

LINDA MCMAHON

MEDIA TOOLKIT

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PERSONAL BACKGROUND_____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name	Linda McMahon
Date of Birth	October 4, 1948 (age 76)
Primary Residence	47 Hurlingham Dr Greenwich, CT 06831
Spouse	Vince McMahon (separated)
Children	2: Shane and Stephanie
Education	Havelock High School. East Carolina University, BA in French (1969)
Religion	Roman Catholic
Current Employment	Chair of the board, America First Policy Institute



Social Media

LinkedIn	Linda McMahon
Facebook	Linda McMahon
X	@Linda_McMahon
Instagram	LindaMcMahon

TIMELINE

October 4, 1948: Born in New Bern, North Carolina. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

1966: Graduated from Havelock High School. (Mebane Rash, "Who Is Linda McMahon? From ECU Grad To Nominee For Ed Secretary, A Look Beyond The Headlines," [EdNC](#), 12/2/24)

August 26, 1966: Married Vince McMahon. (Mebane Rash, "Who Is Linda McMahon? From ECU Grad To Nominee For Ed Secretary, A Look Beyond The Headlines," [EdNC](#), 12/2/24)

1969: Graduated from East Carolina University with a BA in French. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24; Zachary Schermele, "Trump's Education Secretary Nominee Once Said She Had An Education Degree. She Doesn't," [USA Today](#), 11/20/24)

1980: Co-founded Titan Sports, Inc., which later became WWE, Inc. (World Wrestling Entertainment). (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

1993: Became President and CEO of WWE. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

January 2004 - February 2017: Vice Chair and member of Sacred Heart University's board of trustees from January 2004 to February 2017. (Sacred Heart University, "Two Former Government Officials Join Board Of Trustees," [Press Release](#), 10/6/21)

September 2009: Resigned as CEO of WWE. (Linda McMahon, [Small Business Administration](#), Accessed 12/13/24; Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

2009-2010: Appointed to the Connecticut State Board of Education by Governor Jodi Rell, but resigned in 2010 to run for political office. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

2010: Ran as the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in Connecticut but lost to Democrat Richard Blumenthal. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

2012: Ran again for the U.S. Senate in Connecticut but was defeated by Democrat Chris Murphy. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

2015 – 2017: Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Women's Leadership LIVE. (Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)

2016: Delegate to the Republican National Convention from Connecticut and a member of the RNC Rules Committee. (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

December 7, 2016: Nominated by President Donald Trump to serve as Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA). (Daniella Diaz, "Linda McMahon Picked To Be Small Business Administrator," [CNN](#), 12/9/16)

February 14, 2017: Confirmed as SBA Administrator by the U.S. Senate with a vote of 81-19. (PN 48, [Roll Call Vote #65](#), Passed 81-19, 2/14/17)

2018: Received honorary degrees from East Carolina University and Sacred Heart University. (Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)

April 12, 2019: Resigned as Administrator of the Small Business Administration. (Scott Horsley, "Linda McMahon To Quit Small Business Administration, Join Pro-Trump SuperPAC," [NPR](#), 3/29/19)

April 2019-2020: Chair of America First Action, a pro-Trump Super PAC. (Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)

2021-Present: Chair Of The Board And Chair, Center For The American Worker America First Action. (Linda McMahon, [America First Policy Institute](#), Accessed 12/16/24; Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)

October 2021 – Present: Member of the Sacred Heart University Board of Trustees. (Sacred Heart University, "Two Former Government Officials Join Board Of Trustees," [Press Release](#), 10/6/21)

November 2024: Confirmed her separation from her husband, Vice McMahon. ("Who Is Linda McMahon? Trump Donor, WWE Co-Founder Is Education Secretary Pick." [The Washington Post](#), 11/20/24)

November 19, 2024: Nominated by Donald Trump to be Secretary of Education. (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 11/20/24)

CAREER BACKGROUND

BUSINESS CAREER & LEADERSHIP

Co-Founded And Ran The WWE

McMahon Co-Founded And Ran The WWE, Growing It From A Regional Northeast Business To A Multinational Corporation With Over 800 Employees

McMahon Founded And Ran The WWE From 1974 To 2009. (Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)



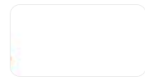
Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer

WWE

1974 - 2009 · 35 yrs

Stamford, CT

- Grew WWE from 13-person regional business to global enterprise with 800+ employees
- Expanded company's global reach from headquarters in Stamford, CT to open corporate offices worldwide, including New York, Los Angeles, London, Shanghai, Singapore, Munich and Tokyo
- Spearheaded product licensing first with action figures, then with a full product line of toys and consumer products which created additional revenue streams from direct product sales
- Negotiated international business contracts and successful alliances with cable, film and music companies to broaden company's global reach
- Took company public, trading on New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: WWE)
- Served as liaison with Wall Street analysts and point person for discussions of company's financial performance
- Spearheaded creation of WWE's "Get R.E.A.L." educational and literacy programs, including nationwide Reading Challenge in partnership with youth division of American Library Assn.



The Official Site of the WWE Universe

WWE, the recognized leader in global sports-entertainment, featuring the unrivaled Superstars of the ring including John Cena, Randy Orton, The Rock, Triple H and The...

McMahon Founded The Sports Entertainment Company Titan Sports, Inc., Which Later Became WWE, Inc. With Her Husband, Vince McMahon. "Linda McMahon was the administrator of the Small Business Administration under the Trump administration from 2017 to 2019. She resigned to chair the America First Action PAC, a pro-Trump super PAC. McMahon was born October 4, 1948 in New Bern, North Carolina. She earned a bachelor's degree from East Carolina University in 1966. After graduation, McMahon worked as a paralegal at a corporate law firm. In 1980, McMahon and her husband co-founded Titan Sports, Inc. (now WWE, Inc.), and she served as president and later CEO until 2009." (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives Of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

McMahon Worked As The President And Later CEO Of WWE From 1980 To 2009, And Under Her Leadership, The Company Grew From A Regional Business In The Northeast To A Large Multinational Corporation With Over 800 Employees. "An entrepreneur and business executive herself, McMahon is the co-founder and former chief executive officer of WWE, based in Stamford, Connecticut. She helped grow WWE from a 13-person regional operation to a publicly traded global enterprise with more than 800 employees in offices worldwide. McMahon has been a longtime advocate for women in leadership and business and has been widely recognized as one of the country's top female executives. She stepped down as CEO of WWE in 2009 to run for the U.S. Senate and was the Republican nominee to represent the people of Connecticut in 2010 and 2012."

(Linda McMahon, [Small Business Administration](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

Women's Leadership LIVE

McMahon Co-Founded And Served As CEO Of Women's Leadership LIVE

From 2015 To 2017, McMahon Co-Founded And Served As CEO Of Women's Leadership LIVE, Which Used Live Events And Ongoing Webinars To Educate And Inspire Women To Launch And Expand Their Own Businesses, Advance Their Careers Toward Executive Roles, And Pursue Opportunities For Leadership In Public Service. (Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)

**Linda McMahon**
Chair Of The Board - Chair For Center For The American Worker | America First Policy Institute • AFPI Exists To Advance Policies ...

**Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer**
Women's Leadership LIVE
2015 - 2017 · 2 yrs

Women's Leadership LIVE used live events and ongoing webinars to educate and inspire women to launch and expand their own businesses, advance their careers toward executive roles, and pursue opportunities for leadership in public service.



Small Business Administration

McMahon Served As Administrator Of The Small Business Administration From 2017 To 2019

On December 7, 2016, McMahon Was Nominated By President-Elect Donald Trump To Serve As Administrator Of The Small Business Administration (SBA). "President-elect Donald Trump picked Linda McMahon, former CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment, to serve as the administrator of the Small Business Administration, his transition announced Wednesday. 'Linda has a tremendous background and is widely recognized as one of the country's top female executives advising businesses around the globe,' Trump said in a statement. 'She helped grow WWE from a modest 13-person operation to a publicly traded global enterprise with more than 800 employees in offices worldwide.'" (Daniella Diaz, "Linda McMahon Picked To Be Small Business Administrator," [CNN](#), 12/9/16)

- On February 14, 2017, McMahon Was Confirmed As SBA Administrator By The U.S. Senate With A Vote Of 81-19. (PN 48, [Roll Call Vote #65](#), Passed 81-19, 2/14/17)

On April 12, 2019, McMahon Resigned From The SBA To Join The Pro-Trump Super PAC America First Action. "Linda McMahon, the famous pro wrestling promoter who stayed largely out of the limelight as small business administrator, is quitting President Trump's Cabinet after more than two years on the job. McMahon plans to join the pro-Trump superPAC America First Action, according to a source with direct knowledge of the situation." (Scott Horsley, "Linda McMahon To Quit Small Business Administration, Join Pro-Trump SuperPAC," [NPR](#), 3/29/19)

POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT

School Boards

McMahon Served On The Sacred Heart University's Board Of Trustees From January 2004 To February 2017, And Again From 2019 To 2024

From January 2004 To February 2017, McMahon Served As Vice Chair And Member Of Sacred Heart University's Board Of Trustees From January 2004 To February 2017. "Sacred Heart University has added former Trump cabinet member Linda McMahon and Attorney Thomas Scrivo, chief counsel to former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, to its board of trustees. McMahon previously served as vice chair and member of SHU's board of trustees from January 2004 to February 2017. The Linda E. McMahon Student Commons is named for her, and the dining hall within is called Linda's. She left the board to serve on President Donald J. Trump's cabinet as administrator of the Small Business Administration. Under her leadership, the SBA was reimagined, focusing on rural development and championing women entrepreneurs and veterans. She oversaw natural disaster recovery efforts and helped improve the way the SBA connected small businesses to capital, counseling and government contracts." (Sacred Heart University, "Two Former Government Officials Join Board Of Trustees," [Press Release](#), 10/6/21)

In October 2021, McMahon Was Appointed To Be A Member Of The Sacred Heart University Board Of Trustees. "Sacred Heart University has added former Trump cabinet member Linda McMahon and Attorney Thomas Scrivo, chief counsel to former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, to its board of trustees. McMahon previously served as vice chair and member of SHU's board of trustees from January 2004 to February 2017. The Linda E. McMahon Student Commons is named for her, and the dining hall within is called Linda's. She left the board to serve on President Donald J. Trump's cabinet as administrator of the Small Business Administration. Under her leadership, the SBA was reimagined, focusing on rural development and championing women entrepreneurs and veterans. She oversaw natural disaster recovery efforts and helped improve the way the SBA connected small businesses to capital, counseling and government contracts." (Sacred Heart University, "Two Former Government Officials Join Board Of Trustees," [Press Release](#), 10/6/21)

