



HK
HUNT | KEAN
LEADERSHIP FELLOWS





Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows

The Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows program partners with senior-level political leaders who have the knowledge, skill, and will to be effective, reform-minded education policymakers at the state level. Named for renowned education governors Jim Hunt (D-NC | 1977-1985; 1993-2001) and Tom Kean (R-NJ | 1982-1990), the national, nonpartisan Fellowship launched in the fall of 2014. Since then, the program now boasts a network of 31 alumni and an incoming cohort of 19 Fellows representing 35 states.

The Hunt Institute offers ongoing support to alumni through the Institute's research, tools, mentors, and access to the Institute's wide network of policymakers and experts.



Vision

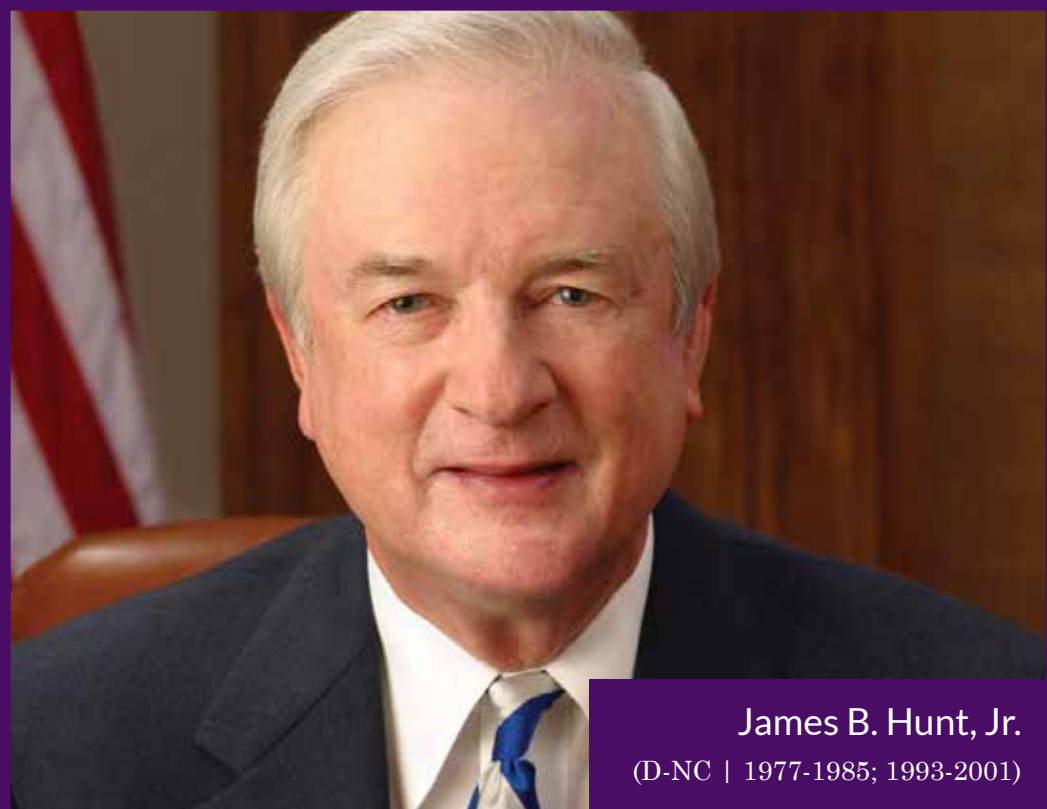
Education is the most important investment we can make to strengthen our nation's economy and society. Senior, state-level policymakers have enormous influence over our complex education system, and yet, all too often, these leaders are required to assume massive responsibilities with little background in education policy. Our goal is to help political leaders develop a deeply-rooted vision for educational improvement.

The Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows – **unlike any other fellowship in the nation** – provides political leaders from across the country with the knowledge they need to cultivate smart and effective education agendas. The nonpartisan Fellows program:

