

# EDUCATION'S NEW NORMAL

International lessons for the post-pandemic recovery

LIASCD 2021 Spring Conference  
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What is the most important challenge in education that we should fix now?

# Pre-pandemic education



*There is a global learning crisis that amplifies educational inequalities that severely hobbles the disadvantaged youth who most need the boost that a good education can offer. – World Bank Human Development Report 2018*

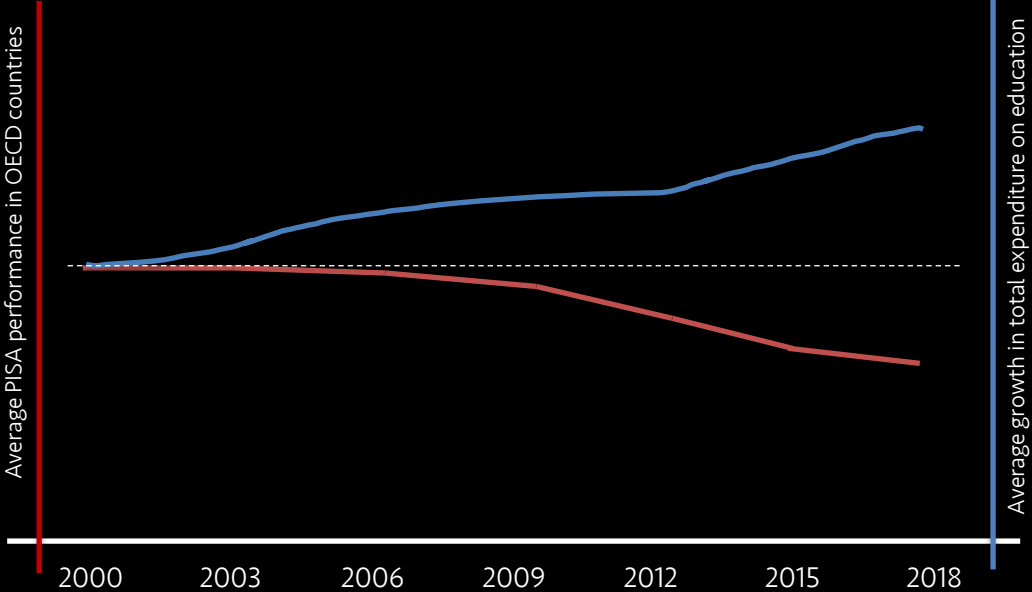


*The performance differences across the OECD countries between the most socio-economically advantaged and disadvantaged students is equivalent to over 3 years of schooling. –PISA 2018*