McMahon Served On The Connecticut State Board Of Education For One Year

In 2009, McMahon Was Appointed To The Connecticut State Board Of Education By Governor Jodi Rell. "McMahon was appointed to the Connecticut State Board of Education by Governor Jodi Rell in 2009, but resigned in 2010 to run for political office. In 2010 and 2012, McMahon was the Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate from Connecticut, losing in the general election both times. In 2016, she was a delegate to the Republican National Convention from Connecticut and a member of the RNC Rules Committee." (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

- **McMahon Served On The Connecticut State Board Of Education For One Year Before Resigning To Run For U.S. Senate In 2010.** "McMahon has juggled many hats during her career but has spent little time in the education realm. Her most direct experience was in Connecticut, where she served on the State Board of Education for a year in 2009 before stepping down to run for Senate. When McMahon made it on the board, she was criticized for lack of experience in

the area. She also served as a member on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University in 2004, with the school naming a building after her in 2012. She most recently was the board chair of the America First Policy Institute, which touts policies such as eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion offices.” (Lexi Lonas Cochran, “5 things to know about Linda McMahon, Trump’s pick for Education secretary,” [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

U.S. Senate

McMahon Ran For U.S. Senate In Connecticut In 2010 Against Democrat Richard Blumenthal And In 2012 Against Democrat Chris Murphy

McMahon Was The Republican Nominee For The U.S. Senate From Connecticut In 2010 And 2012 But Lost In The General Both Years. “McMahon was appointed to the Connecticut State Board of Education by Governor Jodi Rell in 2009, but resigned in 2010 to run for political office. In 2010 and 2012, McMahon was the Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate from Connecticut, losing in the general election both times. In 2016, she was a delegate to the Republican National Convention from Connecticut and a member of the RNC Rules Committee.” (Linda McMahon, [Iowa State University Archives of Women's Political Communication](#), Accessed 12/13/24)

During Her 2010 Campaign, McMahon Was Described As “A Remarkably Polished And Poised First-Time Candidate.” “McMahon, a remarkably polished and poised first-time candidate, is ready to embrace the serious success of the company and even the aura of scrappiness it lends her. Then with poise and legalese, she distances herself from wrestling scenes that are sexually explicit and purposefully inflammatory, moments her opponents hope to highlight. That trick is made even tougher by McMahon’s star turns inside the ring. While her appearances were nowhere near as regular as those of Jesse “The Body” Ventura, the former governor of Minnesota, her groin-kicking alter-ego nevertheless did combat with her own husband, son and daughter. Watching her recite well-coached corporate talking points to reconcile the two can be a spectacle in its own right.” (Jason Horowitz, “Linda McMahon, From Co-founder Of The WWE To U.S. Senate Candidate,” [The Washington Post](#), 2/22/10)

TRUMP-ALIGNED ORGANIZATIONS

America First Action

From 2019 To 2020, McMahon Served As Chair Of America First Action, A Pro-Trump Super PAC

On April 12, 2019, McMahon Resigned As Administrator Of The Small Business Administration To Join The Pro-Trump Super PAC America First Action. “Linda McMahon, the famous pro wrestling promoter who stayed largely out of the limelight as small business administrator, is quitting President Trump's Cabinet after more than two years on the job. McMahon plans to join the pro-Trump superPAC America First Action, according to a source with direct knowledge of the situation.” (Scott Horsley, “Linda McMahon To Quit Small Business Administration, Join Pro-Trump SuperPAC,” [NPR](#), 3/29/19)

McMahon Served As Chair Of America First Action From April 2019 To 2020. Chair of America First Action, a pro-Trump Super PAC. (Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)



Chair

America First Action

Apr 2019 - 2020 · 10 mos

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Chair America First Action | Chair America First Policies | Re-Election of President Donald J. Trump 2020

FOR A FIRST PLACE AMERICA

America First Action SuperPAC | committed to creating an America where prosperity, safety, and strength reign. Hard working people like you lead the charge with grit, determination and pride. Together, we continue to forge an America where opportunities are boundless.

A FIRST PLACE AMERICA WHERE WE ALL WIN!

America First Policy Institute

McMahon Is Chair Of The Board At America First Policy Institute

Since 2021, McMahon Has Served As Chair Of The Board And Chair Of The Center For The American Worker For The America First Policy Institute (AFPI). "Linda McMahon is originally from New Bern, North Carolina, and serves as Chair of the Board and Chair of the Center for the American Worker for AFPI. McMahon served in President Donald Trump's Cabinet as Administrator of the Small Business Administration. At SBA, McMahon re-imagined the organization, focusing on rural development and championing women entrepreneurs and military veterans. She oversaw natural disaster recovery efforts and helped improve the way the SBA connected small businesses to capital, counseling, and government contracts. After her service in the Trump Administration, she served as Chair of the America First Action SuperPAC, and America First Policy, LLC. Prior to her career in public service, McMahon was the President and later CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. (NYSE: WWE)." (Linda McMahon, [America First Policy Institute](#), Accessed 12/16/24; Linda McMahon, [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 12/15/24)



Chair Of The Board And Chair, Center For The American Worker

America First Policy Institute · Full-time

2021 - Present · 4 yrs

America First Policy Institute (AFPI) is a 501 (C) (3) Non-Profit, Non-Partisan Research Institute.

AFPI exists to Advance Policies that put the American People First!

→ America First Policy Institute (AFPI) PRIORITIES:

- JOBS FIRST! (Center For American Prosperity | Center For American Trade | Center For The American Worker)
- OPPORTUNITY FIRST! (Center For A Healthy America | Center For Education Opportunity | Center For Opportunity Now | Center For Second Chances | Center For The American Child)
- SECURITY FIRST! (Center For American Security | Center For China Policy | Center For Homeland Security and Immigration)
- FREEDOM FIRST! (Center For 1776 | Center For American Freedom | Center For American Values | Center For Election Integrity | Center For Law & Justice | Center For Media Accountability | Center For The American Dream | Constitutional Litigation Partnership | Take On Big Tech)
- INNOVATION FIRST! (Center For Energy Independence | Center For New Frontiers | Center For The Environment)



AFPI Is A Nonprofit Think Tank That Was Founded In 2021 To Promote Former U.S. President Donald Trump's Public Policy Agenda. "A constellation of Trump administration stars today will launch the America First Policy Institute, a 35-person nonprofit group with a first-year budget of \$20 million and the mission of perpetuating former President Trump's populist policies." (Mike Allen, "Scoop: Trump Alumni Launch Largest Post-Administration Group," [Axios](#), 4/13/21)

POTENTIAL NOMINATION SCRUTINY

QUALIFICATIONS TO BE EDUCATION SECRETARY

The Mainstream Media Has Attacked McMahon For Saying She Has A Degree In Education, Claiming She Lied On A Questionnaire 15 Years Ago

CLAIM: The Day McMahon Was Nominated To Be Education Secretary, The Washington Post And Other Media Outlets Began Attacking Her For Lying About Having A Teaching Degree

On November 20, 2024, The Washington Post Attacked McMahon For Incorrectly Claiming In 2009 That She Had A Bachelor's Degree In Education On A Questionnaire For A Connecticut Board Of Education Position. "Linda McMahon, President-elect Donald Trump's choice as education secretary, incorrectly claimed in 2009 that she had a bachelor's degree in education on a questionnaire for a Connecticut Board of Education post, according to news reports at the time. McMahon received a bachelor's degree in French and a teaching certificate from East Carolina University, according to her alma mater's announcement that she would deliver the 2018 commencement speech." (Beth Reinhard, Aaron Schaffer And Laura Meckler, "Trump's Education Pick Once Incorrectly Claimed To Have Education Degree," [The Washington Post](#), 11/20/24)

At The Time, McMahon Said She Mistakenly Thought Her Degree Was In Education Because She Did A Semester Of Student Teaching, And That She Had Written To The Governor's Office The Previous Year To Correct The Error After A Newspaper Noticed The Mistake. "The error on the questionnaire was reported by the Hartford Courant during her unsuccessful campaign for the U.S. Senate in 2010. She said at the time that she mistakenly thought her degree was in education because she did a semester of student teaching, and that she had written to the governor's office the previous year to correct the error after another newspaper noticed the mistake." (Beth Reinhard, Aaron Schaffer And Laura Meckler, "Trump's Education Pick Once Incorrectly Claimed To Have Education Degree," [The Washington Post](#), 11/20/24)

- **McMahon Resigned From The State Education Board One Day After *The Hartford Courant* Told Her It Intended To Write About The Error, Though McMahon Said The Timing Was Unrelated As She Was Running For Senate At The Time.** "McMahon resigned from the state education board one day after the Courant told her it intended to write about the error, the paper reported, but McMahon said the timing was unrelated. The state education board could not immediately fulfill a request to provide a copy of the questionnaire and other correspondence Wednesday morning, but the Trump transition team did not dispute that the error occurred." (Beth Reinhard, Aaron Schaffer And Laura Meckler, "Trump's Education Pick Once Incorrectly Claimed To Have Education Degree," [The Washington Post](#), 11/20/24)

FACT: McMahon Graduated From East Carolina University, Where She Majored In French And Earned A Teaching Certificate

McMahon Graduated From East Carolina University, Where She Majored In French And Earned A Teaching Certificate. "Linda McMahon was born in New Bern, North Carolina, a small coastal town known as the birthplace of Pepsi. Her parents worked on a local military base, and her connection to the McMahon family began early. At 13, she met Vince McMahon, the man who would become her

husband and business partner. The two married when Linda was 17, and she followed Vince to East Carolina University. At East Carolina, McMahon majored in French and earned a teaching certificate. ECU began as a teacher training college for the rural eastern regions of North Carolina. However, McMahon never pursued a career in teaching. Instead, she worked on several different business ventures with her husband, eventually building a wrestling and entertainment empire and steering her career far from the classroom.” (Christopher R. Marsicano, “Who Is Linda McMahon, President-Elect Trump’s Choice For ED Secretary?” [Forbes](#), 11/21/24)

