

**WELCOME**

---

***READING THE  
EDUCATION POLICY  
TEA LEAVES***

# INTRODUCTIONS

---

**Alex Nock**

[ANock@pennhillgroup.com](mailto:ANock@pennhillgroup.com)

**Bob Morrison**

[bobm@artsedresearch.org](mailto:bobm@artsedresearch.org)

**Stan Karp**

[skarp@edlawcenter.org](mailto:skarp@edlawcenter.org)



Alex Nock

Penn Hill Group

[ANock@pennhillgroup.com](mailto:ANock@pennhillgroup.com)

# Topics

---

- **U.S. Department of Education Staffing**
- **U.S. Department of Education Reorganization Proposal**
- **ESSA State plan approvals**
- **2018 Education Appropriations**
- **2019 U.S. Department of Education Budget**

# U.S. Department of Education Staffing/Reorganization Proposal

- **U.S. Department of Education Staffing**
  - Secretary DeVos - one year in
  - Continued ED staffing needs with ESSA workload
  
- **ED Reorganization Proposal**
  - Maintain Deputy Secretary, but eliminate office
  - Combine Career and Technical Education Office into Postsecondary office
  - Eliminate Office of Innovation and Improvement

# ESSA plan approvals

- **35 plans approved by U.S. Department of Education to date**
- **Some concerns raised by Hill Democrats over accountability structures of plans**
- **Next round of activity is likely waiver requests by States**

# 2018 Education Appropriations

- **Two year budget deal reached by Congress**
  - **Frees up additional spending authority for both defense and non-defense spending**
  - **Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill will get more resources**
  - **Will likely result in increases in Title I, other K-12 programs**
  
- **Budget Deal clears way for Congress to finalize 2018 appropriations**
  - **Current continuing resolution (CR) runs through March 23**

# 2019 U.S. Department of Education Budget

- Trump Administration Proposed to cut \$3.6 billion (-5.4%) compared to 2017 U.S. Department of Education Budget
  - ▣ Proposes to eliminate Title II and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program
  - ▣ Maintains Title I and IDEA funding
  - ▣ Proposes \$1 billion for public and private school choice
  - ▣ Congress has so far rejected similar proposals (including those from last year)
- Congress unlikely to have a 2019 appropriations deal before midterm elections in November 2018





**Bob Morrison**

**Arts Ed NJ**

**[bobm@artsedresearch.org](mailto:bobm@artsedresearch.org)**

# Topics

---

- **NJ ESSA Refresher**
- **School Performance Reports**
- **New Metric: Chronic Absenteeism**
- **Local Plans: Stakeholder Engagement**
- **Transition Report Clues**

# NJ ESSA Refresher

- **Plan developed over ten month period: September 2016 through August 2017.**
- **Stakeholder groups part of the development process**
- **NJ plan approved by US ED August, 2017**
- **Calls for dramatic expansion of School Performance Reports**
- **Includes a new focus on Chronic Absenteeism**

# School Performance Reports

- Released in January
- Vastly expands the information reported including all course enrollment, academic achievement, demographics, postsecondary, climate and environment, staffing, accountability and new metrics designed for ESSA (including rankings)
- Provides district and state comparisons
- Based online
- Detailed sub-group profiles
- Will continue to evolve

