

"Students are the future to America's workforce. It is our responsibility to ensure that debt and outstanding loans aren't crippling the greatest nation in the world."

-Jessica Liebau

Jessica will launch a revolutionary movement that will transform America, one that will spark America's economy from the bottom up. By refinancing student debts and allocating funds for teaching programs, Jessica aims to give the tools and knowledge for future generations that will carry this nation forward.

More two-year free college programs.

America must provide opportunities for post-secondary education for students of all backgrounds. Many students that wish to go to college cannot because of difficult financial situations, and it is our goal to make education in America a right, not a privilege.

Better student loan system-reduce interest rates, refinancing of current student loan packages, and provide government sponsored financial counseling for college students.

Getting a better education shouldn't mean going into debt for the next 20 years. According to <u>USNews.com</u>, The average student who graduated in 2013 owes nearly \$30,000 in student loans, and nearly 60% of those students have no idea when those loans will be paid off. The American dream is attainable for anyone willing to work for it, but it shouldn't put them in poverty while doing so. Refinancing current packages and providing more reasonable aid for students in the future will not only stimulate America's motivation for a post-secondary education, but also create a high-skilled workforce in the future.

Launch a national campaign to modernize and elevate the profession of teaching. Raise salaries for teachers, increase funding for teaching programs.

America's teachers are the ones who raise the next generation of world leaders and innovators. They are the ones developing our nation's future, and should be treated as such. Improved

teaching programs and raising salaries for educators ensure that America's Future will receive top-quality education provided by highly-skilled teachers. In the United States, the average salary for a teacher is only around \$56,000, which is 1.3% less than the salary for teachers a decade before after taking inflation into account. In Wisconsin, teachers have taken an even greater hit, with a 1.9% decrease in average teacher salaries in the past decade. (source: NCES.gov). Furthermore, a study by Eric Hanushek of Stanford University's Hoover Institution demonstrated a strong correlation between a country's recent economic growth to their performance on international test standards (source: Eric Hanushek) America needs scholars, not soldiers, to lead the future. Education is the key to bringing our nation back to the top, and as the facilitators of knowledge, America's teachers deserve the best support they can receive from our government.

Provide every student in America an opportunity to learn computer science. (Subsidize, provide opportunities for computer science skills)

As the world becomes more technologically advanced, it is clear that computer science should be a core part of the curriculum like mathematics, language, and the sciences. This is evidenced by the incredible rate at which the world is gaining access to technology, and as of 2013, nearly 34% of the entire world actively used the Internet, up 8.8% from the year before (source: dailyreckoning.com). It is critical that we are providing opportunities for learning computer science to ensure that America is on pace with current technological growth rate and that the workforce is ready to harness the power of technology.