



## Education Today

January 3, 2017

Good morning. It's January 3, 2017. This is my first official newsletter as the new editor of [RealClearEducation](#). Thank you for all the kind notes I've received over the past several days as I embark on this new position with RealClear.

One of my goals as editor is to encourage even more debate and conversation among contributors and to solicit more original content from you. From a personal standpoint, I would also like the opportunity to get to know you, as well as give you the opportunity to get to know me. This means that you'll be getting a steady diet of sports news (did you see the [Rose Bowl last night](#)?!), pop culture quips, nerdy historical references, and, when all else fails, photos of my six-month-old Golden Retriever puppy.

So please feel free to engage with me directly or on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#). Now, let's get to some of today's news.

We're witnessing the opening salvo in the upcoming confirmation battle over education secretary nominee Betsy DeVos. In *The Washington Post*, [Fred Hiatt makes the case](#) that President-elect Trump and DeVos can promote school choice without hurting public education. On the other hand, [the dean of the Westminster College School of Education and several of its professors argue](#) that DeVos will dismantle public education in America.

Meanwhile, in *The New York Times*, [Susan Dynarski writes about the opposition from economists to school choice](#) and free markets in education, a cornerstone of DeVos's agenda. [The Cato Institute was quick to push back](#) with a rebuttal of its own. I have a feeling that this is just a preview of what is to come as DeVos prepares for her confirmation hearing.

Below are a few more highlights of the content already on our site this morning. To see everything we have, visit [RealClearEducation.com](#).