Despite Claims She Is Not Qualified To Be Education Secretary Because She Does Not Have A Teaching Or Direct Education Background, McMahon Has Championed Education Issues Throughout Her Career

McMahon Has Been Criticized For Having Little Direct Experience With Education

McMahon “Has Spent Little Time In The Education Realm” Other Than Serving On The Connecticut State Board Of Education For One Year And As A Trustee For Sacred Heart University. “McMahon has juggled many hats during her career but has spent little time in the education realm. Her most direct experience was in Connecticut, where she served on the State Board of Education for a year in 2009 before stepping down to run for Senate. When McMahon made it on the board, she was criticized for lack of experience in the area. She also served as a member on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University in 2004, with the school naming a building after her in 2012. She most recently was the board chair of the America First Policy Institute, which touts policies such as eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion offices.” (Lexi Lonas Cochran, “5 things to know about Linda McMahon, Trump’s pick for Education secretary,” [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

- **When McMahon Was Appointed To The State Board Of Education, She Was Criticized For Lack Of Experience In That Area.** “McMahon has juggled many hats during her career but has spent little time in the education realm. Her most direct experience was in Connecticut, where she served on the State Board of Education for a year in 2009 before stepping down to run for Senate. When McMahon made it on the board, she was criticized for lack of experience in the area. She also served as a member on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University in 2004, with the school naming a building after her in 2012. She most recently was the board chair of the America First Policy Institute, which touts policies such as eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion offices.” (Lexi Lonas Cochran, “5 things to know about Linda McMahon, Trump’s pick for Education secretary,” [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

Connecticut State Board

McMahon Served On The Connecticut State Board Of Education In 2009 And Called Education Her Passion

McMahon Served On The Connecticut State Board Of Education For A Year In 2009 Before Stepping Down To Run For Senate. “McMahon has juggled many hats during her career but has spent little time in the education realm. Her most direct experience was in Connecticut, where she served on the State Board of Education for a year in 2009 before stepping down to run for Senate. When McMahon made it on the board, she was criticized for lack of experience in the area. She also served as a member on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University in 2004, with the school

naming a building after her in 2012. She most recently was the board chair of the America First Policy Institute, which touts policies such as eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion offices.” (Lexi Lonas Cochran, “5 things to know about Linda McMahon, Trump’s pick for Education secretary,” [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

At Her 2009 Confirmation Hearing For The Connecticut State Board Of Education, McMahon Said Education Was Her Passion And That Her Work As CEO Of The WWE Taught Her “Firsthand The Skills Connecticut Students Need To Obtain Through Education To Be Successful.” “At the confirmation hearing in 2009, she said education was her passion and that her work as CEO of the WWE taught her ‘firsthand the skills Connecticut students need to obtain through education to be successful.’ She said that youth-oriented programs at WWE -- such as the GET R.E.A.L. Program, which brought WWE stars into schools to teach students messages about ‘Respect, Education, Achievement and Leadership’ -- were examples of her past educational pursuits.” (Kiara Alfonseca And Arthur Jones II, “Linda McMahon’s Background As Trump’s Pick For Education Secretary,” [ABC News](#), 11/20/24)

Sacred Heart University Board Of Trustees

McMahon Has Served On The Sacred Heart University’s Board Of Trustees For Over 20 Years

From January 2004 to February 2017, McMahon Served As Vice Chair And Member Of Sacred Heart University’s Board Of Trustees And Only Left To Serve In President Trump’s Cabinet. “Sacred Heart University has added former Trump cabinet member Linda McMahon and Attorney Thomas Scrivo, chief counsel to former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, to its board of trustees. McMahon previously served as vice chair and member of SHU’s board of trustees from January 2004 to February 2017. The Linda E. McMahon Student Commons is named for her, and the dining hall within is called Linda’s. She left the board to serve on President Donald J. Trump’s cabinet as administrator of the Small Business Administration. Under her leadership, the SBA was reimaged, focusing on rural development and championing women entrepreneurs and veterans. She oversaw natural disaster recovery efforts and helped improve the way the SBA connected small businesses to capital, counseling and government contracts.” (Sacred Heart University, “Two Former Government Officials Join Board Of Trustees,” [Press Release](#), 10/6/21)

- **In 2012, Sacred Heart University Named A Building After McMahon.** “McMahon has juggled many hats during her career but has spent little time in the education realm. Her most direct experience was in Connecticut, where she served on the State Board of Education for a year in 2009 before stepping down to run for Senate. When McMahon made it on the board, she was criticized for lack of experience in the area. She also served as a member on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University in 2004, with the school naming a building after her in 2012. She most recently was the board chair of the America First Policy Institute, which touts policies such as eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion offices.” (Lexi Lonas Cochran, “5 things to know about Linda McMahon, Trump’s pick for Education secretary,” [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

In October 2021, McMahon Was Again Named As A Member Of The Sacred Heart University Board Of Trustees. “Sacred Heart University has added former Trump cabinet member Linda McMahon and Attorney Thomas Scrivo, chief counsel to former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, to its board of trustees. McMahon previously served as vice chair and member of SHU’s board of trustees from January 2004 to February 2017. The Linda E. McMahon Student Commons is named for her, and the dining hall within is called Linda’s. She left the board to serve on President Donald J. Trump’s cabinet as administrator of the Small Business Administration. Under her leadership, the

SBA was reimagined, focusing on rural development and championing women entrepreneurs and veterans. She oversaw natural disaster recovery efforts and helped improve the way the SBA connected small businesses to capital, counseling and government contracts.” (Sacred Heart University, “Two Former Government Officials Join Board Of Trustees,” [Press Release](#), 10/6/21)

In November 2024, Sacred Heart President John J. Petillo Said, “Linda’s Generosity To Sacred Heart Over The Years Has Been Tremendous,” And That They Are Confident Her “Leadership Will Bring Enormous Value To The Education System, Just As It Has To Sacred Heart University.” “Although she studied French and earned a certification to teach during her time at East Carolina University, McMahon spent most of her career in the world of wrestling. Her most notable connection to higher education has been her service to Sacred Heart University, a private Catholic institution in Connecticut, where McMahon has been a trustee since 2004 and currently serves as treasurer. ‘Linda’s generosity to Sacred Heart over the years has been tremendous,’ Sacred Heart president John J. Petillo said in a statement. ‘She cares deeply about our students and understands our mission ... We are confident that Linda’s leadership will bring enormous value to the education system, just as it has to Sacred Heart University.’” (Jessica Blake, “Optimism, Concern Follow Trump’s Decision To Tap Former WWE Exec As Education Secretary,” [Inside Higher Ed](#), 11/21/24)

Educational Philanthropy

McMahon Has Been Involved In Educational Philanthropy, Working With Several Education And Workforce Development Nonprofits

McMahon Spearheaded Several Charitable Programs Related To Literacy And Educational Goal Setting During Her Time At WWE And Has Worked With Several Education And Workforce Development Nonprofits. “McMahon also spearheaded several charitable programs related to literacy and educational goal setting during her time at WWE and has been on the boards for several education and workforce development nonprofits.” (Jessica Blake, “Optimism, Concern Follow Trump’s Decision To Tap Former WWE Exec As Education Secretary,” [Inside Higher Ed](#), 11/21/24)

McMahon Has Supported Various Educational Causes, Including Spearheaded WWE’s Get R.E.A.L. Program, Which Used Wrestling Superstars In Public Service Announcements To Encourage Literacy Among Young Fans. “Although best known for her role in the wrestling industry, Linda McMahon has been involved in several educational initiatives. After founding Titan Sports, Inc.— which soon became the parent company of what would become the WWE—McMahon grew the business through a focus on merchandising. The WWE’s success allowed the McMahons to support various educational causes: Linda McMahon spearheaded WWE’s Get R.E.A.L. program, which used wrestling superstars in public service announcements to encourage literacy among young fans. The McMahons donated generously to East Carolina University, Fishburne Military School, and Sacred Heart University, where Linda eventually served on the Board of Trustees.” (Christopher R. Marsicano, “Who Is Linda McMahon, President-Elect Trump’s Choice For ED Secretary?” [Forbes](#), 11/21/24)

- **The GET R.E.A.L. Program Brought WWE Stars Into Schools To Teach Students Messages About “Respect, Education, Achievement And Leadership.”** “At the confirmation hearing in 2009, she said education was her passion and that her work as CEO of the WWE taught her ‘firsthand the skills Connecticut students need to obtain through education to be successful.’ She said that youth-oriented programs at WWE -- such as the GET R.E.A.L. Program, which brought WWE stars into schools to teach students messages about ‘Respect, Education, Achievement and

Leadership' -- were examples of her past educational pursuits." (Kiara Alfonseca And Arthur Jones II, "Linda McMahon's Background As Trump's Pick For Education Secretary," [ABC News](#), 11/20/24)

Forbes: "The McMahons Donated Generously To East Carolina University, Fishburne Military School, And Sacred Heart University, Where Linda Eventually Served On The Board Of Trustees."

