EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

#NPS18
Overview

- Congress originally enacted the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 1965 as an educational component of the “War on Poverty”
- Prior version of federal K-12 policy was passed in 2002 as the No Child Left Behind Act
- Reauthorization of the law was more than 8 years overdue
- Finally crossed the finish line in 2015!
- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA):
  - Passed the House 359-64
  - Passed the Senate 85-12
  - Bill signed into law December 10, 2015 (P.L.114-95)
ESSA Key Provisions

- Testing requirements and data disaggregation remain
- Requires state intervention in high schools that graduate fewer than two-thirds of their students
- Maintains requirement that schools calculate their four-year and extended-year graduation rates
- A great deal of state flexibility to design accountability and intervention systems
- Approximately 50 programs consolidated
- New “Student Support and Academic Enhancement Grants” program under Title IV
- Emphasis on local control and flexibility
ESSA CTE Provisions

- The new law includes critical measures to strengthen the role of CTE in our nation's K-12 education system
- Promotes activities that integrate academic and CTE content in the classroom
- Expands college and career guidance programs
- Recognizes that CTE is a core component of a well-rounded education
CTE Provisions: Counseling

- Encourages school districts to offer college and career guidance programs
- Promotes career awareness and exploration activities
- Supports training for counselors on using labor market information to advise students on postsecondary and career goals
- Promotes efforts to increase financial literacy for students
- Increases awareness of federal financial aid opportunities
CTE Provisions: Teachers

- Supports specialized professional development for academic and CTE teachers
- Provides for common planning time to develop integrated content
- Encourages states to develop alternative routes to teacher certification
- Supports individuals with experience in other fields who enter the teaching profession
- Promotes joint professional development for secondary/postsecondary collaboration to integrate academics and CTE content in dual and concurrent enrollment programs
CTE Provisions: Classrooms

- Designates CTE as a part of a well-rounded education along with traditional subjects including English, math and science
- Allows for direct student services to expand access to CTE coursework
- Supports development of coordinated instructional strategies, including experiential learning opportunities
- Expands access to CTE and academic programs through technology
- Promotes CTE in literacy education and expanded learning opportunities
CTE Provisions: Accountability

- Aligns state academic standards with relevant CTE standards
- Allows for indicators of career readiness in state accountability systems
- Provides opportunity to develop or expand existing state efforts to measure student career readiness
- Allows state/district report cards to include the number and percentage of students attaining career and technical proficiencies
Implementation

- Obama Administration developed regulations that were then overturned by Congress, leaving many questions about the law unanswered.
- 17 states submitted state plans in the spring, 16 have been approved.
- The remaining 35 states submitted plans in the fall, and 19 have been approved.
- Concerns about some of the state plans that have been approved.
Featured Speakers

- Austin Estes
  Policy Associate
  Advance CTE

- Phillip Lovell
  Vice President of Policy Development and Government Relations
  Alliance for Excellent Education