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A Parent's Role in ESSA Implementation

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GovtAffairs@pta.org

#PTATakesAction
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Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- ESSA was signed into law by President Barack Obama on December 10, 2015
- Reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)—previously known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- ESSA provides greater flexibility to states and school districts to design educational plans and programs
- With great opportunity, comes great responsibility
- The goal is for systems to provide more supports for all students and less punitive consequences
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- 8 “titles” in the bill
- Title I and Title IV contain most of the family engagement provisions
- In implementation phase
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Implementation

- U.S. Department of Education is issuing FAQs, proposed regulations, guidance and technical assistance on aspects of the law.

- Examples:
  - Proposed regulations on state plans, accountability systems, and state and local report cards
  - ESSA Transition FAQs
  - Children in Foster Care Guidance

Transitioning to ESSA

- **ESEA flexibility waivers** expire August 1, 2016

- **State Accountability systems** under NCLB end August 1, 2016
  - Priority and Focus schools must continue interventions in SY16-17
  - New statewide accountability systems to be developed and in place by SY17-18
Transitioning to ESSA

- Formula grant programs will be distributed according to the same formula allocations that were used in SY15-16
- Competitive grant programs go into effect on October 1, 2016
- State and local report cards must continue to be published
What does ESSA mean for my child’s classroom instruction?

- ESSA reduces the high-stakes testing associated with No Child Left Behind (NCLB).
- Requires students to have access to a well-rounded education
What does ESSA mean for my child’s teacher?

• States can create teacher evaluation systems—if they choose—that best meets the needs of educators and students in their states.

• Test scores are not required as part of teacher evaluation systems
What does ESSA mean for my child’s testing requirements?

- Annual assessments in mathematics and reading/language arts in grades 3-8 and once in grades 9-12.
- Science assessment once in grades 3-5, 6-9 and 10-12.
- At least 95% of all students—or of any group of students—must participate in the state assessment.
What does ESSA mean for my child’s growth and achievement?

• State must adopt challenging state academic standards and state designed long-term and interim progress goals

• States are required to develop accountability systems that feature multiple measures of student growth and achievement.
What does ESSA mean for my child’s school accountability system?

• State accountability systems must include multiple measures of student achievement, but at minimum they must consist of:

1. Student achievement on annual assessments
2. Another academic indicator
3. English language proficiency
4. At least one additional indicator of school quality or student success
What does ESSA mean for my child’s school accountability system?

- Additional school quality and student success indicators can include:
  - Student and educator engagement
  - Student access to and completion of advanced course work
  - School climate and safety
  - Attendance

- States can have more than one additional indicator of school quality or student success
What does ESSA mean for my child’s educational opportunities and supports?

- States have to provide support to schools that are not meeting the state-determined goals for student and school performance.

- States must include stakeholders, including parents, in the development of their plans to monitor student and school performance.

- There are more opportunities for families to be engaged!
Family Engagement Provisions in ESSA
Family Engagement Provisions in ESSA

- Consultation of parents in development of state and local education plans
- Parents must be involved in school improvement plans
- Parent-friendly state and local report cards
- Consultation of parents in Title II, III, and IV plans and applications
Family Engagement Provisions in ESSA

• Title I, Sec. 1116: Local family engagement policy and reservation of at least 1% of funds for family engagement

• Title IV, Part E: Statewide Family Engagement Centers
Title I: Parent and Family Engagement (Sec. 1116)

- Written parent and family engagement policy

- Reservation of 1 percent of funds for family engagement

- Use of funds for family engagement:
  1. Professional development
  2. Home visiting
  3. Sharing best practices
  4. Collaborating with other organizations
  5. Other activities & strategies consistent with the family engagement policy
Title IV-Part E: Statewide Family Engagement Centers

• Formerly the Parental Information and Resource Center (PIRC) program in No Child Left Behind

• Competitive grant program

• Authorized at $10 million

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Title IV-Part E: Statewide Family Engagement Centers

- Work with state and local level agencies to support systemic family engagement initiatives
- Provide professional development on evidence-based and effective family engagement strategies
- Provide direct services to families on how to effectively work with their child’s school and teachers
ESSA Stakeholder Engagement

**Required participants**

- Governor
- State legislature
- State board of education
- Local educational agencies
- Representatives of Indian tribes located in the State
- Teachers
- Principals & other school leaders
- Specialized instructional support personnel
- Paraprofessionals
- Administrators & other staff
- Parents
ESSA Stakeholder Engagement

• Under ESSA, parents are required to be “meaningfully consulted” and involved in:
  o State and local Title I plans
  o Title II state and local applications
  o Title III state and local plans
  o Title IV-A local applications
  o Title IV-B state applications
  o State and local report cards
  o School improvement plans
ESSA Implementation: State Leader Perspective

Let’s Get This Conversation Started: Strategies, Tools, Examples and Resources to Help States Engage with Stakeholders to Develop and Implement their ESSA Plans

Jessah Walker
Senior Federal Relations Associate, Council of Chief State School Officers
ESSA Implementation: North Carolina

- External Stakeholders Group Member
  - North Carolina PTA

Kelly Langston, President, North Carolina PTA
ESSA Implementation:
Oregon

- ESSA State Advisory Committee
  - Collin Robinson, President

- Standards and Assessment Workgroup
  - Scott Overton, President-Elect

- School and District Improvement Workgroup
  - Otto Schell, Legislative Director

- Accountability Workgroup
  - Kevin McHargue, Federal Legislative Chair
ESSA Stakeholder Engagement

Lessons From the Field

Kelly Langston, President, North Carolina PTA

Otto Schell, Legislative Director, Oregon PTA

Jessah Walker
Senior Federal Relations Associate, Council of Chief State School Officers

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ESSA Implementation:
PTA.org/ESSA

ESSA Webpages by State, National PTA

Questions PTA Advocates Should Ask about the ESSA Implementation

What Does This New Law Mean for my Child?

Family Engagement in ESSA

Statewide Family Engagement Centers
Do you have questions about ESSA implementation?

Contact GovtAffairs@pta.org!
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