



2018

ASCD Policy Recommendations

RESOURCE EQUITY

The college- and career-ready expectations for students have never been higher, while the needs of these students—the majority of whom now come from low-income families—have never been greater. Growing income inequality has only exacerbated education inequities and disparities among communities of haves and have-nots. It is crucial that adequate investments be made to address these realities.

ASCD calls on policymakers to provide the funding necessary to meet all mandates they impose and to increase resources to meet the needs of every student—especially socioeconomically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities—and to support career technical education, a well-rounded education, personalized learning, and high-quality teachers and principals.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST

- Ensure that the federal investment in education is sufficient to help students meet high standards, including robust funding for Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for students most in need and meeting the full federal funding obligation for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for students with disabilities.
- Provide \$2.1 billion for educator professional development through ESSA's Title II, Part A, to ensure every child has access to effective educators.
- Recognize the importance of teachers and school leaders by providing incentives for recruiting high-achieving students to enter the profession and retaining effective educators.
- Invest in a well-rounded education for all students by funding the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant in ESSA's Title IV, Part A, at \$1.6 billion.
- Invest in high-quality career and technical education with \$1.1 billion for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act.

ASCD 2018 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

STATES SHOULD

- Provide the necessary structure and support, both fiscal and programmatic, to help districts and schools ensure all students are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged by adopting the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model of coordinated school health.
- Reform state education funding systems to ensure all schools and students have equitable access to effective educators, high-quality academic programming, necessary wraparound services, after-school opportunities, school-based health care, and transportation.
- Increase education funding to pre-2008 levels.
- Provide incentives to attract and retain effective educators—especially those in high-need and rural communities that face unique challenges such as transportation, adequate housing, and access to high-quality medical care.
- Ensure that districts and schools provide all students access to technology and that educators are trained in the effective use of technology.

DISTRICTS CAN

- Ensure the equitable distribution of resources and provide supplemental services to best meet the needs of all students.
- Create opportunities for student apprenticeships that lead to employment upon high school graduation by incentivizing partnerships between districts and local employers.
- Implement personalized learning programs for students to help them reach their full potential in school and prepare them for success after graduation.
- Embrace models like community schools and other frameworks that encourage stakeholder engagement in the mission of school and student success.

Visit www.educatoradvocates.org for information about policy resources and to become an ASCD Educator Advocate. Educator Advocates are informed about policy developments and engage with decision makers at all levels and in a variety of ways to promote the policies that best support students and schools.

ASCD is dedicated to excellence in learning, teaching, and leading so that every child is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. Comprising 115,000 members—superintendents, principals, teachers, and advocates from more than 128 countries—the ASCD community also includes 51 affiliate organizations. ASCD's innovative solutions promote the success of each child.

To learn more about how ASCD supports educators as they learn, teach, and lead, visit www.ascd.org. Printer-friendly copies of the 2018 Legislative Agenda are available at www.ascd.org/legislativeagenda. For additional information, contact ASCD Advocacy & Government Relations at gr@ascd.org.

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