ARLINGTON, Va. – The American Association of School Administrators, the professional organization for school superintendents and other school system leaders, today issued the following statement on the “Broader, Bolder Approach to Education” proposal developed by a task force of the Economic Policy Institute:

“AASA congratulates the bipartisan task force that developed the powerful ‘Broader, Bolder Approach to Education’ statement.

“The statement confirms broad-based support for a fundamental reframing of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the law currently known as No Child Left Behind. The statement also reveals consensus among leaders from across the political spectrum and from diverse backgrounds and disciplines that poverty matters when it comes to learning, and federal education policy must address the needs of disadvantaged children in order to close the achievement gap.

“AASA is gratified that the statement’s demand for a major restructuring of NCLB is consistent with the bold, forward-looking 2008 AASA Legislative Agenda that the AASA Executive Committee and Governing Board approved in February 2008. Both documents call for a revitalization of the federal role in education under a new ESEA, with a more integrated approach to serving disadvantaged students, a focus on early childhood development, and clear and accurate accounting for results.

“More than six years ago, AASA was one of the only major education organizations to recommend against passage of NCLB. We saw that major flaws in the law would render it unworkable on the ground, where our members are charged with efficient and effective operation of schools. AASA is heartened that a broad group of leaders now recognize the law’s fatal flaws and are committed to taking bold steps to shape a better future for public education to ensure that all of our children succeed.”

More Information

- 2008 AASA Legislative Agenda: All Children Will Learn
- AASA Calls for Reframing of No Child Left Behind To Help All Children Succeed

About AASA
AASA, founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders across the United States. AASA’s mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders who are dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children. AASA’s major focus is standing up for public education.