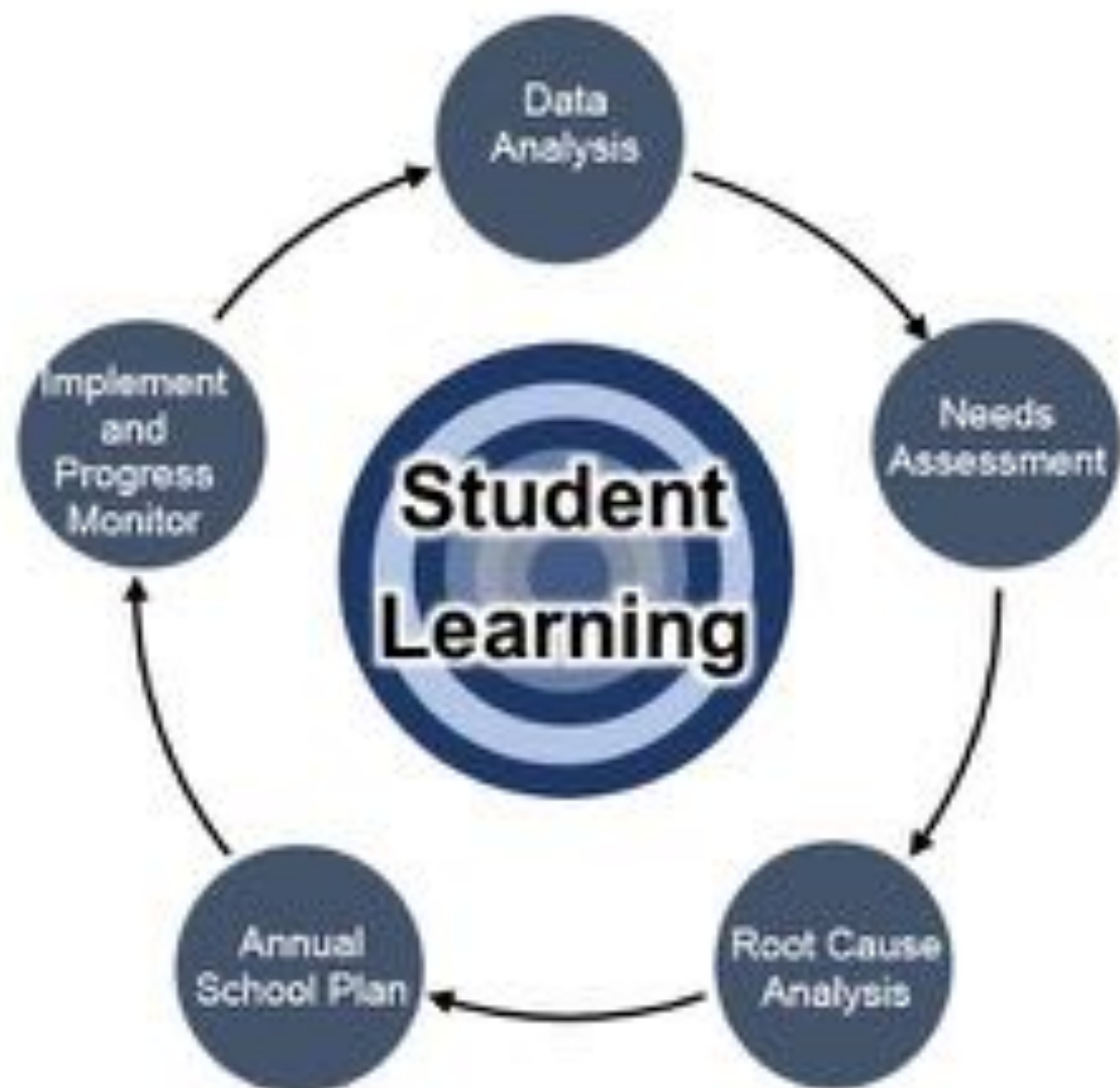
# New Metric: Chronic Absenteeism

---

- **Each state required to develop at least one metric under the category of School Quality/Student Success**
- **Percentage of the school's students who are chronically absent. Defined as a student not present for 10 % or more of the days**

# Local Plans: Stakeholder Engagement

- **Annually engaging stakeholders to**
  - **Analyze data**
  - **Assess needs and identify root causes**
  - **Write and implement local plans, and**
  - **Monitor progress**
  
- **Develop Annual Plan**



Year	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
Year A	Begin data analysis	Conduct needs assessment	Identify root causes	Develop Annual School Plan
Year B	Implement Annual School Plan	Progress Monitor	Progress Monitor	Progress Monitor
	Begin data analysis	Conduct needs assessment	Identify root causes	Develop Annual School Plan



# Stakeholder Engagement

- **Annually engaging stakeholders to**
  - **analyze data,**
  - **assess needs and identify root causes,**
  - **write and implement local plans, and**
  - **monitor progress**
- **Develop Annual Plan**
- **Potential funding support through ESSA**
- **<http://www.state.nj.us/education/ESSA/guidance/njdoe/StakeholderGuidance.pdf>**

# Transition Clues

- **End of PARCC?**
  - **Eliminate use as Graduation Requirement**
  - **Reduce weight in Teacher Evaluations**
  - **Task force to evaluate PARCC**
- **Preschool Expansion**
- **Teacher Recruitment and Diversity**
- **School consolidation and regionalization**
- **School Funding: Stan will Address**

# ELC EDUCATION LAW CENTER

*Standing Up for Public School Children*

## **Stan Karp**

**Education Law Center**

**ESSA Update**

**Feb. 21. 2018**



# Topics

---

- **NJ ESSA Timeline**
- **Identifying Schools in Need of Improvement**
- **PARCC, assessment & graduation issues**
- **SFRA/Funding Update**
- **Pre-K**

