



Statement issued by the American Association of School Personnel Administrators on the blueprint for a new education era through the reauthorization of ESEA.

**For Immediate Release**

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**Overland Park, KS** - AASPA has grown more influential in recent years as our school districts and our local and federal government focus on the importance of Human Capital operations in the challenge to provide a quality education for all students. .

Through current discussions and the recently issued "Blueprint for Reform," it is easy to understand that recruitment plans, screening and interviewing, careful matching of teaching repertoires to district needs and thoughtful mentoring of new teachers to veteran teachers is a top priority.

We applaud President Obama and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan for opening comments in the blueprint that mention rewarding success rather than labeling failures. We believe there are many success stories throughout our country and being able to recognize and replicate the programs is efficient and promotes positive change through the people that can make it happen.

Another strength in the program is the cross culture priorities that focus on student outcomes and using technology as a priority in this process. Both of these help us keep our ultimate goal in mind and create educational processes for our students' futures.

A concept in this blueprint that excites us is the opportunity to have flexibility in meeting standards. It is important to remember there is no student, teacher or school exactly alike and different school cultures need different strategies to be successful for all students.

One concern is the competitive nature of the grants. Title schools need high quality teachers in every classroom, and without Title money available, this may exacerbate our current challenge.

We support different assessments that are created as a growth model and include multiple measures. We need more information to determine support for this area as identified in the blueprint.

As administrators in school districts responsible for the people in those districts, we are definitely supportive of moving ahead with the reauthorization of ESEA . We look forward to being at the table and incorporating functional ideas that work to move Human Capital in school districts into alignment with instructional and student learning standards that come out of the ESEA renewal effort. We want to work with the Department of Education to be sure this reauthorization provides the tools we need to put a high quality teacher and principal in every school.

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**About AASPA:** In existence since 1940, AASPA is the only organization that specifically targets and represents school personnel professionals. AASPA's mission is to provide leadership in promoting effective human resources practices within education through professional development activities and a broad-based resource network. To learn about AASPA please visit our website [www.aaspa.org](http://www.aaspa.org).