

Supporting the Whole Child: Opportunities in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

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Healthy Schools Campaign

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About Healthy Schools Campaign



Overview: The Shifting Landscape



- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Chronic Absenteeism
- School Health Services

Every Student Succeeds Act



ESSA: A New Hope

- The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is our national education law
- ESEA was last reauthorized in 2001 as the No Child Left Behind Act
- Anticipated to be fully operational in school year 2017-2018

Can we use ESSA to Address Trauma in Schools?

- Will drive funding to states and school districts with high percentages of low-income children
- Funding can be used to support the conditions of learning, including school health
- Separate funding available for professional development to support school staff with behavioral health training

Accountability and the Non-Academic Indicator

- Under ESSA, school accountability systems could radically change with a new metric to rank schools: a **“measure of school quality” or success**

What's Measured Is What Matters

- We need your feedback!
- Some considerations:
 - Can the indicator be reliably measured (data collected)?
 - Do the chosen metrics demonstrate progress over time (vs yes/no indicators)?
 - Will this increase student testing?
 - What matters to student success? What should be measured?



Indicator Brainstorm

Examples

- Social and emotional learning
- PE hours per week
- Chronic absenteeism
- Measures of school climate (e.g. bullying)
- Teacher engagement
- Access to AP classes
- School nurse on site
- Post-secondary readiness
- Student engagement
- Discipline data

The Illinois Report Card

- ESSA requires that all states publish a report card
- Two new key measures related to trauma are required by law in most states: chronic absenteeism and safety

Chronic Absenteeism



Chronic Absenteeism (CA)

- CA includes excused and unexcused absences
- CA can be strong indicator of student health services and how a school is addressing trauma
- Potentially strong non-academic indicator
- IL is making progress on defining and tracking CA through the Illinois Attendance Commission

Changes to School Health Services!



Conclusion & Next Steps

- The Illinois State Board of Education's decision on how to implement ESSA could determine the future of trauma-sensitive schools in Illinois.
- We can't afford to miss out! Stay updated and get involved with Healthy Schools Campaign.

Thank you!



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