graduation rates.

By definition, an isolated student is any student who experiences an internal or external barrier to access quality schooling options that can provide them the highest potential and opportunity to succeed academically, graduate from high school, and achieve personal success.

Isolated Student Groups include:

• At-risk students
• Incarcerated youth
• Native American students
• Chronically ill students undergoing treatment
• Teen moms
• Geographically remote learners
• Credit-deficient youth
• Title I students
• ELL/ELA learners

Goals/Outcomes of the Convening

1. **Educate leaders and funders** on the current state of affairs facing Isolated Student populations.

2. **Debunk the misnomers** associated with online and blended schools.

3. **Provide attendees with critical information** related to the impact that digital education (blended/online programs and courses) has on increasing access that all students have to quality educational options and ultimately, positively impacting HS graduation rates.

4. **Create a forum for attendees**, and others, to come together to collaborate and identify ways in which collaboration can lead to positive, affective change in schools and communities throughout America.

5. **Serve as a conduit for future initiatives**, with the help and support of other organizations, to develop and implement action-based programs to meet (and exceed) the needs of Isolated Student populations.

**What are Impact Summits?**

In the absence of a national conference that targets professional learning needs of online practitioners, Impact Summits offers a robust convening series centered around how thought leaders perceive and respond to pervasive issues facing decision-makers today. For the inaugural program, three separate events will focus on: online learning policy; digital learning and rural education; and isolated student populations.

These invitation-only events bring together the brightest minds and most influential leaders from across the spectrum of blended and online learning. Outcomes of each event will be captured in white papers to be shared with the participants, national media contacts, and key leaders. We hope this information will accelerate transformation in the education system so students and teachers have access to personalized learning pathways in classrooms and schools throughout America.
Meeting format and potential invitees

- During the annual Grantmakers for Education (GFE) Summit
- October 16–18, 2018 in San Diego, CA
- Possible working session during the conference and/or post-conference roundtable
- Potential Invitees:
  - FBOL Board Members
  - GFE Members
  - Option for informal working group prior to the roundtable

Project management and meeting facilitation

FBOL will provide project management, logistics, financial support, and facilitation for the convening.

Process

- Develop format and communicate the format to the attendees.
- Develop materials for attendees to post and share before the gathering.
- Schedule a brief call with each identified contact to garner interest and secure attendance at event.
- Invite well-known education/philanthropy leader to serve as moderator.
- Keep a spreadsheet to capture all data and contact info.
- Develop questions for the interactive portion of the workshop.
- Identify key media to attend the roundtable.
- Craft medium/white paper report for post-event publication.
- Provide summary of the highlights of the session.

Contact:
Amy E. Valentine
Foundation for Blended and Online Learning
blendedandonlinelearning.org

Sobering Stats

Standard methodology for HS graduation rate calculation is only 10 years' old

2008—73%; 2018—83%; what about the other 17%?

65.9% of high school seniors attend college the fall after graduation; what about the other 33.1%?

43 states have enacted charter school laws; seven states have not

Charter schools increase access to parent choice and diversify the educational opportunities made available to students

225,000 teen moms; only 40% finish high school

326 Native American Indian reservations in the United States (56.2 million acres)

644,000 K-12 students are Native American; only 67% graduate from high school

Only 17% of Native American students attend college

15% K-12 students attend rural schools

22 million students live at or below the poverty level; limited to no potential to move to attend a school other than the local school of residence

21 million Title I students facing limited financial supports

4.6 million ELL/ELA students

350,000 children suffer from a chronic illness (three months to a lifetime)

47,000 youth are incarcerated; 69% are minorities

Juvenile incarceration decreases the chances of high school graduation by 13–39% and increases the chances of incarceration as an adult by 23–41%, as compared to the average public school student in the same area.