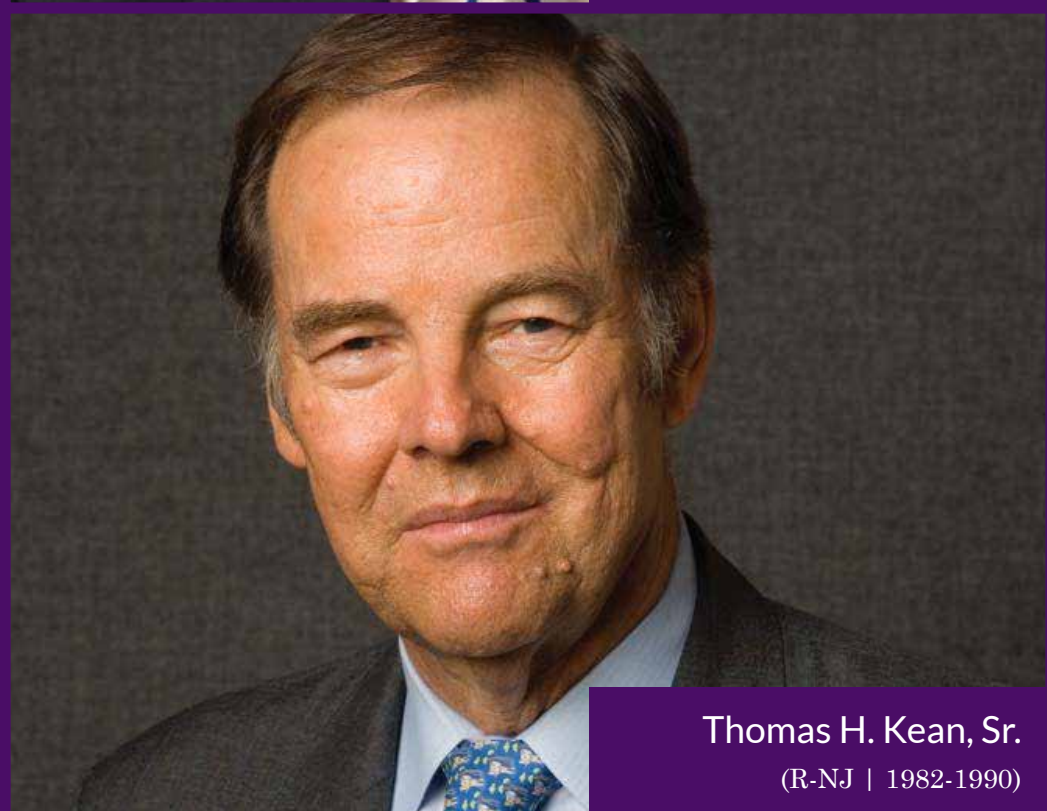
- Exposes Fellows to the best research and analysis on innovative and successful education policies and practices;
- Provides an environment that welcomes distinct views and fosters debate on multifaceted education issues; and
- Introduces Fellows to other leaders directing successful reform efforts across the nation.

The Fellows are part of an elite group of high-ranking elected state officials who have committed themselves to a nine-month immersion in K-12 education policy.

By investing in America's political leaders, we aim to build a cadre of informed and motivated educational change agents with the necessary influence to reform state education systems and improve outcomes.



James B. Hunt, Jr.
(D-NC | 1977-1985; 1993-2001)



Thomas H. Kean, Sr.
(R-NJ | 1982-1990)

The Prototypes

Both Democrat Jim Hunt and Republican Tom Kean are uniquely qualified for the title, “Education Governor.” As the state’s only four-term governor, Jim Hunt led North Carolina through an unprecedented period of educational improvement and economic growth. With a particular focus on early childhood development and improving the quality of teaching in America, Governor Hunt is ranked with U.S. presidents and secretaries of education as one of the 10 most influential people in American education by the Editorial Projects in Education Research Center.

As a former teacher, education policy was of special importance to Governor Tom Kean, who propelled change in New Jersey following the report, *A Nation at Risk*. Governor Kean proposed, among other things, raising beginning teacher salaries, instituting statewide high school graduation tests, and adopting new approaches to education in urban schools. He, too, has been rated among America’s most effective state leaders.

Whether blazing bold trails in early childhood education, establishing national teacher certification, connecting education and economic development, making historic gains, or fighting to raise teacher salaries, these governors understood the essential components of a coherent education policy agenda, how to establish and articulate a long-term vision, and how to use the bully pulpit to inform and move public policy. Hunt and Kean define what it takes to become *gubernatorial legend*.



Program Design

The Fellowship includes two in-person sessions – six days total – where Fellows engage with leading minds in education, policy, and politics. The sessions offer opportunities to meet with a wide array of former governors, representing both political parties, who generously share their invaluable knowledge and advice. Throughout the program, Fellows interact with outstanding educators and school leaders, as well as participate in an intensive site visit of an area school.



The curriculum is designed to help Fellows understand the complex issues involved in developing successful schools and advancing sound strategies to improve teaching, learning and student achievement. While Fellows explore many education policy issues, the in-person sessions focus on the following topics:

Session 1

Standards, Assessments, Accountability & Choice

This session provides Fellows with a firm grounding in the importance of rigorous standards, aligned assessments and strong accountability systems. Fellows explore student achievement data and policies from their home states as well as from across the nation. Additionally, they discover the policy mechanisms states are using to provide educational options to students and their parents, and the merits and challenges of school choice reforms.