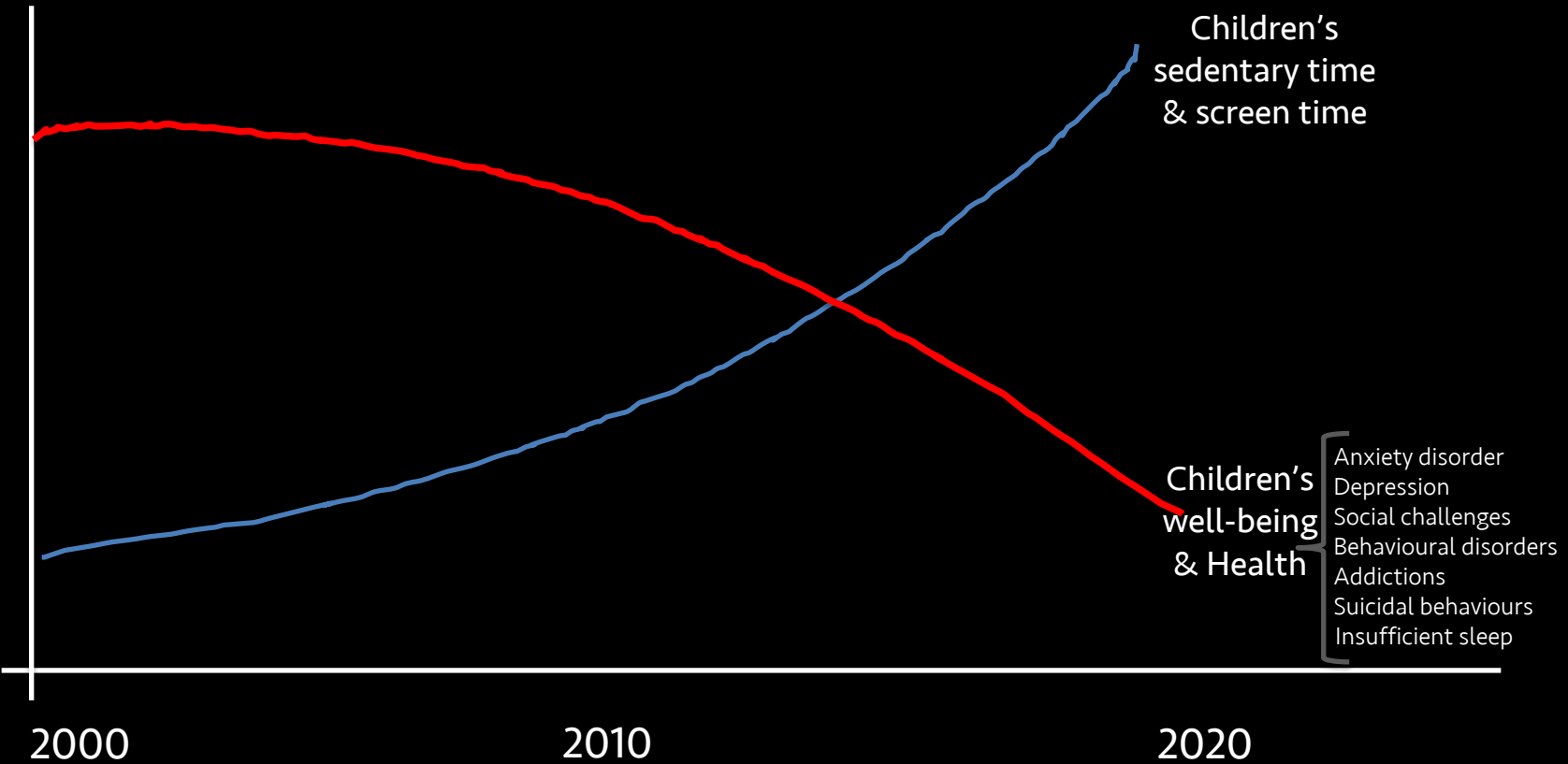
*260 million children, adolescents and youth are not at school and only three quarters of 15-year-olds in middle income countries attend school, and just half of them achieve the basic level of proficiency required. – Global Education Monitoring Report 2020*