(Christopher R. Marsicano, "Who Is Linda McMahon, President-Elect Trump's Choice For ED Secretary?" [Forbes](#), 11/21/24)

McMahon Served On The Governor's Council For The World Special Olympics And The Connecticut Board Of Education. "McMahon served in two state-wide board roles in Connecticut - the Governor's Council for the World Special Olympics and the Connecticut Board of Education, the latter of which was met with controversy due to her lack of direct experience in the field." (Christopher R. Marsicano, "Who Is Linda McMahon, President-Elect Trump's Choice For ED Secretary?" [Forbes](#), 11/21/24)

America First Policy Institute

McMahon Serves As Board Chair Of The America First Policy Institute, Which Promoted Education Policy Initiatives

McMahon Serves As Board Chair Of The America First Policy Institute, Which Touts Policies Such As School Choice And Eliminating DEI Offices. "McMahon has juggled many hats during her career but has spent little time in the education realm. Her most direct experience was in Connecticut, where she served on the State Board of Education for a year in 2009 before stepping down to run for Senate. When McMahon made it on the board, she was criticized for lack of experience in the area. She also served as a member on the board of trustees for Sacred Heart University in 2004, with the school naming a building after her in 2012. She most recently was the board chair of the America First Policy Institute, which touts policies such as eliminating diversity, equity and inclusion offices." (Lexi Lonas Cochran, "5 things to know about Linda McMahon, Trump's pick for Education secretary," [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

McMahon's Successful Business Career And Experience As SBA Administrator Gives Her The Experience To Run An \$80 Billion Department & Cut Through Bureaucracy

McMahon's Successful Business Career Has Given Her The Experience To Lead A Department With A Roughly \$80 Billion Budget

McMahon's Experience Running A Multibillion-Dollar Business Enterprise Will Be An Asset In Steering The Department Of Education, Which Has Roughly A \$80 Billion Budget, As Well As Cutting Through Government Bureaucracy. "Linda McMahon's rise to the nation's top education job is set to come as the political stars align for some of the incoming president's more ambitious education policy proposals: cuts to the federal education budget if not the elimination of the U.S. Department of Education, and a dramatic expansion of private school choice. That backdrop has advocates for low-income students and teachers concerned about her lack of experience in education. At the same time, supporters of McMahon point to her background running a multibillion-dollar business enterprise as an asset in steering a giant federal bureaucracy with a roughly \$80 billion budget." (Brooke Schultz, "The K-12 World Reacts To Linda McMahon, Trump's Choice For Education Secretary," [Education Week](#), 11/20/24)

Former Education Secretary Margaret Spellings, Who Served Under President George W. Bush, Said McMahon's Nomination "Makes A Lot Of Sense", Noting That The Department Of Education Is "Not A School, ... The Department Is Essentially A Big Bank. It's A Management Job." "But others say that McMahon's business background will be an asset to the agency. To former education secretary Margaret Spellings, who served under President George W. Bush, McMahon's selection 'makes a lot of sense.' 'When people say, "Well she's not a teacher," I say, "The department is not a school,"' Spellings told Inside Higher Ed. 'The department is essentially a big bank. It's a management job.'" (Jessica Blake, "Optimism, Concern Follow Trump's Decision To Tap Former WWE Exec As Education Secretary," [Inside Higher Ed](#), 11/21/24)

Direct Education Experience Has Not Set Up Past Secretary's For Success

Joe Biden's Education Secretary, Miguel Cardona, Had Extensive Experience In The Education Field, But It Did Not Translated To Success; He Has Had Several Failures While Running The Department, Such As Their Attempt At Free Application For Student Federal Aid. "And critics of current Education Secretary Miguel Cardona say his extensive experience in the field has not translated to success. Cardona's Free Application for Student Federal Aid 'mess-up literally harmed thousands of low-income families, right?' said Robert Enlow, president of EdChoice. 'And he had a huge education pedigree, so I kind of think that she might be the right person for the job, given what's needed at the Department of Education.'" (Lexi Lonas Cochran, "With McMahon, Trump Shrugs Off Lack Of School Experience For Education Nod," [The Hill](#), 11/21/24)

April 2022 Politico Headline: "If You Can't Name Biden's Education Secretary, You Probably Aren't Alone." ([Politico](#), 4/2/22)

WWE LAWSUIT

McMahon Is Named In A Sexual Abuse Lawsuit For Failing To Prevent WWE Employees From Victimizing Children Who Helped Set Up Wrestling Rings In The 80s and 90s

In October 2024, McMahon Was Named As A Defendant In A Lawsuit Related To Sexual Abuse Of Young Boys By A WWE Ringside Announcer. "In October, McMahon was named as a defendant in a lawsuit related to sexual abuse of young boys by a WWE ringside announcer. The lawsuit said the company allowed 'open, rampant abuse' of young boys by announcer Melvin Phillips Jr. in the 1980s and 1990s. It alleges Phillips told the young boys they would get to meet wrestling stars and lured them at venues and hotels rooms, NBC News reported." (Lexi Lonas Cochran, "5 Things To Know About Linda McMahon, Trump's Pick For Education Secretary," [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)

- **The Lawsuit Alleges The Company Allowed "Open, Rampant Abuse" Of Young Boys By Announcer Melvin Phillips Jr. In The 1980s And 1990s.** "In October, McMahon was named as a defendant in a lawsuit related to sexual abuse of young boys by a WWE ringside announcer. The lawsuit said the company allowed 'open, rampant abuse' of young boys by announcer Melvin Phillips Jr. in the 1980s and 1990s. It alleges Phillips told the young boys they would get to meet wrestling stars and lured them at venues and hotels rooms, NBC News reported." (Lexi Lonas Cochran, "5 Things To Know About Linda McMahon, Trump's Pick For Education Secretary," [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)
- **The Lawsuit Claims That The Five Boys Were Sexually Abused By The Organization's Ringside Announcer And Ring Crew Chief, Melvin Phillips Jr., Who Died In 2012.** "The lawsuit claims

that the five boys were sexually abused by the organization's ringside announcer and ring crew chief, Melvin Phillips Jr., who died in 2012. It was filed in Maryland against Mr. McMahon, Ms. McMahon, W.W.E. and TKO Group Holdings. The suit accuses the McMahons and the other defendants of criminal negligence by allowing Mr. Phillips to remain at the company for years. The plaintiffs are not named." (Sharon Otterman And Zach Montague, "Trump's Education Secretary Pick Named In Sexual Abuse Lawsuit," [The New York Times](#), 11/21/24)

- **The Lawsuit Claims McMahon And Her Husband Knew For A Long Time Of The "Peculiar And Unnatural Interest" The Announcer Had In Young Boys.** "The lawsuit says McMahon and her husband knew for a long time of the 'peculiar and unnatural interest' the announcer had in young boys. McMahon did fire Phillips for a few weeks before allegedly allowing him back on the condition he stayed away from the boys, but the suit alleges she knew he did not, according to NBC. Vince McMahon has also faced his own allegations of sexual abuse and harassment." (Lexi Lonas Cochran, "5 Things To Know About Linda McMahon, Trump's Pick For Education Secretary," [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)
- **According To The Complaint, In 1988 The McMahons Fired Mr. Phillips After A Slew Of Allegations About Him Came To Light, But Then Rehired Him Weeks Later And Protected Him Legally, Including By Filing A Defamation Suit In 1992 Against A New York Post Columnist Who Wrote About The Abuse Allegations When Two Ring Boys Went Public With Their Stories.** "The suit says the McMahons were aware of credible abuse accusations against Mr. Phillips and other employees, and tolerated them anyway. It does not accuse Ms. McMahon of sexual misconduct. According to the complaint, in 1988 the McMahons fired Mr. Phillips after a slew of allegations about him came to light. But it says the McMahons rehired the announcer six weeks later and protected him legally, including by filing a defamation suit in 1992 against a New York Post columnist who wrote about the abuse allegations when two ring boys went public with their stories." (Sharon Otterman And Zach Montague, "Trump's Education Secretary Pick Named In Sexual Abuse Lawsuit," [The New York Times](#), 11/21/24)

McMahon's Lawyer Dismissed The Claims As Baseless, Saying The Lawsuit "Is Filled With Scurrilous Lies, Exaggerations And Misrepresentations Regarding Linda McMahon." "In a statement to CNN, Ms. McMahon's lawyer, Laura Brevetti, dismissed the claims as baseless, saying the lawsuit 'is filled with scurrilous lies, exaggerations and misrepresentations regarding Linda McMahon.'" (Katie Selig, "Judge Pauses Sexual Abuse Lawsuit Against Trump's Education Secretary Pick," [The New York Times](#), 12/8/24)

The New York Times: "Allegations That Underage Boys Were Abused By Employees Have Dogged The Organization For Decades." "Allegations that underage boys were abused by employees have dogged the organization for decades. The recent lawsuit was filed in October by five former 'ring boys' who ran errands and helped set up before matches for W.W.E. in the 1980s." (Sharon Otterman And Zach Montague, "Trump's Education Secretary Pick Named In Sexual Abuse Lawsuit," [The New York Times](#), 11/21/24)

- **The Lawsuit Cites A Raft Of Other Complaints Of Sexual Harassment And Abuse Around W.W.E. Over The Years.** "The lawsuit cites a raft of other complaints of sexual harassment and abuse around W.W.E. over the years. Among them are hush money payments of more than \$12 million that Mr. McMahon was accused of making to four women to suppress allegations of sexual misconduct against him. Mr. McMahon has denied those allegations." (Sharon Otterman And Zach Montague, "Trump's Education Secretary Pick Named In Sexual Abuse Lawsuit," [The New York Times](#), 11/21/24)

- **Vince McMahon Has Also Faced His Own Allegations Of Sexual Abuse And Harassment.** “The lawsuit says McMahon and her husband knew for a long time of the ‘peculiar and unnatural interest’ the announcer had in young boys. McMahon did fire Phillips for a few weeks before allegedly allowing him back on the condition he stayed away from the boys, but the suit alleges she knew he did not, according to NBC. Vince McMahon has also faced his own allegations of sexual abuse and harassment.” (Lexi Lonas Cochran, “5 Things To Know About Linda McMahon, Trump’s Pick For Education Secretary,” [The Hill](#), 11/19/24)
- **NOTE: The Lawsuit Can Be Found [HERE](#).**

In November 2024, A Federal Judge Paused The Lawsuit

In November 2024, A Federal Judge In Maryland Has Paused The Lawsuit Involving Linda McMahon While Another Court Weighs A Recent State Law Involving Such Cases. “A federal judge in Maryland has paused a lawsuit against Linda McMahon, the former World Wrestling Entertainment executive whom President-elect Trump chose for education secretary, while another court weighs a recent state law involving such cases. The lawsuit claims that Ms. McMahon and her husband, Vince McMahon — who together led W.W.E. starting in the early 1980s — had failed to act on credible allegations that an employee of the organization had sexually abused ‘ring boys,’ who ran errands and assisted with various tasks before wrestling matches. The McMahons have firmly denied the allegations.” (Katie Selig, “Judge Pauses Sexual Abuse Lawsuit Against Trump’s Education Secretary Pick,” [The New York Times](#), 12/8/24)

- **The U.S. District Court Judge Granted The Defendants’ Request To Stay The Case Until The Maryland Supreme Court Rules On The Constitutionality Of A State Law Enacted In 2023.** “Judge James K. Bredar of the U.S. District Court in Maryland granted on Tuesday the defendants’ request to stay the case until the Maryland Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of a state law enacted in 2023. That measure erased the statute of limitations for certain civil lawsuits related to child sexual abuse, allowing for more plaintiffs to file such cases. The judge said that the stay was warranted because the state Supreme Court’s decision could determine the outcome of this lawsuit.” (Katie Selig, “Judge Pauses Sexual Abuse Lawsuit Against Trump’s Education Secretary Pick,” [The New York Times](#), 12/8/24)