Session 2

Educator Effectiveness & School Leadership

In this session, a multitude of issues related to educator effectiveness are examined, including preparation, evaluation, compensation, and strong school leadership. Fellows grapple with the ways in which these policies influence – and sometimes hinder – each other and the challenges involved in ensuring that every classroom is led by a highly effective teacher.

“As a Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellow, I further developed the skills needed to govern. Because I once sat in your chair, from day one I was ready to lead as governor. The Fellowship provided me with resources and knowledge I use to this day.”

— Governor Kate Brown of Oregon, Fellows Alumna; Cohort 1

On-Site Learning Experiences

During the two on-site sessions, Fellows are afforded a wide range of learning experiences, including:

Conversations with Noteworthy Policymakers on broad policy issues. These high-level, current or former policymakers provide inspiration and context for deeper understanding.

Policy Discussions featuring experts who probe Fellows' thoughts on the challenges and policy implications of the topics at hand and provide additional knowledge building as needed.

Study Group Discussions which allow Fellows to gain a deeper understanding about an issue. Fellows break into small groups to engage in a facilitated in-depth discussion, case study analysis, or examination of model policy. They also participate in a deep-dive session where they have the time to present a current education issue that is important to them, share their position on the issue, and receive constructive feedback from critical friends.

Strategy Breakouts featuring former governors. This session allows Fellows to consider political and strategy implications in an intimate setting.

Site Visits and Classroom Perspective which provide Fellows a chance to see various issues firsthand and points of view of current practitioners. Fellows are equipped with the tools they need to conduct future site visits in their home states.

Off-Site Learning Experiences

In advance of each session, Fellows receive concise policy briefs and state-specific data briefings to help spark their thinking and prepare them for the in-person learning experiences. They also participate in off-site learning opportunities to help expand their knowledge of issues. These experiences include:

A Personalized, In-State Session guided by Hunt Institute staff. Fellows delve into specific policy areas in a private setting, which allows time for individual consultation.

Monthly Strategy Calls which provide Fellows and alumni a venue to discuss timely education policy activities occurring in their states, other states, and at the national level.

Invitations to all **Hunt Institute Convenings** which give Fellows an opportunity to continue their development and gain knowledge to help make informed decisions and advance educational excellence in their states.

Regional Site Visits where Fellows and alumni participate in small groups to see innovative models in action. Fellows meet with policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders involved in those models.

“The Hunt-Kean Leadership program is a real source of learning and helps good leaders become even better leaders. I am elated to be a part of this group, and I’m looking forward to applying my newfound skills as we set out to tackle challenges, craft policies, and provide better tools to help improve our state education systems.”

— California State Treasurer John Chiang, Fellows Alumnus; Cohort 2



Advisory Board

The Fellows Advisory Board consists of former governors who have put education at the center of their agendas, learned from the practical experiences of other governors, and utilized gubernatorial leadership as a lever to make systemic changes that resulted in improved student achievement. Bipartisan Advisory Board members serve as experts and provide counsel to participants throughout their Fellowship experience.



“The Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows program does important work in a most important field: it links experienced policymakers with a new generation of leaders to help create state-specific strategies for excellence in public education. The Hunt Institute’s work is a model for nonpartisan collaboration, nationwide, on behalf of our children — our future.”

— Former Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski

Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows Advisory Board

The Honorable Roy Barnes

Former Governor | Georgia
(1999-2003)

The Honorable Dave Heineman

Former Governor | Nebraska
(2005-2015)

The Honorable Phil Bredesen

Former Governor | Tennessee
(2003-2011)

The Honorable Brad Henry

Former Governor | Oklahoma
(2003-2011)

The Honorable Don Carcieri

Former Governor | Rhode Island
(2003-2011)

The Honorable Ted Kulongoski

Former Governor | Oregon
(2003-2011)

The Honorable Mike Castle

Former Governor | Delaware
(1985-1992)

The Honorable Janet Napolitano

Former Governor | Arizona
(2003-2009)

The Honorable Mitch Daniels

Former Governor | Indiana
(2005-2013)

The Honorable Tim Pawlenty

Former Governor | Minnesota
(2003-2011)

The Honorable Jim Douglas

Former Governor | Vermont
(2003-2011)

The Honorable Dick Riley

Former Governor | South Carolina
(1979-1987)

The Honorable John Engler

Former Governor | Michigan
(1991-2003)

The Honorable Bob Taft

Former Governor | Ohio
(1999-2007)

The Honorable Christine Gregoire

Former Governor | Washington
(2005-2013)

The Honorable Bob Wise

Former Governor | West Virginia
(2001-2005)

“By investing in America’s policymakers, the Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows program is actively building a cadre of well-informed, motivated, and committed leaders with the influence necessary to reform state education systems and improve outcomes.”

