Advancing Policy Webinar

ESSA: A NAFSCE Town Hall Conversation

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The NAFSCE Mission & Vision

**Mission:** Advancing high-impact policies and practices of family, school and community engagement to promote child development and improve student achievement.

**Vision:** A world where family engagement is universally practiced as an essential strategy for improving children’s learning, and advancing equity.
NAFSCE Communities of Practice

➢ Dual Capacity Framework
  ▪ Launched first member-only participation opportunity February 2016
  ▪ 1st Tuesday of Month from 3pm-4pm EST
  ▪ 3 more sessions
NAFSCE Agenda

I. NAFSCE Policy Activities

II. ESSA impacting families of children with disabilities

III. ESSA and a family engagement overview

IV. Questions, Answers and Conversation
Polling Participants

What is your role?

- Early Childhood Educator
- K-12 Educator
- School-based parent coordinator
- Afterschool program staff
- Parent leader
- Non-profit staff
- Government Agency staff
- University Faculty
- Consultant
- Other
NAFSCE Policy Activities

• HHS/DOE Interagency Policy Council
  ➢ Testimony
  ➢ Comments on draft recommendations

• ESSA Legislation
  ➢ Presentation at DOE Regional Conference
  ➢ Comments/feedback on legislation
Polling Participants

• Have you read ESSA Legislation in its entirety or in summary?

• Have you read about the Statewide Family Engagement Centers in ESSA Title IV?
Ensuring that Every means EVERY
ESSA & Students with Disabilities

Presented by
Debra Jennings
Executive Co-Director | SPAN National Projects
&
Candace Cortiella
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Challenging Standards

Provides that students with and without disabilities be held to the same challenging standards.
Include students with disabilities in statewide and district-wide assessments with appropriate accommodations to ensure that SWD can fully participate in assessments.
Assessment of students with most significant cognitive disabilities

• 1% cap on # of students assessed on alternate assessments aligned to alternate standards

• *Parents must be fully informed* of the implications as part of the IEP process
Accountability

Results for children with disabilities must be disaggregated & reported & included in decision-making identifying schools for assistance.
States will be required to develop *new state plans*. 
ESSA provides for meaningful consultation, including:

- Governor
- State legislature
- State board of education
- Districts (including rural districts)
- Representatives of Indian tribes located in the state
- Teachers
- Principals
- Other school leaders
- Charter school leaders
- Specialized instructional support personnel
- Paraprofessionals
- Administrators,
- Other staff

and

PARENTS

Increased State Flexibility

Means

Increased Parent Participation in Decision-Making is needed!
How can your organization support parents of students with disability in being included in this meaningful consultation?
Some resources & more to come . . .

Center for Parent Information & Resource@SPAN:  http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/essa-reauth/

Advocacy Institute
http://www.advocacyinstitute.org/ESSA/SWDanalysis.shtml
NAFSCE Town Hall Policy Conversation

ESSA: What’s in it for Parents?
Anne T. Henderson
Annenberg Institute for School Reform
NAFSCE Board Member
ESSA: What’s the Same/What’s New

The same:
- Annual testing/reporting on student outcomes
- Disaggregated data (race, income, ELL, SPED)
- Identify lowest 5% of schools

New:
- States set performance indicators and goals
- No federal criteria for teacher evaluation
Consultation:

- **State Plans**: SEAs must consult with parents, allow 30 days for comment. USDE Secretary must establish peer review teams that include parents.
- **State Report Cards**: Reports to the public, must be developed w/ parents.
- **District Plans**: Districts must consult w/ parents in developing plans and describe how to meet FE mandates.
- **School Support Plans**: Plans to improve low-performing schools must be developed + implemented in partnership with parents.
ESSA: Family Engagement

District policy:

An LEA may receive Title I funds *only if* it:
- Conducts outreach to *all* parents and family members
- Implements programs, activities, and procedures to involve parents and family members in Title I programs, in meaningful consultation with parents of Title I children.
- Sets expectations and objectives for meaningful FE.

Policy must cover: Jointly developed; build capacity; link to FE in other programs; jointly evaluate; involve in Title I school activities, including a parent advisory board. (optional)
ESSA: Family Engagement

Statewide Family Engagement Centers

- The evolution of PIRCs
- $10 million authorized
- Leverages the capacity of culturally proficient family engagement organizations within states
- Supports development of statewide infrastructure
- Focuses on statewide TA, training and capacity building vs direct service
ESSA: Family Engagement

The same: Title I schools must develop:

- FE Policy – meetings, program review, info on curriculum and testing, parent comments.
- School-Parent Compact: Shared responsibility for student learning, dual capacity for involvement;

New:

- Ensure regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff.
- 90% of Title I family engagement funds go directly to the school
ESSA: NAFSCE Recommends

Core Principles:

● Family engagement is an essential strategy to improve student learning.
● Parents and families are not “the problem” but essential partners
● Both educators and families need support to collaborate
● Close parent-teacher communication and collaboration is what improves student learning
ESSA: NAFSCE Recommends

Update the old NRG:

• Incorporate high impact strategies aligned with the core principles. Move away from separate responsibilities to meaningful communication.
• Emphasize close coordination with and transition from early childhood programs.
• Integrate the Dual Capacity-Building Framework into the NRG.
Questions & Comments

- Online-use the hand raise feature to speak
- In person-move to an open seat with a microphone to speak
- On the phone-unmute your line by pressing *6 to speak

Panel Discussion
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NAFSCE NETWORK MEETING
Sharing Effective Practices
March 23, 2016
3:00pm-5:00pm

save the date®