2016 NASAA CONFERENCE

ESSA SESSION

JANE R. BEST, DIRECTOR
ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP
• The Arts Education Partnership is a center within Education Commission of the States dedicated to **advancing the arts** in education through research, policy and practice.

• **AEP serves as the nation’s hub** for individuals and organizations committed to making high-quality arts education accessible to all U.S. students, improving arts education practice, and researching how art influences and strengthens American education.

• We serve our Partner Organizations by providing priority access to **research and information**, and creating opportunities for **communication and collaboration** between arts disciplines and across sectors.
2020 Action Agenda

The Arts Leading the Way to Student Success: A 2020 Action Agenda for Advancing the Arts in Education sets forth an ambitious plan for achieving the Action Agenda’s five-year aspirational goal: By the year 2020 every young person in America, at every grade level, from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, will have equitable access to high quality arts learning opportunities, both during the school day and in out-of-school time.
The Agenda identifies four state level priority areas in which arts and education leaders can situate their work:

I. Raise **Student Achievement** and Success
II. Support **Effective Educators and School Leaders**
III. Transform the **Teaching and Learning Environment**
IV. **Build Leadership Capacity** and Knowledge
ESSA's Well-Rounded Education
SCOTT D. JONES AND EMILY WORKMAN

As questions regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) flow into Education Commission of the States, one frequent inquiry emerges:

ESSA EMphasizes the need for all students to have access to a well-rounded education that includes the arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, English, and mathematics.

However, while understanding the need for a well-rounded education is crucial, it can be challenging for states and districts to invest in activities that support such an education. This includes the integration of new student support and academic enrichment grants.

Despite these challenges, ESSA opens up many opportunities for states and districts to invest in activities that support a well-rounded education, including new student support and academic enrichment grants.

Historically, stakeholder engagement efforts have focused on information sharing and gathering feedback. However, to ensure stakeholder buy-in and greater success throughout ESSA implementation, embracing a collaborative model could benefit states.

Collaborative Stakeholder Engagement
MATT JORDAN, DAVID CHRISLIP AND EMILY WORKMAN

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides states greater flexibility to make policy decisions that lead to better outcomes for students. However, stakeholder engagement and collaboration are essential to the success of this act. A lack of engagement and bad process can derail opportunities for progress.
This report provides insight into key areas of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that have prompted questions and concerns from education leaders and policymakers as they prepare to implement this new law.

The ten ESSA issues explored in this report include:

- Assessment Flexibility
- Assessment Participation and Opt-Outs
- Innovative Assessment Pilot
- Indicators of School Quality or Student Success
- English Learners and Accountability
- Supporting Low-Performing Schools
- Teachers and School Leaders
- Title I’s Supplement-Not-Supplant Provision
- Title IV – 21st Century Schools
- State Plans

http://www.ecs.org/essa-quick-guides-on-top-issues/
AEP web site regularly updated with additional resources

http://www.aep-arts.org/essa/
Stay tuned for a new resource that will highlight how the increased flexibility available to state and local education agencies in ESSA opens up opportunities for the arts.

Areas to be explored include:

- **Title I** plans and programs
- Establishing **accountability** metrics
- Creating innovative **assessments**
- Developing **state plans** for implementing ESSA
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http://www.ecs.org/stay-current/newsletters/