

TRANSCRIPT

VIRTUAL OPTION EXTENDS REACH OF ASCD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Renowned education expert and coauthor of *Creating the Opportunity to Learn* Pedro Noguera discusses closing achievement gaps.



I could name schools right now where children who are learning English for the first time and children with learning disabilities are thriving and excelling. Again, all the proof we need to know that, under the right conditions, all kinds of children can learn and can achieve. And that's what we've got to focus on: how to create those conditions for a greater number of children.

The high-performing schools, particularly the high-performing, high-poverty schools that are out there, schools like Brockton High School in Massachusetts, which is showing us for years now—for years—that the largest high school in Massachusetts with over 4,000 students can serve all kinds of kids. Because they serve a largely low-income population, largely minority population, and it's one of the highest-performing schools in the state of Massachusetts. Why? Because they focus on the conditions for learning, they focus on what they control in the school, and they focus a lot on literacy.