

West Virginia PTA

College and Career Readiness Initiative

West Virginia
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CCR/ESSA NEWSLETTER - August 2017

New Accountability System & Assessments are Key Parts of West Virginia Education Proposal

Charleston, W.VA. - A public comment period lasting 30 days begins August 1 for West Virginia's proposed state education plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act, a proposal that's been the focus of a series of statewide meetings this summer. In general, it covers four areas in public education: academic standards, statewide assessments, school accountability systems and support for struggling schools.

The new accountability system proposes that every public school no longer be graded using grades of "A" through "F". Instead, five specific criteria will each receive one of four levels of classifications: distinguished, accomplished, emerging and unsatisfactory. As proposed the five criteria are proficiency in English and math through statewide testing, student progression in school, high school graduation rates, English proficiency among non-native speakers and attendance and behavior.

As for assessments, HB 2711, during the last regular legislative session, eliminated Smarter Balanced testing. Bids for new, alternative tests are currently being reviewed and the winning bidders are scheduled to be announced in early September. Students in 11th grade will be taking college entrance exams, either an SAT or ACT, as required by law, next spring to gauge proficiency in English and math. New test forms will also be in place at that time for English and math for Grades 3-8.

We encourage all parents and stakeholders to review the proposed state education plan and make comments about the importance of family engagement being included. The plan can be found by going to the ESSA section of the West Virginia Department of Education website or follow the enclosed link: <http://wvde.state.wv.us/essa/>

Have you signed the petition?

National PTA is running a nationwide campaign—from July 7 to September 29—to raise public awareness that federal education funding—accounting for only 2% of the federal budget—is an inadequate investment for our children.

To participate and learn more about federal funding for education go to www.PTA.org/STOPCuts.

[Sign the Petition](#)

If you would like West Virginia PTA to come to your school or community and answer questions, or host a workshop, email takeaction@westvirginiapta.org. Don't forget, we will provide the refreshments!



WV PTA ESSA Resources/Contacts

Check out the wonderful resources from National PTA and West Virginia about ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) and the implementation of our federal education law on our state PTA website: www.westvirginiapta.org. Contact any one of our team members today to schedule a workshop at your school!

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