



## ESSA IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

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### ESSA Subcommittee Meeting – Title Programs

**Date, Time:** Friday, July 22, 2016, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

**ALSDE Facilitator:** Karen Winn

**Members present:** Anthony Buckner, Anne West, Anne Monroe, Jan Hume (DECE)

**Members absent:** None

**Summary:** A review of the previous meeting was given. Karen Winn established that the key role of the committee is to identify how the state can determine to set aside additional funds for Direct Student Services. A discussion of Direct Student Services was held to determine possible suggestions for acceptable activities relative to ESSA guidelines.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, August 18, 2016, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

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## Detailed Notes

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*All notes below are comments with committee members and the ALSDE facilitator.*

### ***Review of June Meeting***

- Objective for our work:
  - Establish open dialogue to do what is best for our Alabama children
  - Discuss and garner input regarding whether or not to set aside Title I resources for Direct Student Services. If yes, what action will our state need to take to be successful (competitive, innovative grants, etc.)
- The committee was asked to think about “What do you want for the children of Alabama?”
  - For every child in Alabama, regardless of where they come from, to be successful
  - Need to encourage and support family involvement, particularly in the early years
  - Need more family and community engagement
  - High expectations for every child
  - Eliminate the “factory model,” and assist students to help them on the path that they need to be on
  - Kids should feel safe at school and their basic needs met
  - Adults should be role models-care about doing what is best for children; be flexible, excited and positive
- Innovative ideas:
  - Mentoring programs
  - Grants to extend learning opportunities
  - Expand learning opportunities for students
  - Additional support for ESL
  - Provide additional support during the school day to meet identified needs
  - Hire tutors, educational experts, and specialists
  - Expand career/tech programs
  - Increase exposure to music and art
  - Increase summer programs
  - Increase parental involvement programs
  - Add Social Workers to meet students’ needs
  - Middle and High School increased support
  - Adequate funding for school materials for instruction
  - Increase funding for STEM
  - Increase funding for technology to include infrastructure



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## ***Overview of Current Title I Section and ESSA New Guidelines:***

### **❖ Current ESEA Waiver**

- Design to support academically struggling students in high poverty schools  
Most of the money flows to schools, which can either target specific students or upgrade the school's educational program
- Districts can keep some money to operate central-level programs
- Designed to allow flexibility in making funding decisions based on needs identified at state and local level

### **❖ Spending Changes – ESSA Guidelines**

- SEA reservation for school improvement activities increases, but School Improvement Grant (SIG) program is eliminated as a standalone
- Direct Student Services: SEAs have new option to reserve up to 3% of Title I funds to award grants to LEAs to pay for Direct Student Services: tutoring, courses not offered at enrolled school, and in some cases transportation for school of choice
- Guidelines could make it easier for secondary school to access Title 1 funds
- Designed for additional flexibility

### ***Discussion Items***, What have you learned about the new federal law?

1. ESSA gives a lot of power of the decision making back to the state
2. States have more flexibility from federal guidelines
3. The local needs assessments are a vital tool in determining the best use of federal funds to meet the local needs. A high quality, complete needs assessment is of vital importance in informing funding decisions.
4. All LEAs will have to provide a one-page document to the parents on the status of their school. Information much be presented in simple terms
5. Belief: Alabama is ahead of the curve because of visionary leadership with PLAN 2020

### ***Discussion Items***, What items are you interested in learning more about?

1. How do we know what is working in schools and what strategies are effective?
2. Encourage members to look at other states and what they are doing with ESSA implementation
3. Tie ACIP component with the ESSA implementation
  - a. ACIP provides one platform that meets all requirements
4. Streamline professional development, funding, etc.
5. Can the A-F state report meet ESSA requirements?
6. Will the parent report be in “parent friendly” terms?



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*Next Steps:*

- Review Alabama ESEA Waiver
- Review PLAN 2020
- Review USDOE FAQs
- Study NCLB/ESSA correlation document