The Accusations In The WWE Lawsuit Have Prompted Concern About Whether McMahon Would Enforce Laws Like Title IX As Education Secretary

The Accusations In The W.W.E. Lawsuit Have Prompted Concern About Whether McMahon Would Be Equipped As Education Secretary To Enforce Laws Like Title IX, The Federal Law That Protects Students From Sex Discrimination And Harassment. “The accusations in the W.W.E. lawsuit have prompted more concern about whether she would be equipped as education secretary to enforce laws like Title IX, the federal law that protects students from sex discrimination and harassment. ‘Education is about providing opportunity and protecting children,’ said Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers. ‘Regardless of this case’s legal status, the secretary-designee will have to address these serious allegations in her confirmation hearings.’” (Katie Selig, “Judge Pauses Sexual Abuse Lawsuit Against Trump’s Education Secretary Pick,” [The New York Times](#), 12/8/24)

COMMENTS ON KEY ISSUES

AMERICA FIRST POLICY INSTITUTE

McMahon Serves As Chair Of The Board Of The America First Policy Institute, Which Has Been Extremely Active In Working To Change K-12 And Higher Education Policy

Overview Of America First Policy Institute's (AFPI) Education Policy Positions

AFPI's Education Policy Recommendations Include:

- Increasing access to school choice programs including private school vouchers.
- Reducing federal influence, giving more autonomy to local school districts.
- Reducing the influence of teachers' unions in state policy decisions.
- Supporting parental rights, making parents the primary decision-makers regarding their children's education.
- Cutting federal education funding and redirecting resources toward school choice.
- Mandating a "patriotic" curriculum focused on Western Civilization.
- Expanding Career and Technical Education programs.
- Opposing student loan forgiveness initiatives.
- Forbidding transgender athletes in women's sports.
- Introducing universal licensing recognition to improve workforce mobility. (America First vs America Last: K-12 Education Reforms, [AFPI](#), 10/2/24; "K-12 Quick Resources," [AFPI](#), Accessed 12/18/24)

Parental Control

One Of America First Policy Institute's Main Agenda Items Is Giving Parents More Control Over Education

One Of America First Policy Institute's Main Agenda Pillars Is To "Give Parents More Control Over The Education Of Their Children." "The American Founders worked to establish our system of public education for a singular end: to prepare Americans for the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Today, we have a responsibility to empower families with quality education options that nurture our communities and strengthen our Nation. We also have a responsibility to educate our next generation about the ideals and values that make our country great. America's Founding Fathers recognized that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights." Sadly, liberal academics and demagogues are challenging this self-evident proposition by embracing identity politics, division, and submission. Instead of dividing our country by teaching an alternative

version of our country's story, our Nation's schools should affirm and celebrate America." ("Pillar IV: Give Parents More Control Over the Education Of Their Children, America," [America First Agenda](#), Accessed 12/18/24)

AFPI Is Fighting For The Advancement Of Educational Opportunity For All American Families By Putting Parents And Students – Not Bureaucrats, Unions, Or Politicians – In Charge Of Educating The Next Generation. "To accomplish these goals, we must fight for the advancement of educational opportunity for all American families. This means putting parents and students – not bureaucrats, unions, or politicians – in charge of educating our Nation's next generation. We also must challenge progressive policies by standing against curriculum that includes patently dishonest and activist-driven information about the U.S. and our founding." ("Pillar IV: Give Parents More Control Over the Education Of Their Children, America," [America First Agenda](#), Accessed 12/18/24)

AFPI Supports Sharing Curriculum Materials With Parents And Encouraging Schools To Teach Basic Skills That Prepare Students For Life As Adults. "Additionally, we must give every parent the right to see all curriculum materials, and encourage schools to teach basic skills that prepare students for life as adults. By focusing on these areas, we can help restore our public education system so it provides more choice, prepares students for lives as productive citizens, and instills our next generation with a full understanding of America's values and heritage." ("Pillar IV: Give Parents More Control Over the Education Of Their Children, America," [America First Agenda](#), Accessed 12/18/24)

Gender Ideology

The America First Policy Institute Has Been A Leading Voice In The Discussion Around General Ideology In Schools

America First Policy Institute Has Criticized K–12 Public Schools For Increasingly Affirming Children's Social Transition Without Parental Notification Or Consent, Including Allowing Natural Male Students To Complete In Female Athletics And To Access Intimate Facilities Once Reserved For Girls, "Raising Serious Fairness And Safety Concerns." "Rates of gender dysphoria among young people have exploded throughout the North Atlantic world in recent years, leading thousands of minors to seek experimental medical treatment with irreversible consequences. Several regulatory actions taken by the Biden Administrations will further aggravate these problems, including a radical rewrite of Title IX rules. K–12 public schools are increasingly affirming children's social transition without parental notification or consent—putting them on the fast track to medical intervention. Schools are also allowing natal male students to complete in female athletics and to access intimate facilities once reserved for girls, raising serious fairness and safety concerns." ("Radical Gender Ideology is Transforming American Society, and AFPI is Fighting Back," [America First Policy Institute](#), 3/7/23)

- **The America First Policy Institute's Policy Center Touts "Leading The Fight Against Radical Gender Ideology" In Order To "To Protect Children From Unnecessary Medical Interventions, Parental Rights In Education, Women's Sports, Religious Liberty, And Student Due Process And Free Speech Rights At U.S. Colleges And Universities."** "The America First Policy Institute's policy centers are leading the fight against radical gender ideology: to protect children from unnecessary medical interventions, parental rights in education, women's sports, religious liberty, and student due process and free speech rights at U.S. colleges and universities." ("Radical Gender Ideology is Transforming American Society, and AFPI is Fighting Back," [America First Policy Institute](#), 3/7/23)

AFPI Created The America First Athlete Coalition

In September 2024, Riley Gaines Joined America First's Athletes Coalition As Vice Chair To Help Fight For Fairness In Women's Sports. "Today, the America First Policy Institute (AFPI) announced former Division 1 Competitive Swimmer and 12-time NCAA All-American Riley Gaines joins AFPI as the Vice Chair of the Athletes for America coalition. Gaines, a national figure in the fight for fairness in women's sports, has quickly become one of the country's leading advocates for protecting women's spaces. She has helped lead the righteous battle for fairness and opportunity, largely through life-saving work at the state level. By joining AFPI, Gaines will strengthen the Athletes for America coalition, a powerful group of sports leaders dedicated to using their influence to help shape the future of the Nation and work closely with AFPI's state chapters to rapidly expand America First policies at the state level." ("Riley Gaines Joins America First's Athletes Coalition as Vice Chair," [America First Policy Institute](#), 9/26/24)

CRT & DEI

America First Policy Institute Works To Oppose And Dismantle Critical Race Theory (CRT) In State Law As Well As Diversity, Equity, And Inclusion (DEI) Efforts In Higher Education

America First Policy Institute's Center For 1776 Advocates For The Implementation Of Patriotic Education In Our Schools, Including Developing Model Legislation And Policies Focused On Promoting Patriotic Curriculum And Blocking Divisive Concepts Like Critical Race Theory.

"Advocating for and executing the implementation of patriotic education in our schools. Developing model legislation and policies focused on promoting patriotic curriculum and blocking divisive concepts like Critical Race Theory that state legislators can consider implementing. Driving transparency on the curriculum in our schools. Educating parents, school officials, and legislators. Educating America's educators." (Center For 1776, [America First Policy Institute](#), Accessed 12/18/24)

America First Policy Institute Has Called Campus Diversity, Equity, And Inclusion (DEI) Efforts "A Direct Offshoot Of Critical Race Theory." "Campus Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts are a direct offshoot of Critical Race Theory (CRT). DEI officers see their work as an overdue response to structural racism and believe the university should be used to re-engineer American society away from color-blind meritocracy and toward equality of outcomes. DEI efforts infuse virtually every aspect of campus life and create powerful incentives for people who comply and career-threatening penalties for those who do not. Universities are increasingly using ideological litmus tests in faculty hiring and tenure decisions, which will supercharge the politicization of the university." (Center For 1776, [America First Policy Institute](#), Accessed 12/18/24)

- **AFPI Criticizes Universities For Increasingly Using Ideological Litmus Tests In Faculty Hiring And Tenure Decisions, Saying It Will "Supercharge The Politicization Of The University."** "DEI efforts infuse virtually every aspect of campus life and create powerful incentives for people who comply and career-threatening penalties for those who do not. Universities are increasingly using ideological litmus tests in faculty hiring and tenure decisions, which will supercharge the politicization of the university. State leaders can combat the most pernicious effects of DEI by replicating the bold reform initiatives in Florida, Texas, Tennessee, and North Carolina—without violating norms of academic freedom or shared governance." ("Reversing The Woke Takeover Of Higher Education: Strategies To Dismantle Campus DEI," [America First Policy Institute](#), 8/25/23)

SCHOOL CHOICE & PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

McMahon Strongly Supports School Choice

In His Nomination Announcement, Trump Said McMahon Would "Fight Tirelessly To Expand 'Choice' To Every State In America, And Empower Parents To Make The Best Education Decisions For Their Families"

In His Nomination Announcement, Trump Said As Secretary Of Education, McMahon Would "Fight Tirelessly To Expand 'Choice' To Every State In America, And Empower Parents To Make The Best Education Decisions For Their Families." "It is my great honor to announce that Linda McMahon, former Administrator of the Small Business Administration, will be the United States Secretary of Education. For the past four years, as the Chair of the Board at the America First Policy Institute (AFPI), Linda has been a fierce advocate for Parents' Rights, working hard at both AFPI and America First Works (AFW) to achieve Universal School Choice in 12 States, giving children the opportunity to receive an excellent Education, regardless of zip code or income. As Secretary of Education, Linda will fight tirelessly to expand "Choice" to every State in America, and empower parents to make the best Education decisions for their families. (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 11/20/24)



- November 19, 2024 -

STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

It is my great honor to announce that Linda McMahon, former Administrator of the Small Business Administration, will be the United States Secretary of Education.

