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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA #5 ON NATIONAL REPORT CARD FOR PARENTS
New conditions reveal new Top Ten states for families

WASHINGTON, DC — The District of Columbia's Parent Power Index© (PPI) is fifth in the country, as a new ranking of top ten states emerges, according to the latest report card by The Center for Education Reform (CER). The capitol of the nation offers parents a higher proportion of options per capita than most, and lots of access to quality information, along with the ability of parents to directly affect education through their vote for Mayor. The nation's "Top Ten" have policies or programs that afford parents the most opportunities to engage directly in the education of their children. The latest rankings on the Parent Power Index© are a result of changing conditions in states, including grades released for digital learning.

The Parent Power Index© shows that states where parents have options to choose tend to yield [higher growth rates in student achievement](#), and states where systems and policies in place limit choice, parental engagement is hindered.

CER President Jeanne Allen said the Center's Index is much needed and an accurate reflection of the connection between both education reform policy and achievement: "Parents are a child's first teacher. Policymakers and educators nationwide are clamoring for more parental involvement, knowing that involvement positively impacts student learning. But without real power, parent involvement is meaningless. In the top ten states, not only is Parent Power more highly valued, but it is resulting in higher learning gains."

While there is a growing body of data and information available about how states compare to one another, the PPI is the first and only comprehensive evaluation of state education policy that is geared towards parents, continuously updated in real-time, and now, provides an arsenal of state and local resources.

The [Index methodology](#) is based on several Elements of Power using data and analysis provided by numerous, credible research organizations. The [Index website](#) also includes valuable information about states, including media reliability on education issues and the education reform postures and grades for governors.

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CER, since 1993, is the leading voice and advocate for lasting, substantive and structural

education reform in the U.S. Additional information about the Center and its activities can be found at www.edreform.com.