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### Educational Change - Outline

**Working Thesis/Working Introductory Paragraph:** Education is a complex and stagnant industry in the United States. Technology, economics and students have all evolved over history, while classroom instruction has largely remained unchanged. Other developed countries have educational systems that far exceed the achievement of American students, despite educational spending being greater in the US vs. other countries. Traditional educational models are failing students and require a change, the current model is causing a generation of citizens who lack critical thinking skills, are unprepared for higher level education, and who don't have the skills necessary to hold a steady job.

1. Over Regulation
  - a. Federal Government
    - i. No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
    - ii. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
  - b. State Government (FL)
    - i. Standards (FL) vs. Common Core Standards
      1. Boxes teachers into prescribed curriculum
    - ii. Graduation Requirements
      1. Deflates and frustrates students
    - iii. School Funding Model
      1. Holds teachers and schools hostage for money
    - iv. School Grades
  - c. Local Government
    - i. Progress Monitoring
    - ii. Curriculum Maps
  - d. Lack of Freedom in Teaching
    - i. Teachers feel pressure
    - ii. Can't identify & Correct student weaknesses
  - e. Politically Charged Regulations
    - i. Policies developed based on political interest (re-electability)
    - ii. Political lobbyists – campaign contributions
    - iii. Conservative vs. Liberal views on education
  - f. Belief System Charged Regulations
    - i. Changing textbooks based on states
    - ii. Texas vs. California
  - g. Corporate interest
    - i. Corporate profit lobbying

- ii. Pearson
- 2. One Size Fits All
  - a. Model is not productive to learning
    - i. “Yet, by certain terms, they are both quite successful and have other schools emulating their models worldwide. We came out of that roundtable ever more convinced that when it comes to education, there is no one-size-fits-all model.” - Brookings
  - b. Failure as a stigma
    - i. “Student’s don’t know how to balance hopes and fears; therefore causing anxiety and a greater likelihood of failure” - Cox
    - ii. “Ultimately, this analysis reveals the profound role of students' fear of failure, in that students' strategies for balancing their hopes and fears had a greater influence on their approaches to college coursework than did their cognitive-academic preparation. Instructors that understood this phenomenon were much more likely to address students' fears, and in turn, help them persist in college.” - Cox
  - c. Loss of organic learning
    - i. “...students learn best when their learning is adapted to their context.” – Brookings
    - ii. “In the name of equality, a uniform education system ends up systematically underserving a portion of the population, typically the least advantaged.” - Brookings
  - d. Alternative Options
    - i. “KIPP Schools - a model with a focus on high expectations and building character enforced by a disciplined, structured approach to education.” - Brookings
    - ii. “École Dynamique - educational freedom, democratic governance, and personal responsibility.” - Brookings
- 3. Digital Age/Cell Phones
  - a. Social Media
  - b. Laziness
  - c. Lack of computer skill
  - d. Instant gratification
  - e. Distracted Audience
- 4. Lack of Funding
  - a. Problems created by lack of funding
  - b. Misallocated funding
  - c. Long term effects
  - d. Outdated curriculum materials
  - e. Aging and expensive facilities
- 5. Changing Economic Situation
  - a. US Economy
  - b. Working to survive
  - c. Fallacy of instant success (YouTube Star, Social Media Influencer, etc.)
  - d. Materialistic society
  - e. Students working during school hours

6. Lack of Qualified Teachers
  - a. Struggle to get certification
  - b. Lack of enrollments in college education programs
  - c. Low pay
  - d. High Stress
  - e. Overcrowded classrooms
7. Changing Student Demographics
  - a. Social Media Generation
  - b. Parenting with Screens
  - c. Hyper focused on relationships/social status
  - d. Over-stressed/anxious/depressed students
8. Testing
  - a. Teaching to the test
  - b. Promotes linear thinking vs. critical thinking
  - c. Distracts and pressures students
  - d. Loss of valuable teaching time for testing sessions
9. Solutions
  - a. Career programs
  - b. Modified schedules in secondary schools
  - c. Tailored education programs
  - d. Online schools
  - e. Tracking programs

**\*\*\*NOTE: This example is not complete, and is merely a start of a full outline. You should plug your research in where you can. This is what you will use to write your paper, therefore when reading your drafts, your outline, draft and final paper should match fairly closely. Spend the time planning NOW to make writing easier LATER. \*\*\***