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SECTION: EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION



June 18 [BBC] Duchess of Cambridge launches 'landmark' center for childhood. The Duchess of Cambridge has launched her own Centre for Early Childhood, to raise awareness of the importance of early years and help "transform lives". LINK



June 14 [OECD Today] Is curiosity a key to better early learning? Curiosity is strongly linked to children's early cognitive development. The International Early Learning and Child Well-being Study shows that curiosity is indeed helpful, finding strong relationships with five-year-olds' learning in emergent literacy, numeracy, mental flexibility and even in children's abilities to retain and recall information. LINK

SECTION: SPECIAL EDUCATION



June 14 [Winchester] 12 students with disabilities graduate from Project SEARCH. This is the fourth year for Pro-Project | SEARCH | jectSEARCH, which helps students with disabilities build real-world work experience, write resumes and participate in mock-interviews. The program's goal is to help students secure work in the community. LINK

SECTION: COVID-19



June 16 [Chalk Beat] After enrollment dips, America's schools hope for fall rebound. There are early signs that enrollment may not fully rebound, and the stakes are high. If enrollment does not recover, public schools that lose students eventually could see funding cuts, though pandemic relief money is boosting budgets for now. LINK



June 14 [Straits Times] P1 to 3 pupils to do one-week HBL when school reopens as MOE gradually allows students back to school. They will return to school on Tuesday, July 6, as Monday is a school holiday. Secondary 1 and 2 students will be on HBL for three days till June 30, and return to school on Thursday, July 1. This is part of a move to progressively allow students back to school after the June holidays to keep students and staff safe from Covid-19. LINK



June 13 [Guardian] Graduates with work or volunteering experience more employable than those who continued education. Graduates who spent last year stacking shelves, working as an Amazon driver or volunteering are far more employable than those who "waited out" the pandemic by continuing their education, a study has found. LINK

SECTION: EXAMINATIONS



June 15 [BBC] Schools want 75% rebate on this summer's exam fees. School and college leaders in England want a rebate of at least 75% on this year's exam fees, a survey has found. Nearly two in three (65%) head teachers surveyed by the Association of School and College Leaders said exam boards should offer a 75% rebate this year. LINK



June 14 [Guardian] Ofqual wanted to scrap last year's A-levels. England's exam regulator wanted to scrap last year's A-levels but backed down rather than risk a "foolish" confrontation with the government, leading to the disas**f** trous use of an algorithm to award grades, the regulator's former chair has revealed. <u>LINK</u>

SECTION: TEACHING AND LEARNING



June 14 [K-12 Dive] Discernment in credentialing builds teacher leadership opportunities. When lining up opportunities for certifications in teacher professional development, it's critical to be discerning in regard to the skills and strategies educators can expand their toolboxes with rather than simply engaging in "credential collecting". LINK



June 14 [School Bag] Put the books down! 6 skills your child really needs for P1. Entering Primary 1 can be a big step for a child and the parents. While parents often consider how well children learn their ABCs and numbers before primary school, there are important skills that can prepare students for a better start to their school journey. LINK



June 14 [Hechinger] Experiment: teachers test their intuition about what works best for their students. A fourthgrade teacher carefully tracked the performance of students in three forms of instruction: traditional in-person teaching; live, interactive lessons over Zoom (synchronous instruction); and self-paced instruction, where students could watch pre-recorded videos and complete online worksheets in their own time (asynchronous instruction). LINK

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SECTION: HIGHER EDUCATION



June 17 [Hechinger Report] Colleges fight attempts to stop them from withholding transcripts over unpaid bills. As many as 6.6 million students nationwide can't obtain their transcripts because they have unpaid bills to colleges or universities, the higher education consulting firm Ithaka S+R estimates. **LINK**



June 16 [Pie News] Numbers of admitted foreign students at Swedish unis increases in 2021. The numbers of students who had not previously been educated in Sweden being admitted to universities in the country has risen for the 2021 academic year, statistics from the country's Swedish Council for Higher Education have revealed. LINK



June 15 [NY Times] Universities were among recipients of MacKenzie Scott's \$2.7b donations. A host of charities, arts institutions and universities were among the financial beneficiaries today of MacKenzie Scott's latest round of philanthropic donations, which this time totaled \$2.739 billion and went to 286 equity-oriented organizations. LINK



June 14 [EdSurge] Combining Online Courses With In-Person Supports, 'Hybrid Colleges' Unite. Calling themselves "hybrid colleges," these mini campus centers have set big goals for themselves, such as bringing college within reach for people historically left out of higher education. LINK

SECTION: TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



June 14 [Business Day] Covid-19 lockdown hit TVET students hardest, finds survey. The coronavirus pandemic has thrown the inequalities in SA's higher education sector into sharp relief, with students attending TVET colleges reporting far greater disruption to learning than their counterparts at historically wealthier institutions, according to a survey by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC). LINK



June 14 [FE Week] The Skills Bill could set the scene for Ofqual's demise. With post-pandemic public expenditure under severe pressure, the Bill could be used as a funding ratchet, enabling the DfE to push even more of the costs of regulation onto the further education (FE) sector. LINK

SECTION: LIFELONG LEARNING



June 15 [OECD] How can we foster lifelong learning attitudes in students? The OECD Skills Outlook 2021 explores how policies can best promote lifelong learning for all. The skills needed to keep learning during the COVID crisis are also key to a lifelong learning mindset. Teachers, schools and education systems have an important role to play in promoting lifelong learning attitudes. <u>LINK</u>

SECTION: EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY



June 15 [Business Matters] Digital learning—realize its full potential. Deloitte reveals that up to 75% of educators in the world believe that digital solutions will replace paper textbooks by the end of the year 2026. Digital learning has become a widespread and safe solution used by schools, universities, and companies. LINK



June 14 [Pie News] EdTech: Online English learning service that specializes in one-on-one tutoring raised \$18m in funding. Ringle will use the investment to enhance its tech platform, develop original educational content and "thought-provoking learning materials", and expand its teams in Seoul, Korea and San Mateo, CA. LINK



June 14 [Business World Education] Potential of EdTech in Rural India. The COVID-19 pandemic just resulted in an acceleration of earlier EdTech attempts to provide students with an engaging and comprehensive learning experience through digital platforms. The rural part of the country traditionally lacked access to quality education due to a paucity of infrastructures like unavailability of electricity and internet access but it is transforming now. LINK

SECTION: STEM



June 15 [ABC News] 'Worrying' STEM teacher shortage with pressure felt in rural and remote schools. According to data from the Australian Education Union (AEU) found that it was most difficult for principals to fill job vacancies in the learning areas of mathematics, technology and science. LINK



June 15 [Straits Times] Shoring up Singapore's STEM workforce. With more demand for workers trained in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, rethink how these subjects are taught to motivate students to join and stay in Stem-related jobs. **LINK**



June 14 [eSchool News] 3 critical STEM action-items for administrators. Like other subject areas, STEM instruction undoubtedly looked very different this school year. From virtual teaching to new safety protocols if students returned to science labs, students and educators alike had to make adjustments. **LINK**