

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910788724403321
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Titolo	The era of education : the presidents and the schools, 1965-2001 / / Lawrence J. McAndrews
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Urbana : , : University of Illinois Press, , 2006
ISBN	1-283-04403-X 9786613044037 0-252-09185-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (319 pages)
Disciplina	379.73
Soggetti	Education and state - United States - History Federal aid to education - United States - History United States Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [231]-294) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Public school aid, 1965-81 -- School desegregation, 1965-81 -- Nonpublic school aid, 1965-81 -- Public school aid, 1981-2001 -- School desegregation, 1981-2001 -- Nonpublic school aid, 1981-2001.
Sommario/riassunto	This study of educational policy from Lyndon Johnson through Bill Clinton focuses on three specific issues--public school aid, non-public (especially Catholic) school aid, and school desegregation--that speak to the proper role of the federal government in education as well as to how education issues embody larger questions of opportunity, exclusion, and equality in American society. Lawrence J. McAndrews traces the evolution of policy as each president developed (or avoided developing) a stance toward these issues and discusses the repercussions and implications of policy decisions for the educational community over nearly four decades.