Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Colorado Workforce Development Council
November 14, 2016
Goals for Today

- Overview of ESSA
  - What is ESSA?
- Process & Timeline
- Gather feedback and recommendations
Differentiating Between Federal, State and Local Policies

- Existing Colorado Education Law

**SCHOOL/DISTRICT POLICY**
- Curriculum
- Instructional methods
- Day-to-day structure
- Hiring teachers
- Local assessments, etc.

**STATE POLICY**
- Licensure requirements
- Standards
- Specific state assessments, etc.

**FEDERAL POLICY**
- Broad goals for students
- Civil rights requirements
- Broad outline for assessments
- Requirements for standards, etc.
History

- Reauthorization of ESEA – Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Signed into Federal law on December 10, 2015
- Replaces the No Child Left Behind Act
- Replaces the ESEA Flex Waiver, expired on August 1st – largely used state law to meet federal requirements
- ESSA establishes broad policy requirements for states and school districts:
  - Academic Standards
  - Aligned Assessments
  - School Accountability
  - School Improvement
  - Teacher Quality
- Creates programs and provides funding to support state and local implementation of the requirements
ESSA State Plan Development

ESSA HUB COMMITTEE

ESSA WORKING GROUP

Standards Committee
Assessment Committee
Accountability Committee
School Improvement Committee
Effective Instruction and Leadership Committee
Stakeholder Consultation and Program Coordination Committee

ESSA LISTENING TOUR INPUT

APPROVAL*
- Colorado Department of Education
- Governor’s Office
- State Board of Education
- ESSA Committee of Practitioners

* List of approvers is dictated in the federal law.

CRITICAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR INPUT THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS
- General Assembly
- School Districts
- Education organizations
- Advocacy Groups
- Parents, students & community
- Business
Colorado must submit an ESSA state plan by March 6 or July 3, 2017, per the proposed regulations.
Charge of spoke committees:

- Review ESSA requirements and regulations, existing Colorado state law and rules, and ESSA Listening Tour and other stakeholder feedback to:
  - Draft, review, and revise sections of Colorado’s ESSA State Plan;
  - Provide recommendations on content specific decision points
  - Identify possible areas for additional flexibility in state legislation
  - Propose responses to and provide justifications for decisions made concerning stakeholder feedback; and,
  - Present and submit draft sections, recommendations, and summaries of the ESSA state plan work to the Hub committee.
Essential themes that cut across the allowable use of ESSA Title program funds:

- Career and Technical Education
- Early Learning
- Healthy Students
- Well-rounded Education
- Supports for Teachers
- Supports for Students

Need to reflect these themes in application and guidance materials.
Partners

Business:
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Adult Education
- Career & Technical Education
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
What are your expectations of education?

What are the top three current activities occurring to make sure to continue?

Are there others we should consider changing or stopping?

What important questions are not being asked?
Questions?