# Trend 1: Student learning vs. education spending

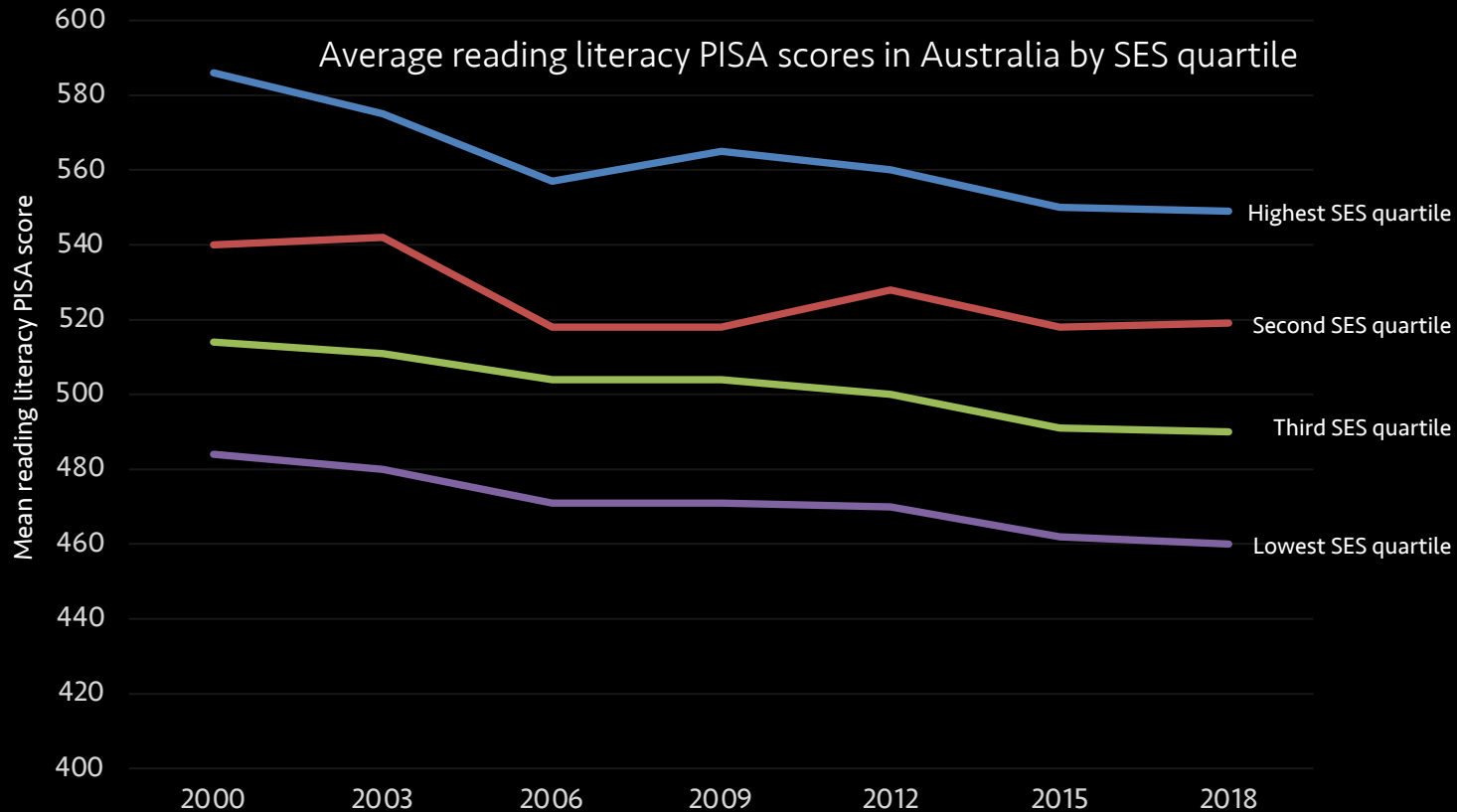


Source: OECD database (2020)

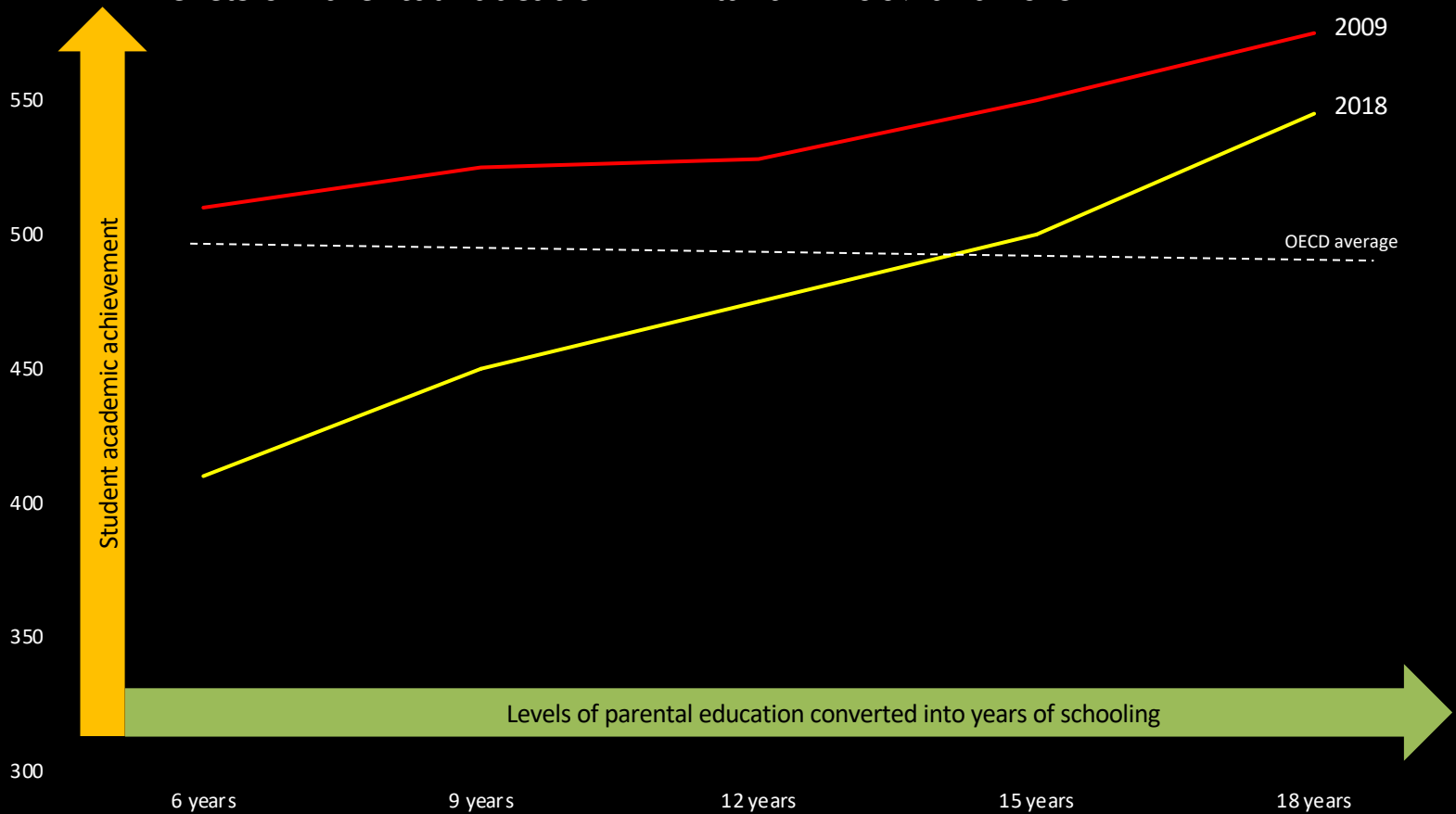
## Trend 2: Student wellbeing vs. sedentary time



