

AASL Vision for Implementing ESSA

This AASL vision document describes goal and action steps needed to implement Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA). Throughout the document:

- SEA refers to State Educational Agency or consortium thereof
- LEA refers to Local Educational Agency or consortium thereof
- State personnel refers to personnel within the state department of education

Goal and Action Steps

Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies

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1. Ensure that definition and criteria of an effective school library program are available to any agency applying for Title I funding.
 - a. Action: Define the components of an effective school library program.
 - b. Action: Communicate the definition and criteria to other educational agencies and partners.
2. Ensure the tools to measure the effectiveness of an effective school library program are developed and available to any agency applying for Title I funding.
 - a. Action: Provide school librarians with the tools to measure effective school library programs.
 - b. Action: Provide training on the usage of these tools.
3. Ensure school librarians have the tools to assess digital literacy skills.
 - a. Action: Provide school librarians with the tools to assess digital literacy skills.
 - b. Action: Provide training on the usage of the assessment tools.
4. Ensure ongoing communication and guidance be provided to affiliates, educational agencies, state officials, and community partners.

Affiliates

1. Ensure school libraries are a component of the planning, application, and funding process at the SEA level.
 - a. Action: Contact and work with state level personnel to have a representative who voices the importance of developing and maintaining effective school library programs at planning sessions dedicated to implementing federally-funded activities.
 - b. Action: Network with other educational agencies to voice the importance of school libraries being included at the SEA level.

2. Ensure school librarians are a component of the planning, application, and funding process at the LEA level.
 - a. Action: Network with other educational agencies to voice the importance of school libraries being included at the LEA level.
 - b. Action: Provide training to school librarians to ensure that school libraries are included at the process at the LEA level.

School Librarians

1. Ensure school libraries are a component of the planning, application, and funding process at the LEA level.
 - a. Action: Contact and work with district level personnel to have a representative who voices the importance of developing and maintaining effective school library programs at planning sessions dedicated to implementing Title 1.
 - b. Action: Identify tools for measuring the effectiveness of school library programs. (Quantitative measures are needed.)
 - c. Action: Identify tools for measuring digital literacy skills.
 - d. Action: Determine if a needs assessment exists that measures the criteria suggested by SEA or established by LEA.

Title II, Part A: Supporting Effective Instruction

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1. Ensure the definition for “school leaders” as defined in ESSA includes school librarians.
 - a. Action: Advocates to federal, state, and local personnel to ensure the school librarians are eligible for professional development opportunities under the category “school leaders.”
2. Ensure ongoing communication and guidance be provided to affiliates, educational agencies, state officials, and community partners.

Affiliates

1. Ensure school librarians are included as eligible for professional development opportunities at the SEA and LEA levels under the category of “school leaders.”
 - a. Action: Contact and work with state level personnel to ensure school librarians are eligible for professional development opportunities at the SEA and LEA levels under the category of “school leaders.”
2. Ensure funding is specifically allocated for supporting effective school library programing.
 - a. Action: Contact and work with state level personnel to ensure funding is provided for professional learning opportunities for school librarians.
 - b. Action: Contact and work with state level personnel to ensure funding is allocated to instructional services of effective school library programs.

- c. Action: Provide training to school librarians to ensure that supporting effective school library programming is included at the LEA level.

School Librarians

1. Ensure funding is specifically allocated for supporting effective school library programming at the LEA level.
 - a. Action: Work with district personnel to ensure funding is provided for professional learning opportunities for school librarians.
 - b. Action: Work with district level personnel to ensure funding is allocated to instructional services of effective school library programs.

Title II, Part B: Subpart 2--Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN)

AASL

1. Ensure school librarians have tools to assess literacy skills.
 - a. Action: Identify potential assessment tools of literacy skills.
2. Ensure school librarians are aware of needs assessment tools available to determine the role of school library programs in a comprehensive literacy plan.
 - a. Action: Identify potential needs assessment tools.
3. Ensure the importance school library programs play in student literacy is communicated to all agencies who have a vested interest in LEARN.
 - a. Action: Communicate the importance to other educational agencies and partners.
4. Ensure appropriate funds and expanded appropriations are budgeted for LEARN.
 - a. Action: Advocate for support and increase line item appropriations.
5. Ensure ongoing communication and guidance be provided to affiliates, educational agencies, state officials, and community partners.

Affiliates

1. Ensure school libraries are represented on the State Literacy Leadership Team.
 - a. Action: Contact and work with state level personnel to have a representative who voices the role of school libraries in a comprehensive literacy instruction plan (K-5 and 6-12).
2. Ensure school librarians have knowledge of the various assessment tools for measuring digital, informational, media, visual, and other literacy skills.
 - a. Action: Provide training on assessing literacy skills.

