



## the CENTER FOR EDUCATION REFORM

910 Seventeenth Street, NW, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor • Washington, DC 20006  
800-521-2118 • 301-986-8088 • Fax: 301-986-1826

### JEANNE ALLEN

Jeanne Allen, Founder of The Center for Education Reform, has served as the organization's President for the past 20 years. Over her two decade tenure, Jeanne has become the nation's leading authority and advocate on reform and the importance of accountability in education, and has emphasized the creation of new parental choice for millions of families. A pioneer by any standards, in 1993 Jeanne set out to make education reform mainstream and succeeded. In the 1980's and 1990's when the idea of "vouchers" and "charter schools" were foreign to all but a few, Jeanne made them every-day by-words.

A coalition builder by nature, Jeanne saw the power of bringing together politicians, business leaders, and advocacy groups in order to promote her cause. She has acted as an educational advisor to four Presidential Administrations, served on several gubernatorial transition teams, and understands the complexities in stringing together interest groups with divergent goals. Trusted as a national authority, she is frequently called upon by Congress and state legislatures to provide guidance and testimony.

Over the past twenty years, Jeanne has been on the forefront of the merging of technology and education. The most prominent names in business have supported The Center for Education Reform, with the Gates Foundation, the Broad Foundation, and The Walton Family Foundation amongst the number. Jeanne currently serves on the Advisory Board of Noodle Education, a tech savvy education company looking to revolutionize the education search process through refining technology and search engines. She is an advisor to the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education Milken Business Competition, where education entrepreneurs from early stage startups compete for funding in excess of \$150,000.

Jeanne is also a member of the Arizona State University Ed Innovation Council and active in its annual Summit, a conference that draws CEOs of the nation's leading tech companies to promote technology in education. Jeanne has supported from its inception Capital E, a technology investment company that helped develop the mid-Atlantic region as a stronghold of education technology. While Governor of Florida, Jeb Bush utilized Jeanne's experience on his PK-20 initiative and forging new innovations in charter schools. Subsequently, she served as a member of the Digital Learning Council, co-chaired by Bush and former WV governor Bob Wise, tying philanthropy, government, business, and education together to use "technological power to customize education." Jeanne has long understood the opportunity that exists in coupling business with education; likewise she has made masterful matches melding technology and education into successful business ventures.

Jeanne's nimble mind and quick wit are a reliable source for the media, frequently appearing on television and radio from *NBC News* to *NPR*. Her name will be found wherever education policy is covered by print and digital media. Jeanne herself is a regular contributor to the *National Journal* education blog, while her honesty and linear thinking on issues such as reform, choice for parents, and teacher accountability, has made her articles in outlets such as the *Huffington Post* essential reading.

Naturally civic minded, Jeanne is a member of the Sovereign Order of Malta, the John Carroll Society, and the National Italian American Federation. Jeanne holds a BA from Dickinson College and has completed course work towards her Masters at Catholic University. Jeanne has received awards and accolades for her many professional achievements, including the "Friend of Education Award," given by the Education Industry Association and the "Most Powerful Moms in Education" awarded by *Working Mother*. Jeanne has raised four accomplished children and is married to Dr. Kevin Strother, himself an educator.

See [www.edreform.com](http://www.edreform.com) • Tweet [@edreform](https://twitter.com/edreform) • Email [cer@edreform.com](mailto:cer@edreform.com)