



NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND IS DEAD!

The Basics of the New Federal Education Law (ESSA)

The 5 Big Themes of ESSA:

- 01** Shifts authority over most education policy decisions from federal to state, but the shift is not absolute.
- 02** Gives states new flexibility for school rating systems, goals, and a system of school supports/interventions, but establishes limited federal guard rails.
- 03** Preserves annual assessments, but gives states an opportunity to audit, streamline and innovate.
- 04** Gives states greater flexibility to direct federal funds to state-determined priorities, but districts often have final say.
- 05** Eliminates teacher evaluation system requirements created by waivers, but states can choose to continue/refine their systems.

Breakdown:

What was Eliminated? What Survived? What's New?

Eliminated

- Ability of Secretary to incent states to adopt a particular set of standards
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Mandate to achieve universal proficiency by a certain date
- Federally defined cascade of sanctions including tutoring and school choice
- School Improvement Grants (SIG) program (replaced with a set aside)
- Race to the Top
- Highly qualified teacher requirements
- Teacher evaluations based on student achievement (required by waivers)

Survived

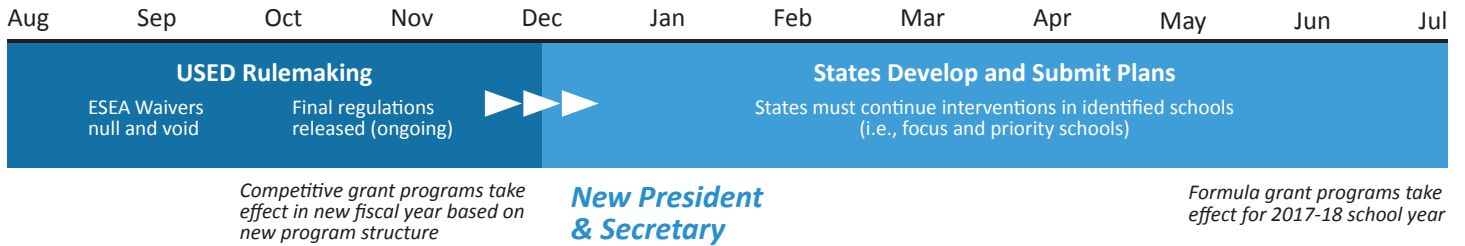
- Requirement to adopt “challenging” state academic content standards
- Annual testing in reading and math in grade 3-8 and high school
- Grade-span testing in science
- State participation in NAEP
- Disaggregated data
- 95% participation requirement (states determine consequences)
- Existing Title I formula
- “Supplement no supplant” and “maintenance of effort” requirements (with new flexibilities)

New

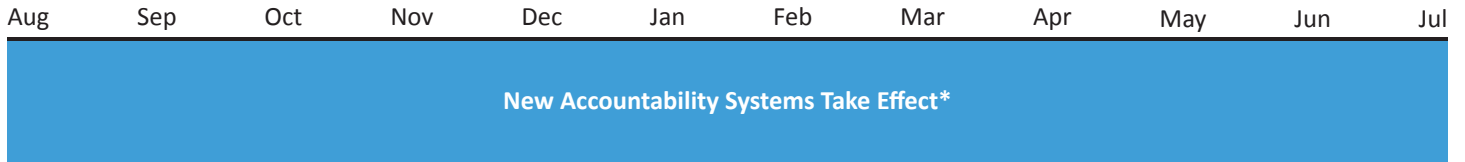
- Standards must be aligned with credit-bearing courses in college
- Innovative assessment pilot
- New assessment delivery option – adaptive roll up
- Funding for assessment audits
- Mandate for state-developed accountability systems with limited federal guardrails
- Locally and school-designed interventions
- Option set aside for “Direct Student Services”
- Weighted student funding pilot
- Student Support and Academic Enrichment block of \$1.6 billion (if fully funded)