# NJ ESSA Plan Timeline

- **NJ plan approved by US ED August, 2017**
- **Preliminary School Ratings developed, January 2018**
- **November 2018 data available on progress toward English proficiency for ELL students**
- **January 2019 revised list of Comprehensive/Targeted Schools. Support/Interventions begin.**

# ESSA School Rating Criteria

- ***Elementary schools***
  - ***30% proficiency***
  - ***40% SGP***
  - ***20% ELL progress***
  - ***10% chronic absenteeism***
  
- ***High Schools***
  - ***30% proficiency***
  - ***40% grad rates***
  - ***20% ELL progress***
  - ***10% chronic absenteeism***

# Schools in Need of Improvement

## *Three categories*

- **Comprehensive** (lowest 5% rating or grad rate below 67%)
- **Targeted** (one or more subgroups with lowest 5% rating)
- **Consistently under-performing subgroup** (school with at least one subgroup that misses interim targets for two years and falls below state averages on other indicators)

# **NJDOE Support for Schools Needing Improvement**

- Three levels of support/intervention based on type and number of identified schools**
- Delivered in concert with districts and aligned with district QSAC plans**
- NJDOE “comprehensive support network” replaces RACs. Commissioner can require “advanced” interventions if schools do not improve.**
- Schools can exit status as performance improves. List revised every three years**



# PARCC and Assessment Issues

- **Current PARCC contract expires June 2018**
- **ESSA requires replacement if PARCC ends**
- **ESSA requires annual ELA & Math testing grades 3-8 & once in 9-12; aligned with state curriculum standards**
- **If PARCC is replaced, ESSA plan must be revised and reviewed by USED**
- **Implications for teacher evaluation and graduation policy**

# NJ Grad Rate #2 Nationally, Gaps Narrowing

Student Group	2011 % Rate	2016 % Rate	Increase
All students	83	90.1	7.1
White	90	94.2	4.2
Asian	93	96.7	3.7
African American	69	82.1	13.1
Hispanic	73	83.4	10.4
Econ. Disadvantaged	71	82.7	11.7
Students w/disability	73	78.8	5.8
ELLs	68	74.7	6.7

# Results on PARCC ELA10 & Algebra I

PARCC Test	ELA10 % passing	Algebra I % passing
2015	37%	36%
2016	44%	41%
2017	46%	42%

# PARCC and Graduation Issues

- ❑ **Current 'transitional' rules end with class of 2021 (current freshmen)**
- ❑ **PARCC ELA10 & Alg I become grad requirements, with portfolio only other option**
- ❑ **60-70,000 seniors now using options not available to current freshmen**
- ❑ **Legal challenge to grad rules pending in App. Ct.**
- ❑ **12 states using SAT/ACT for ESSA accountability**

# SFRA: school funding formula

- **Christie budgets underfunded formula by over \$9 billion**
- **Murphy campaigned on restoring “full funding” to SFRA**
- **State Aid increases should be targeted to districts below “adequacy”**
  - **“Adequacy budget” is estimate of \$ needed to provide all students with opportunity to meet state standards**

# Pre-K

- **SFRA-funded expansion stalled until legislature added \$25 million for modest expansion this year**
  - **Christie cut \$5 million of that increase**
  - **Only 6,000 of 51,000 eligible 3 & 4 yr-olds currently enrolled in full-day preschool**
- **New plans and new funding needed to re-start pre-K expansion to all high needs districts/children**

**For More Information:**

---

**Education Law Center**

*Standing Up for Public School Children*

*[www.edlawcenter.org](http://www.edlawcenter.org)*

**Stan Karp**

**[skarp@edlawcenter.org](mailto:skarp@edlawcenter.org)**

60 Park Place, Suite 300

Newark, NJ 07102

**Phone: 973.624.1815 x28**



# QUESTIONS



# A Tool for Parents & Communities



The Engage for Equity Toolkit

<http://partnersforeachandeverychild.org/project/engageforequity/>

# GET IN TOUCH

---

**Alex Nock**

[ANock@pennhillgroup.com](mailto:ANock@pennhillgroup.com)

**Bob Morrison**

[bobm@artsedresearch.org](mailto:bobm@artsedresearch.org)

**Stan Karp**

[skarp@edlawcenter.org](mailto:skarp@edlawcenter.org)



**THANK YOU**