For the past four years, as the Chair of the Board at the America First Policy Institute (AFPI), Linda has been a fierce advocate for Parents' Rights, working hard at both AFPI and America First Works (AFW) to achieve Universal School Choice in 12 States, giving children the opportunity to receive an excellent Education, regardless of zip code or income. As Secretary of Education, Linda will fight tirelessly to expand "Choice" to every State in America, and empower parents to make the best Education decisions for their families.

Linda served for two years on the Connecticut Board of Education, where she was one of fifteen members overseeing all Public Education in the State, including its Technical High School system. She also served as a Member of the Board of Trustees at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut, for two stints totaling over 16 years. She is now doing an incredible job as Co-Chair of our Trump-Vance Transition Team. Linda will use her decades of Leadership experience, and deep understanding of both Education and Business, to empower the next Generation of American Students and Workers, and make America Number One in Education in the World. We will send Education BACK TO THE STATES, and Linda will spearhead that effort.

McMahon Supports School Choice And Charter Schools

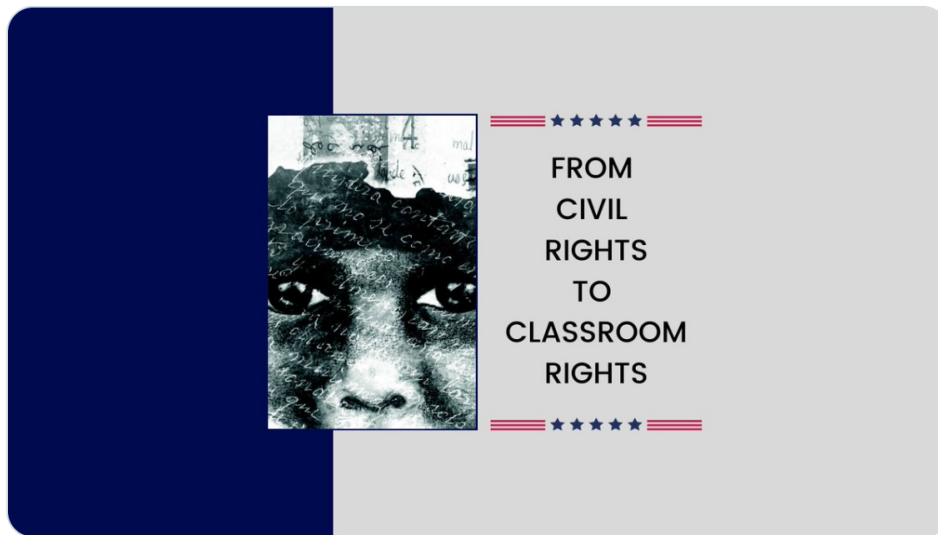
In October 2023, McMahon Called School Choice Is "A Mechanism To Escape Failing Public Schools," Saying It Will "Level The Playing Field By Breaking Down Barriers Of Economic Disadvantage And Offering Parents Control Over Their Children's Education." "SCHOOL CHOICE is a mechanism to escape failing public schools. 'School Choice' will level the playing field by breaking down barriers of Economic Disadvantage and offering parents CONTROL over their children's education." (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 10/17/23)



Linda McMahon  
@Linda_McMahon



SCHOOL CHOICE is a mechanism to escape failing public schools.
"School Choice" will level the playing field by breaking down barriers of Economic Disadvantage and offering parents CONTROL over their children's education. [@a1policy](#) [@america1stworks](#) [@BrookeLRollins](#)



7:45 AM · Oct 17, 2023 · 1,979 Views

In September 2020, McMahon Said "School Choice Means Access To Quality Education For All Children." (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 9/8/20)



Linda McMahon ✓
@Linda_McMahon



Today is Literacy Day - 13 million children live in poverty - School Choice means access to quality education for all children 🇺🇸 @betsydevosed @potus @realdonaldtrump @AmericaFirstPAC

Celebrating Literacy



2:16 PM · Sep 8, 2020

In 2014, McMahon Praised A Speech By Campbell Brown, And Said "Excellence Of Charter Schools Should Be In Every Public School." (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 4/28/23)



Linda McMahon ✓
@Linda_McMahon



Great speech from @campbell_brown: Excellence of charter schools should be in every public school. @SuccessCharters



9:04 PM · Apr 28, 2014

AFPI Advocates For School Choice

AFPI, Chaired By McMahon, Advocates For School Choice

Beginning In 2021, The Year McMahon Became Chair Of The Board, AFPI And America First Works (AFW), The Advocacy Organization Of AFPI, Were Intimately Involved In Laying The Foundation To Expand School Choice In The States. "Beginning in 2021, AFPI and America First Works (AFW), the advocacy organization of AFPI, were intimately involved in laying the foundation to expand school choice in the states. In January 2022, AFPI hosted a School Choice Speaker Series event in Washington, D.C., to celebrate National School Choice Week. Scott Turner, chair of the Center for Education Opportunity at AFPI, was joined by Kellyanne Conway, chair of the Center for the American Child at AFPI, and Brooke Rollins, president and Chief Executive Officer of AFPI. Together, they discussed the importance of expanding school choice and empowering parents. More than 100 school choice advocates attended the event, and more than 20 media outlets covered the discussion." (AFPI, "The Unprecedented Rise In School Choice: A New Era In American Education," [Research Report](#), 8/7/4)

- **Since 2021, The Center For Education Opportunity At AFPI Has Produced More Than 20 Research Reports,16 State-Specific Fact Sheets, And School Choice Model Legislation Distributed By AFW, All While Supporting The Passage Of Universal School Choice In 12 States.** "Since then, the CEO has produced more than 20 research reports,16 state-specific fact sheets, and school choice model legislation distributed by AFW, all while supporting the passage of universal school choice in 12 states." (AFPI, "The Unprecedented Rise In School Choice: A New Era In American Education," [Research Report](#), 8/7/4)

Access To Quality Education

McMahon Said She Is Committed To Ensuring Every Student Has Access To A Quality Education

After Accepting The Nomination, McMahon Said In A Social Media Post That She Is Committed To Ensuring Every Student Has Access To A Quality Education. "Thank you Mr. President for your trust in me to serve as Secretary of Education and I am hopeful of Senate confirmation. I am deeply honored and humbled for this opportunity and I am committed to working tirelessly to ensure every student has access to a quality education. I've witnessed the transformative power of education, both in the classroom and also in apprenticeship programs. All students should be equipped with the necessary skills to prepare them for a successful future. I look forward to working collaboratively with students - educators - parents and communities to strengthen our educational system; ensuring every child regardless of their demographics is prepared for a bright future. Thank you for this extraordinary opportunity. I am ready to Serve!" (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 11/20/24)



Thank you Mr. President for your trust in me to serve as Secretary of Education and I am hopeful of Senate confirmation. I am deeply honored and humbled for this opportunity and I am committed to working tirelessly to ensure every student has access to a quality education.

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Thank you for this extraordinary opportunity. I am ready to Serve!

Linda McMahon



- November 19, 2024 -

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America First Policy Institute and America First Works

5:41 PM · Nov 20, 2024 · 1M Views

Parental Involvement

McMahon Supports Parental Involvement Over Government Control When It Comes To Education Decisions

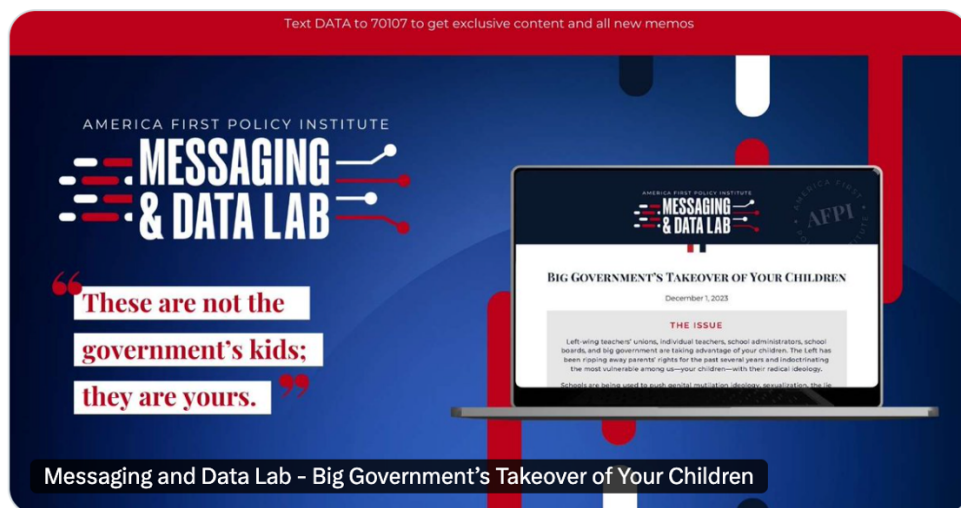
In December 2023, McMahon Said At America First Policy They Believe “No Parent In America Needs Permission From The Government Or A School To Raise Their Child.” (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 12/15/23)



Linda McMahon
@Linda_McMahon

...

