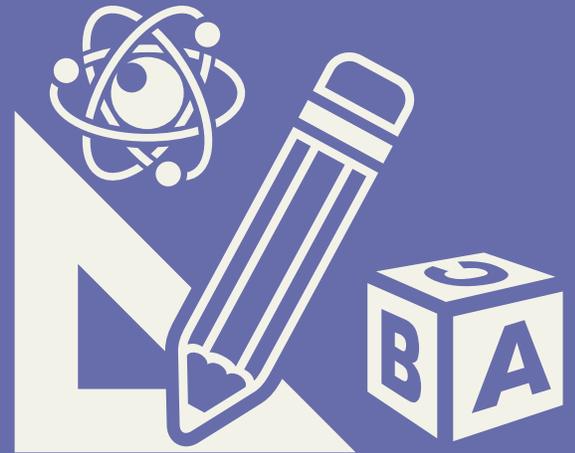


Tell Congress a new Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must mean opportunity for all, and time to learn

Since adopted 12 years ago, No Child Left Behind has made no significant progress in closing achievement and opportunity gaps for students. Instead, it has perpetuated a system that delivers unequal opportunities and uneven quality to America's children making it impossible for educators to do what is most important: instill a love of learning in their students.



Now is the time for educators to make their voices heard!

As educators, we have a chance to set a new vision for a public education system that promotes opportunity and excellence for ALL students.

In order for Congress to get the law right this time, we need every educator to tell members of Congress to make sure that any new federal education bill does three things:

1. Creates more opportunities for all students to receive a quality education, no matter their zip code

- Replace the one-size-fits-all, top-down approach with a new “school dashboard” of indicators to identify opportunity gaps and reveal gaps in some of the basic components of a high-quality, well-rounded education that prepares each student for college and/or a career.

2. Allows more time for students to learn and more time for teachers to teach

- Testing takes time away from learning. We must reduce the emphasis on federally-mandated standardized tests that would free up time and resources, diminish “teaching to the test,” and allow educators to focus on what is most important: instilling a love of learning in their students.
- A revised ESEA should include a proven approach called “grade-span” testing which would test students in English, Math and Science once in elementary school, once in middle school and once in high school.

3. Ensures every student has a qualified educator who is empowered to lead

- We need to build a pipeline of diverse, fully qualified educators who are available to every student in every zip code, and who are prepared to teach in today's classrooms on day one.
- Educators care about their students. We must ensure they have authority to do their job and lead on behalf of their students.