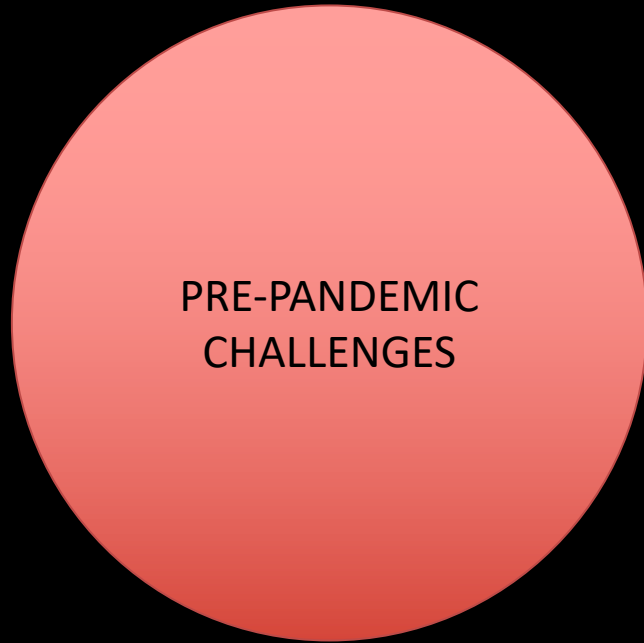
## Trend 3: Growing inequalities



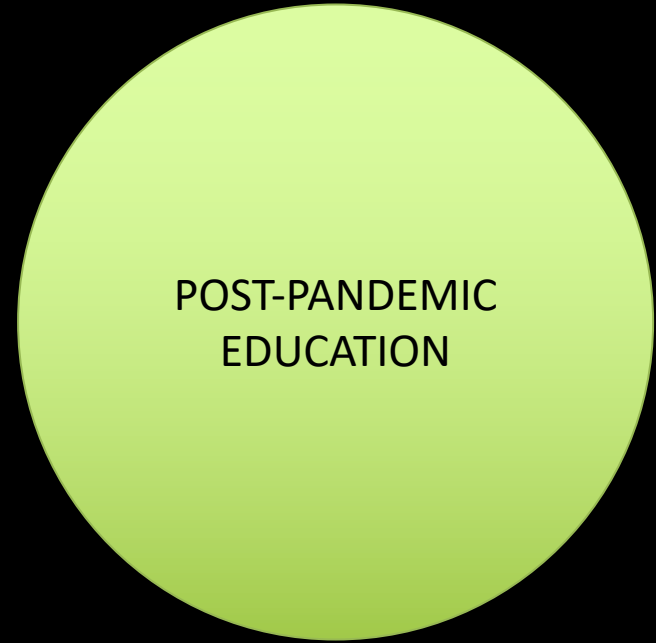
# Average National PISA Score in reading, mathematics and science vis-a-vis Levels of Parental Education in Finland in 2009 and 2018



# Does the pandemic help us transform education?



We are here





# Three don'ts

## 1. Don't expect kids to be ready to continue where they left off

*“For children physical separation from teachers is one thing, but emotional distancing from friends and peers for months, and lockdown at home with parents, is quite another. Most children will not be ready to learn and thrive as they did before unless they feel physically safe and emotionally connected and protected at school.”*

### Mental health problems peak alongside COVID-19 in Australia

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By Dr. Ananya Mandal, MD

Jul 29 2020

As can be expected, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a significant impact on mental health of the population at large and especially among those who are already vulnerable.