#FridayFact – @a1policy we believe No Parent in America needs permission from the government or a school to raise their child.
@JHoganGidley @marc_jotter
#education



From americafirstpolicy.com

8:11 AM · Dec 15, 2023 · 1,002 Views

PELL GRANTS

McMahon Supports Expanding Pell Grants For Short-Term Certification Programs

In September 2024, McMahon Wrote An Op-Ed About The Need To Focus On Workforce Development And Called For Opening Up Federal Pell Grants To Students Enrolled In Short-Term Certification Programs

In A September 2024 Op-Ed In *The Hill*, McMahon Said We Had “A Critical Opportunity To Make A Transformative Investment In Our Nation’s Greatest Asset, The American Worker, By Funding The Skills Training And Technical Education Most Laborers Rely On. “Congress has a critical opportunity to make a transformative investment in our nation’s greatest asset: the American worker. While we are blessed to have rich natural resources — plentiful oil and natural gas, rare minerals, waterways like the Great Lakes and Mississippi River, and sprawling forests and extensive coastlines

— none yield a greater return on investment than the men and women who build our country's future every day. America's skilled workforce is unparalleled worldwide in technology, health care, trades and manufacturing. Our productivity per hour is consistently among the highest on Earth. That's why the best path to a booming economy is to swell the ranks of our skilled workforce through education and training for more Americans." (Linda McMahon, Opinion, "Workforce Pell Grants Will Create High-Paying Jobs For More Americans," [The Hill](#), 9/11/24)

McMahon Expressed Support For The Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act, Which Proposes To Extend Pell Grant Eligibility To Broaden The Scope Of Educational Opportunities For Millions Of Americans. "Congress should recognize the effort and commitment of American workers by funding the skills training and technical education most laborers rely on. The Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act, sponsored by Reps. Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.), Bobby Scott (D-Va.), Virginia Foxx (R-N.C.), and Mark DeSaulnier (D-Calif.), aims to do just that. This legislation proposes to extend Pell Grant eligibility to broaden the scope of educational opportunities for millions of Americans, as Congress intended when they created these grants in 1972." (Linda McMahon, Opinion, "Workforce Pell Grants Will Create High-Paying Jobs For More Americans," [The Hill](#), 9/11/24)

McMahon Said Many Degree Programs Have Lost Sight Of Their Mission And "Their One-Size-Fits-All Solution To Workforce Development Has Become Outdated," Saying, "Our Educational System Must Offer Clear And Viable Pathways To The American Dream Aside From Four-Year Degrees." "Half a century ago, it was commonly understood that funding a college degree for low-income students was the best way to upskill America's workforce. Colleges were focused on preparing students for professional roles at the highest levels of government, science, business and the arts. Today, however, many degree programs have lost sight of their mission. And their one-size-fits-all solution to workforce development has become outdated. Our educational system must offer clear and viable pathways to the American Dream aside from four-year degrees." (Linda McMahon, Opinion, "Workforce Pell Grants Will Create High-Paying Jobs For More Americans," [The Hill](#), 9/11/24)

McMahon Expressed Support For Opening Up Pell Grants To Programs That Are Less Than 15 Weeks In Length, Saying The Current Law "Excludes Many High-Quality, Shorter-Term, Industry-Aligned Education Programs That Could Lead To Immediate Employment In Well-Paying Jobs." "Unfortunately, stipulations baked into the original Basic Educational Opportunity Grant program that established the Pell Grant prevent many of today's excellent worker education programs from qualifying. For example, the original Pell Grant program restricts eligibility to programs that are at least 600 'clock hours,' or 15 weeks, in length. In practice, about 90 percent of Pell Grants are used by students enrolled at traditional two- and four-year campuses. This excludes many high-quality, shorter-term, industry-aligned education programs that could lead to immediate employment in well-paying jobs." (Linda McMahon, Opinion, "Workforce Pell Grants Will Create High-Paying Jobs For More Americans," [The Hill](#), 9/11/24)

- **McMahon Wrote That Updating Pell Grant Eligibility To Make Room For Professional Programs Outside Of Colleges "Would Not Create Some Kind Of Funding Free-For-All" And That The Augmented Program Would Still Impose Strict Requirements.** "Updating Pell Grant eligibility to make room for professional programs outside of colleges would not create some kind of funding free-for-all — the augmented program will still impose strict requirements. The proposed legislation requires that these shorter-term programs lead to a recognized postsecondary credential, meet the needs of local or regional employers and be aligned with

career pathways.” (Linda McMahon, Opinion, “Workforce Pell Grants Will Create High-Paying Jobs For More Americans,” [The Hill](#), 9/11/24)

- **McMahon Said The Legislation Would “Ensure That The Benefits Of Education And Training Are Accessible To All Skilled Workers, No Matter Their Chosen Career.”** “Workforce Pell is a bipartisan initiative because Americans on both sides of the aisle are ready to stop restricting Pell Grants to college degree programs. By expanding eligibility to include high-quality, short-term workforce training programs, this legislation can help more Americans access the education they need to succeed in today’s economy. It is an investment in our greatest resource — the American worker — and a significant enhancement of our national productivity. This legislation will ensure that the benefits of education and training are accessible to all skilled workers, no matter their chosen career.” (Linda McMahon, Opinion, “Workforce Pell Grants Will Create High-Paying Jobs For More Americans,” [The Hill](#), 9/11/24)

GENERAL COMMENTS ON SCHOOLING

In-Person Learning

In October 2020, McMahon Called For Returning To In-Person Learning, Saying “Education Guarantees Moving From Darkness To Light And Our Fate Depends On Children Being In School.” (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 10/5/20)



Linda McMahon  
@Linda_McMahon



[#WorldTeachersDay](#) - our essential workers whose professional efforts hold our future in their hands. Education guarantees moving from darkness to light and our fate depends on children being in school.
[@BetsyDeVosED](#) [@AmericaFirstPAC](#) [@realDonaldTrump](#) [@vp](#)



11:06 AM · Oct 5, 2020

Pledge Of Allegiance

In July 2024, McMahon Said Every Child Should Recite The Pledge Of Allegiance In School Because It “Instills Pride – Respect - Unity And Reminds Us Of Our Country’s Values And History And Should Be Part Of The Daily Schedule.” “Every child should recite the Pledge of Allegiance in school. It instills pride – respect - unity and reminds us of our country’s values and history and should be part of the daily schedule.” (Linda McMahon, [X](#), 6/25/24)

STATE OF SENATE CONFIRMATION _____

2017 SBA CONFIRMATION

In 2017, McMahon Was Overwhelmingly Confirmed As SBA Administrator

On February 14, 2017, McMahon Was Confirmed To Be Administrator Of The Small Business Administration With A Vote Of 81-19. (PN 48, [Roll Call Vote #65](#), Passed 81-19, 2/14/17)

Senator	Vote For McMahon
Alexander (R-TN)	Yea
Barrasso (R-WY)	Yea
Bennet (D-CO)	Yea
Blumenthal (D-CT)	Yea
Blunt (R-MO)	Yea
Boozman (R-AR)	Yea
Burr (R-NC)	Yea
Cantwell (D-WA)	Yea
Capito (R-WV)	Yea
Cardin (D-MD)	Yea
Carper (D-DE)	Yea
Casey (D-PA)	Yea
Cassidy (R-LA)	Yea
Cochran (R-MS)	Yea
Collins (R-ME)	Yea
Coons (D-DE)	Yea
Corker (R-TN)	Yea
Cornyn (R-TX)	Yea
Cortez Masto (D-NV)	Yea
Cotton (R-AR)	Yea
Crapo (R-ID)	Yea
Cruz (R-TX)	Yea
Daines (R-MT)	Yea
Donnelly (D-IN)	Yea
Duckworth (D-IL)	Yea
Enzi (R-WY)	Yea
Ernst (R-IA)	Yea
Feinstein (D-CA)	Yea
Fischer (R-NE)	Yea
Flake (R-AZ)	Yea
Franken (D-MN)	Yea
Gardner (R-CO)	Yea
Graham (R-SC)	Yea

Grassley (R-IA)	Yea
Hassan (D-NH)	Yea
Hatch (R-UT)	Yea
Heitkamp (D-ND)	Yea
Heller (R-NV)	Yea
Hirono (D-HI)	Yea
Hoeven (R-ND)	Yea
Inhofe (R-OK)	Yea
Isakson (R-GA)	Yea
Johnson (R-WI)	Yea
Kaine (D-VA)	Yea
Kennedy (R-LA)	Yea
King (I-ME)	Yea
Klobuchar (D-MN)	Yea
Lankford (R-OK)	Yea
Leahy (D-VT)	Yea
Lee (R-UT)	Yea
Manchin (D-WV)	Yea
McCain (R-AZ)	Yea
McCaskill (D-MO)	Yea
McConnell (R-KY)	Yea
Menendez (D-NJ)	Yea
Moran (R-KS)	Yea
Murkowski (R-AK)	Yea
Murphy (D-CT)	Yea
Nelson (D-FL)	Yea
Paul (R-KY)	Yea
Perdue (R-GA)	Yea
Peters (D-MI)	Yea
Portman (R-OH)	Yea
Risch (R-ID)	Yea
Roberts (R-KS)	Yea
Rounds (R-SD)	Yea
Rubio (R-FL)	Yea
Sasse (R-NE)	Yea
Scott (R-SC)	Yea
Shaheen (D-NH)	Yea
Shelby (R-AL)	Yea
Stabenow (D-MI)	Yea
Strange (R-AL)	Yea
Sullivan (R-AK)	Yea
Tester (D-MT)	Yea
Thune (R-SD)	Yea

Tillis (R-NC)	Yea
Toomey (R-PA)	Yea
Warner (D-VA)	Yea
Wicker (R-MS)	Yea
Young (R-IN)	Yea
Baldwin (D-WI)	Nay
Booker (D-NJ)	Nay
Brown (D-OH)	Nay
Durbin (D-IL)	Nay
Gillibrand (D-NY)	Nay
Harris (D-CA)	Nay
Heinrich (D-NM)	Nay
Markey (D-MA)	Nay
Merkley (D-OR)	Nay
Murray (D-WA)	Nay
Reed (D-RI)	Nay
Sanders (I-VT)	Nay
Schatz (D-HI)	Nay
Schumer (D-NY)	Nay
Udall (D-NM)	Nay
Van Hollen (D-MD)	Nay
Warren (D-MA)	Nay
Whitehouse (D-RI)	Nay
Wyden (D-OR)	Nay

REPUBLICAN SUPPORT

Confirmed Senate Support For McMahon As Of December 2024

Sen. Roger Marshall (R-KS)

On December 9, 2024, Senator Roger Marshall (R-KS) Met With McMahon And Said She Will Be A “Will Be A Phenomenal Secretary Of Education.” “U.S. Senator Roger Marshall, M.D. issued the following statement on his meeting with President Donald Trump’s nominee to serve as the Department of Education Secretary, Linda McMahon. ‘Linda McMahon will be a phenomenal Secretary of Education. She will prioritize outcomes for our students and empower parents across America. Her leadership will mark a significant step toward returning control of education to the states as President Trump has called for. We have much to do to undo the damage caused over these last few years, and McMahon is the leader for the job.’” (Sen. Roger Marshall, “Senator Marshall Meets With The Department Of Education Secretary Nominee, Linda McMahon,” [Press Release](#), 12/9/24)

- **Marshall Said McMahon’s Leadership “Will Mark A Significant Step Toward Returning Control Of Education To The States.”** “U.S. Senator Roger Marshall, M.D. issued the following statement on his meeting with President Donald Trump’s nominee to serve as the Department of