School Librarians

1. Ensure school librarians are members of the team developing the district comprehensive literacy plan.

- a. Action: Contact and work with district level personnel to have a representative who voices school libraries in literacy instruction (reading and writing) at the K-5 and 6-12.
 - b. Action: Determine if a needs assessment exists that measures the criteria suggested by SEA or established by LEA.
 - c. Action: Identify quantitative questions that can be incorporated into the district assessment for measuring digital, informational, media, visual, and other literacy skills.
 - d. Action: Participate in determining the criteria for professional development in regard to literacy instruction to ensure that school librarians are included in the professional development activities.
 - e. Action: Participate in the planning of professional development in regard to literacy to ensure that time is provided for planning and collaboration between teachers and school librarians on comprehensive literacy instruction.
2. Ensure school librarians are members of the team developing the building comprehensive literacy plan.
 - a. Action: Contact and work with building level personnel to have a representative who voices school libraries in literacy instruction (reading and writing).
 - b. Action: Participate in determining the criteria for professional development in regard to literacy instruction to ensure that school librarians are included in the professional development activities.
 - c. Action: Participate in the planning of professional development in regards to literacy to ensure that time is provided for planning and collaboration between teachers and school librarians on comprehensive literacy instruction.

Title II, Part B: Subpart 2--Section 2226 Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL)

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1. Ensure appropriate funds and expanded appropriations are budgeted for IAL.
 - a. Action: Advocate for support and increase line item appropriations.
2. Ensure the importance school library programs play in student literacy is communicated to all agencies that have a vested interest in IAL.
 - a. Action: Communicate the importance to other educational agencies and partners.
3. Ensure ongoing communication and guidance be provided to affiliates, educational agencies, state officials, and community partners.

Affiliates

1. Ensure that LEA and/or consortiums are aware of the opportunities that funding can be used to develop and enhance school library programs including professional development for school librarians, books, and update-to-date materials for high need schools.

- a. Action: Assist the LEA and/or consortiums with strategies and needs assessments for applying for the funding.
2. Ensure LEA includes IAL funding to develop and enhance the school library program.
 - a. Action: Provide training and/or a list of tools for updating the library resources.

School Librarians

1. Ensure LEA includes IAL funding to develop and enhance the school library program.
 - a. Action: School librarians work with the LEA to develop and implement professional development for improving the school library program.
 - b. Action: School librarians work with the LEA to obtain funding to update library resources.

TITLE IV, PART A: STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT GRANTS (BLOCK GRANT)

AASL

1. Ensure school libraries can be considered for funding by providing the required needs assessment tools or ideas evaluating personalized learning.
 - a. Action: Identify potential needs assessment tools for evaluating personalized learning.
2. Ensure school libraries and certified librarians are included in conversation focusing on educational technology integration.
 - a. Action: Work with ALA units and other educational partners that focus on educational technology integration.
3. Ensure appropriate funds and expanded appropriations are budgeted for Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants.
 - a. Action: Advocate for support and increase line item appropriations.
4. Ensure ongoing communication and guidance be provided to affiliates, educational agencies, state officials, and community partners.

Affiliates

1. Ensure school libraries and certified school librarians are included in the SEA allocation process for funds targeted for educational technology integration, program and activities.
 - a. Action: Contact and work with state personnel to include school libraries and certified school librarians in the allocation process for funds targeted for educational technology integration programs and activities.
 - i. Work on planning how to use funds to assist LEA with identifying and addressing technology readiness needs, including Internet connectivity and access to school libraries.
 - ii. Develop a process to use funds to assist LEA in providing school librarians with professional development in the knowledge and skills to use technology

- effectively, including effective integration of technology, to improve instruction and student achievement.
- iii. Develop a process to award grants to LEA to support access to increase student access to library services including digital learning opportunities and resources.
2. Ensure school libraries have a voice at the SEA level.
 - a. Action: Work with a State Education School Library Consultant or other state personnel
 - i. Discuss the potential of using Title IV State Funds to fully or partially fund a State Education School Library Consultant in States where this role is not currently filled.
 3. Ensure school libraries are eligible for funds addressing personalized learning.
 - a. Action: Inform state officials that the funds for school libraries services can be used as component of access to personalized learning experiences.
 - b. Action: Work with AASL on training school librarians on the needs assessment tools that address personalized learning experiences.
 - c. Action: Work with SEA to inform LEA that the funds for school libraries services can be used as component of access to personalized learning experiences.

School Librarians

1. Ensure a school librarian is a part of the application process at the LEA level.
 - a. Action: Work with LEA officials to include as school librarian as a “specialized instructional support personnel” (as defined in ESSA) on the team of teachers, principals and other stakeholders is responsible for the application process at the LEA level.
 - b. Action: Work with LEA officials to include professional development for school librarians on the knowledge and skills to use technology effectively, including effective integration of technology, to improve instruction and student achievement in the application LEA process.
 - c. Action: Work with LEA officials to increase student access to school library services including digital learning opportunities and resources.