Now, a new study has found that during the peak of the outbreak in Australia, the rates of psychological distress, anxiety, and depression symptoms rose among adults. The study is published in the latest issue of the journal [PLOS ONE](#).



# Three don'ts

## 2. Don't worry about kids' losses in the school tests

*“Basic knowledge and skills are important, but non-academic skills such as work habits, sports related competences, social skills, leadership, resilience, and locus of control are even more powerful real-life outcomes.”*



**Schools tsar says  
England's £1.7bn Covid  
catch-up package not  
enough**

# Three don'ts

## 3. Don't consider cutting students' recess and playtime in school

*“Educators and medical experts have unanimously emphasised the importance of daily recess for children’s wellbeing and learning. Pediatricians say that play benefits students by increasing their level of physical activity, improving their memory, attention, and concentration, and reducing disruptive behaviour and toxic stress in the classroom.”*

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Kappan website, which is described as "The professional journal for educators". The page features a navigation bar with links for "About", "Write For Us", "Archives", "Login/Join PDK", and a search function. A prominent banner at the top reads "SUPPORT, SHAPE, SUCCEED." with a sub-headline: "Your job does not end at 3:00 p.m. Support public education, fight for our children's education, and help us improve the teaching profession." Below this, the main article is titled "The Long Island play revolution" by Paul Darling and William Dighe, dated April 03, 2015. The article includes a photograph of children playing on a red slide at a playground. To the right of the main article, there is a "MORE ON THIS TOPIC" section with several related articles, including "When schools reopen, don't neglect recess", "Kappan authors on play and learning", "All rigor and no play is no way to improve learning", "Making play work for education", and "It all adds up: Learning early math through play and games". At the bottom of the page, there is a "Columns & Blogs" section with a "CAREER CONFIDENTIAL" article by Phyllis L. Fieger.

# Three lessons

- 1. Early intervention and support to students as soon as they start to fall behind.**

*“We need better policies for special needs education that provide appropriate resources early on to the schools so that they can properly support students who need help.”*

# Three lessons

## 2. Closer integration of wellbeing and health as part of the work of each and every school.

*“We need to secure that all children have necessary wellbeing support and health services available in their schools every day. Wellbeing is an essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skill, and health outcomes should therefore be measured in schools alongside with knowledge outcomes.”*

# Three lessons

## 3. Make equity a priority in education policies and innovation.

*“The pandemic has amplified educational and social inequalities across the globe. Equity-focused education policies prioritise universal early childhood education and care, whole-child approach in pedagogy, healthy school meals for all, and play as a basic right of each and every child.”*

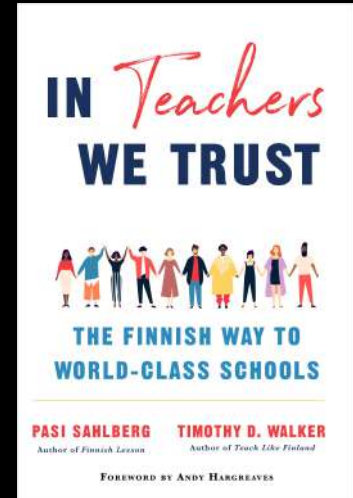
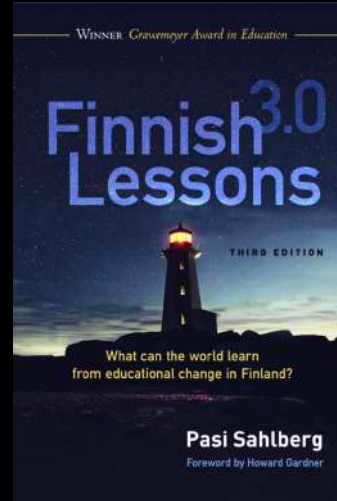
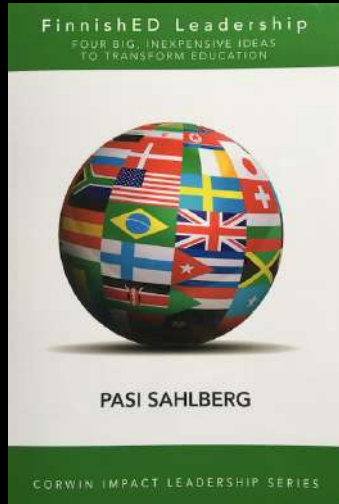
# Reset for building back better

**Moral purpose:** Educating whole child.

**Pedagogical imperative:** Systematically tailoring teaching to the needs and interests of each and every child.

**Educational rationale:** Learn to do with what is learned at school.

# THANK YOU!



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