Education Secretary, Linda McMahon. ‘Linda McMahon will be a phenomenal Secretary of Education. She will prioritize outcomes for our students and empower parents across America. Her leadership will mark a significant step toward returning control of education to the states as President Trump has called for. We have much to do to undo the damage caused over these last few years, and McMahon is the leader for the job.’” (Sen. Roger Marshall, “Senator Marshall Meets With The Department Of Education Secretary Nominee, Linda McMahon,” [Press Release](#), 12/9/24)

- **Marshall Called McMahon “A Steadfast Advocate For Parents’ Rights” And “A Proven Business Leader,” Saying She Has His “Full Support.”** “Linda is a steadfast advocate for parents’ rights, a proven business leader, and successfully led the Small Business Administration to new heights during President Trump’s first administration. I was honored to meet with Linda today- she has my full support.” (Sen. Roger Marshall, “Senator Marshall Meets With The Department Of Education Secretary Nominee, Linda McMahon,” [Press Release](#), 12/9/24)

Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-LA)

VIDEO: Sen. Tommy Tuberville, (R-LA) Called McMahon “Well Qualified”, Said He Was “Very Impressed With Her”, Believes “She’ll Do A Great Job” As Education Secretary. TUBERVILLE: “She’s well qualified. As you well know, I spent 35 years in the education business. Our education is in trouble, like everything else. We’re 27th in the world in education. She’s big on homeschool. She’s big on school choice. We need to do something with, obviously, with Title IX—men in women’s sports. We’ve got to get back to educating and teaching math, English, all the things that kids need to do. [...] I’m very impressed with her, I think she’ll do a great job.”” (Senator Tuberville on Linda McMahon, [Fox News](#), 12/12/24)

TUBERVILLE: “I Enjoyed Meeting With Linda McMahon This Afternoon. She Is A Strong Advocate For School Choice, And The Right Person To Clean Out The Bureaucratic Nightmare At The Department Of Education.” (Sen. Tommy Tuberville, “PHOTO RELEASE: Tuberville Meets With President Trump’s Ed Nominee Linda McMahon,” [Press Release](#), 12/10/24)

VIDEO: Tuberville Called McMahon qualified

Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)

Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Ranking Republican Of The Senate HELP Committee, Said That McMahon’s Experience Running The SBA “Can Obviously Help In Running Another Agency.” “Sen. Bill Cassidy, ranking Republican of the Senate HELP committee, said in a statement that McMahon’s experience running the SBA “can obviously help in running another agency.” The Louisiana Republican said he looks forward to meeting with her.” (Shauneen Miranda, “McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats’ Objections To Trump Education Plan,” [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)



Congressman Jim Banks ✓

Yesterday at 10:29 AM · 🌐



Enjoyed meeting with [Linda McMahon](#) today. She will do a great job as our next Secretary for Education 🇺🇸



Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)

Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) Called His Meeting With McMahon “Great”, And Said He Was Looking Forward To Voting For Her. (Rand Paul, [Instagram](#), 12/10/24)



senatorrandpaul ✓ · Follow



senatorrandpaul ✓ Great meeting with Linda McMahon, looking forward to voting for her nomination.

1w



susannakamoncoaching Hello, sir. Before you sit down for your Christmas dinner, could you do everything in your power to see to it that the 1 million children in Gaza have the seize on their food supply lifted? It is un-American and un-Christian to hold the food supply of one million children hostage as collateral for a few hundred. Humanitarian aid in times of war is protected under international law for good reason. Thank you and Merry Christmas.



4,735 likes

December 10



Add a comment...

Post

Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK)

Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK) Was The First To Meet With McMahon And Said She "Will Empower Students, Parents, And Teachers, Bring Education Back To The States, And Help Set Our Kids On The Pathway For Success." "As a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, it was my honor to be the first to visit with Linda McMahon, President Trump's nominee to lead the Department of Education. Linda will empower students, parents, and teachers, bring education back to the states, and help set our kids on the pathway for success."

([Facebook](#), 12/4/24)



HELP Committee

As Of December 2024, McMahon Has Begun To Meet With Members of The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, With Several Members Making Positive Comments About His Nomination

Member	Party	Comments On McMahon
Cassidy, Bill (LA), <i>Incoming Chair</i>	Republican	Said that McMahon's experience running the SBA "can obviously help in running another agency."
Paul, Rand (KY)	Republican	Called his meeting great, and said he was looking forward to voting for her
Collins, Susan M. (ME)	Republican	Met with McMahon in mid-December
Murkowski, Lisa (AK)	Republican	
Braun, Mike (IN)	Republican	
Marshall, Roger (KS)	Republican	Said McMahon will be a phenomenal Secretary of Education and said she has his "full support"
Romney, Mitt (UT)	Republican	NOTE: Retired from Congress and will not serve in 119th Congress
Tuberville, Tommy (AL)	Republican	Called her well qualified and said he was "very impressed with her" and believes she'll do a great job

Mullin, Markwayne (OK)	Republican	First to meet with McMahon and expressed his support for her leadership
Budd, Ted (NC)	Republican	Met with McMahon and expressed support
Sanders, Bernie (VT), 2024 Chairman	Democrat	
Murray, Patty (WA)	Democrat	
Casey, Robert P. (PA)	Democrat	
Baldwin, Tammy (WI)	Democrat	Noncommittal as of December 2024
Murphy, Christopher (CT)	Democrat	
Kaine, Tim (VA)	Democrat	Called her nomination "troubling in some sense" but praised her position on expanding Pell grants
Hassan, Margaret Wood (NH)	Democrat	
Smith, Tina (MN)	Democrat	Noncommittal as of December 2024
Lujan, Ben Ray (NM)	Democrat	Noncommittal as of December 2024
Hickenlooper, John W. (CO)	Democrat	Noncommittal as of December 2024
Markey, Edward J. (MA)	Democrat	

Additional Republican Leadership Support

Speaker Mike Johnson

In November 2024, Speaker Mike Johnson Called McMahon “A Patriot” And Said She Is “Committed To Improving Our Students’ Futures, Maximizing School Choice, And Rooting Out DEI And Bureaucracy From Our Schools” At The Department Of Education. “Linda McMahon is a patriot who served our country faithfully as the Small Business Administrator and is ready to lead the Department of Education. She’s committed to improving our students’ futures, maximizing school choice, and rooting out DEI and bureaucracy from our schools.” (Speaker Mike Johnson, [Facebook](#), 11/20/24)



Speaker Mike Johnson

November 20 at 7:14 AM ·



Linda McMahon is a patriot who served our country faithfully as the Small Business Administrator and is ready to lead the Department of Education. She’s committed to improving our students’ futures, maximizing school choice, and rooting out DEI and bureaucracy from our schools.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee

On November 19, 2024, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee Called McMahon A “Proven Leader Who Has Delivered School Choice For Families Across The Nation.” (Speaker Mike Johnson, [Facebook](#), 11/20/24)



Gov. Bill Lee

November 19 at 10:47 PM · 🌐

...

[Linda McMahon](#) is a proven leader who has delivered school choice for families across the nation.

As Secretary of Education, she'll work with [Donald J. Trump](#) to empower parents with education freedom & send education back to the states so that every child can thrive.



DEMOCRATS

As Of December 2024, McMahon Has Not Received Much Outspoken Criticism Or Opposition

In Initial Interviews In Late-November 2024, Wednesday, Democrats In The U.S. Senate Mostly Did Not Raise The Sorts Of Objections To McMahon That They Did For Other Cabinet Selections. "In interviews Wednesday, Democrats in the U.S. Senate mostly did not raise the sorts of objections to McMahon — the co-chair of Trump's transition team, Small Business Administration head during Trump's first term and former CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment — that they did for other Cabinet selections." (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)

Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA), A Member Of The HELP Committee Called McMahon's Nomination "Troubling In Some Sense," But Complimented An Op-Ed She Wrote For *The Hill* That Expressed Support For Expanding Pell Grant Eligibility To Include Short-Term Workforce Education Programs. "In interviews Wednesday, Democrats in the U.S. Senate mostly did not raise the sorts of objections to McMahon — the co-chair of Trump's transition team, Small Business Administration head during Trump's first term and former CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment — that they did for other Cabinet selections. Sen. Tim Kaine, who sits on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, dubbed Trump's pick 'troubling in some sense.' But the Virginia Democrat complimented an op-ed McMahon wrote for *The Hill* that expressed support for

expanding Pell Grant eligibility to include short-term workforce education programs. 'That's something that I've been long pushing, and so that's something at a nomination hearing that I'm definitely going to talk to her about,' Kaine told States Newsroom." (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)

- **Kaine Said Expanding Pell Grant Eligibility Was Something He Had "Been Long Pushing, And So That's Something At A Nomination Hearing That I'm Definitely Going To Talk To Her About."** "Sen. Tim Kaine, who sits on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, dubbed Trump's pick 'troubling in some sense.' But the Virginia Democrat complimented an op-ed McMahon wrote for The Hill that expressed support for expanding Pell Grant eligibility to include short-term workforce education programs. 'That's something that I've been long pushing, and so that's something at a nomination hearing that I'm definitely going to talk to her about,' Kaine told States Newsroom." (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)

Fellow HELP Committee Democrats Tammy Baldwin Of Wisconsin, John Hickenlooper Of Colorado, Ben Ray Luján Of New Mexico, And Tina Smith Of Minnesota Were Noncommittal About Their Votes On McMahon's Confirmation. "Fellow HELP Committee Democrats Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, John Hickenlooper of Colorado, Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico and Tina Smith of Minnesota were noncommittal about their votes on McMahon's confirmation." (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)

- **"'I Don't Know That Much About Her, But I'll Be Interested To Hear What She Says,'" Hickenlooper Said.** (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)
- **"Baldwin Said She Would Provide The Senate's Advice And Consent Role On The Nominee 'When That Time Comes.'"** (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)
- **"Luján Compared McMahon To Trump's Other Cabinet Picks. 'It's Similar To His Other Picks As Well, Which Are Concerning Many Of My Republican Colleagues, Who Are Going To Be In The Majority.'"** (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)
- **"Smith Said She 'Can't Really Speak To That ... Other Than To Say That His Job Is To Put Forth The Nominees That He Wants To Do This Job.' 'And My Job Is To Thoroughly Vet Them To Make Sure That They Have The Qualifications And That They're Fully Prepared And Ready To Enforce The Laws Of The Country,' She Added."** (Shauneen Miranda, "McMahon Pick Reignites Democrats' Objections To Trump Education Plan," [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), 11/20/24)