— Governor Jim Hunt

Alumni

As each cohort completes the Fellowship, alumni become part of a national network of well-informed education policy leaders. The Hunt Institute stays connected to Fellows after the program by providing them with briefings, resource bank access, invitations to all Hunt Institute events, and opportunities to serve as resource experts for national and state convenings.



“It is our goal for Fellows to complete the program armed with the best information and resources available to make sound education policy investments as they consider many of the fundamental structures of public education.”

Former New Jersey Governor Tom Kean

COHORT 1

**Speaker of the House
Brian Bosma**
Indiana

**Governor
Kate Brown**
Oregon

**Lieutenant Governor
Spencer Cox**
Utah

**Attorney General
Bob Ferguson**
Washington

**Attorney General
Mark Herring**
Virginia

**State Senator
Mike Johnston**
Colorado

**Lieutenant Governor
Todd Lamb**
Oklahoma

**Lieutenant Governor
Brad Little**
Idaho

**Former Attorney General
Catherine Cortez Masto**
Nevada

**Former Lieutenant Governor
Angela McLean**
Montana

**Commissioner of Agriculture
Adam Putnam**
Florida

**Lieutenant Governor
Tate Reeves**
Mississippi

**Lieutenant Governor
Kim Reynolds**
Iowa

**State Senator
Teresa Ruiz**
New Jersey

**Former Senate Speaker Pro Tempore
Jamie Woodson**
Tennessee



COHORT 2

**Attorney General
Hector Balderas**
New Mexico

**State Treasurer
John Chiang**
California

**Lieutenant Governor
Jeff Colyer**
Kansas

**Former Auditor of Public Accounts
Adam Edelen**
Kentucky

**Auditor General
Eugene DePasquale**
Pennsylvania

**Former Lieutenant Governor
Sue Ellspermann**
Indiana

**Senate Minority Leader
Aaron Ford**
Nevada

**Secretary of State
Nellie Gorbea**
Rhode Island

**State House Delegate
Tag Greason**
Virginia

**Secretary of State
Tre Hargett**
Tennessee

**Secretary of State
Jon Husted**
Ohio

**Attorney General
George Jepsen**
Connecticut

**Secretary of Agriculture
Bill Northey**
Iowa

**Former Speaker of the House
Hannah Pingree**
Maine

**Attorney General
Alan Wilson**
South Carolina

**State Treasurer
Walker Stapleton**
Colorado



Alumni Pathways

We are proud of the outstanding accomplishments of our alumni. Their post-Fellowship pathways demonstrate their leadership and sustained commitment to public service. It is our hope that their Fellowship experience will serve as a foundation for educational improvements in their states.



Kate Brown, *Cohort 1*, served as Oregon's Secretary of State (2009-2015) and is currently the 38th Governor of Oregon.



John Chiang, *Cohort 2*, serves as California's State Treasurer and announced his run for Governor of California in the 2018 election.



Catherine Cortez-Masto, *Cohort 1*, served as Nevada Attorney General (2007-2015) and announced her candidacy for the 2016 U.S. Senate election.



Nellie Gorbea, *Cohort 2*, is Rhode Island's Secretary of State and was named Vice Chair of the 2016 Democratic National Convention Platform Committee.



Tate Reeves, *Cohort 1*, won his re-election for Mississippi's Lieutenant Governor in 2015.

HK

HUNT|KEAN

LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

About The Hunt Institute

The Hunt Institute is a recognized leader in the movement to transform public education. Marshaling expertise from a nationwide partner network, the Institute connects leaders with the best strategies for developing and implementing policies and programs to improve public education. It specifically focuses on bringing together people and resources that help build and nurture visionary leadership and mobilize strategic action for greater educational outcomes and student success.



For more information about the *Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows*, please contact Fellows Associate Director Michele Jordan at 984.377.5049 or mjordan@hunt-institute.org.

©2016. The Hunt Institute. All rights reserved.
www.hunt-institute.org



[/thehuntinstitute](https://www.facebook.com/thehuntinstitute)



[/Hunt_Institute](https://twitter.com/Hunt_Institute)



[/TheHuntInstitute](https://www.youtube.com/TheHuntInstitute)