Timeline

2016-17 School Year: Transition

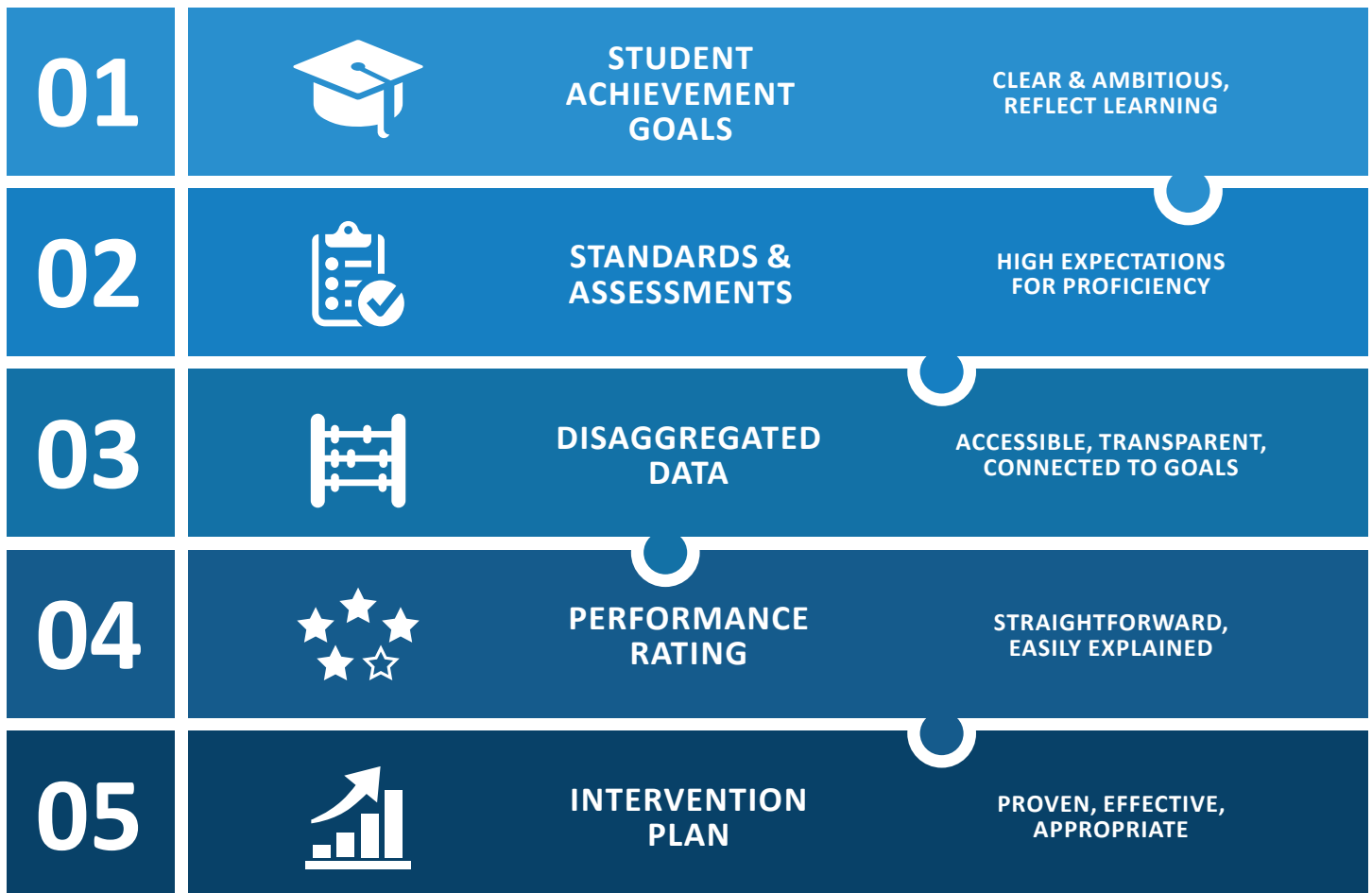


2017-18 School Year: New Systems in Place



***Disclaimer Language** – It is not clear from the legislation when states will first be required to identify a new set of schools based on their accountability system under ESSA. (i.e., will the identification be based on 2016-17 data or 2017-18 data). We hope to have more clarity on the timeline from the U.S. Department of Education in the coming months.

Potential Components of State K-12 Accountability Systems



Content provided by the Foundation for Excellence in Education and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. For more information go to: <http://www.excelined.org/> and www.achievetomorrow.org



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