



Stephanie Valentine
PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance, Governance and Strategy Division
Office of Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development

RE: Docket No.: ED-2022-SCC-0132

Dear Ms. Valentine,

On behalf the Alliance for Learning Innovation (ALI), we are responding to the Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; School Pulse Panel 2023-24 Preliminary Field Activities (Docket No.: ED-2022-SCC-0132). The Alliance for Learning Innovation (ALI) is a bipartisan coalition of more than 30 organizations that brings together education nonprofits, philanthropy, and the private sector, to advocate for building a better research and development (R&D) infrastructure in education. ALI advocates for increased capacity of education R&D and supports the research and development of evidence-based innovation in education that centers students and practitioners, advances equity, improves talent pathways, and expands the workforce needed in a globally competitive world.

This response addresses the following questions:

“(1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department” and

“(4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected”

The School Pulse Panel (SPP) is a unique survey designed to provide “real time” information on key issues facing schools. SPP provided invaluable information on the status of school reopenings, instructional mode, pandemic-related learning needs and other COVID related information. Since its early deployment, SPP has been used to collect information on school safety, absenteeism, mental health services, procurement, and other valuable indicators. Having a tool that can provide “near-time” information on important policy issues makes this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department. SPP can also help to support students and create healthier and safer learning environments.

The Department should ensure sufficient resources are provided to support the SPP. Highlighting the evolution of the instrument from solely COVID focused to a more holistic data collection would be helpful in bringing attention to the survey’s utility. IES needs all the available tools possible to further its work in supporting learning recovery and the health, safety, and well-being of students. The Department should also regularly solicit input and advice from Congress and stakeholders on topics to be included in the survey.

Sincerely,

The Alliance for Learning Innovation (ALI)