

Watch: COVID-19 and the Reopening of K-12 Schools



[Last week's edition of Path Forward](#) explored how schools are planning to keep student and teachers safe upon reopening. What can we learn from other countries that have opened schools during the pandemic?

U.S. Chamber President Suzanne Clark was joined by panelists:

- Rainu Kaushal, M.D., Chair, Department of Population Health Sciences, Weill Cornell Medical College
- Dan Domenech, Executive Director, American Association of School Administrators

“This will be a school year like we’ve never had,” said Domenech. The new environment teachers will face is “very different, very constrained, very difficult.”

“The teachers are concerned about the welfare of their students as well as their own welfare,” he added. “And yet if you talk to a teacher, they will tell you they want to be back. They want their kids to be back with them.”

Dr. Kaushal explained that if the right measures are in place—mask-wearing, social distancing, adequate testing—both children and adults “can safely go back.”

Kaushal also addressed other countries’ situations. “Across the world, particularly in Europe, 22 countries have reopened successfully. The majority of those have chosen to reopen K-5 initially, often adding 12th grade,” she noted.

Watch the program [here](#).

