Guiding principles for federal education policy

- Federal policy equity includes both policy and resources, both of which should remain available to all students, schools and states.
- The role of the federal government in education is to help ensure access to equitable educational opportunities and to supplement and support, rather than dictate, local efforts in education.
- It is unrealistic to expect all students to achieve college and career readiness without providing districts the necessary funding to do this challenging work.
- Federal funding should support the total child, from physical and mental health to the development of fundamental lifelong learning skills.

AASA, The School Superintendents Association

2016 Federal Legislative Agenda

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2016 Legislative Priorities
Fully Fund IDEA
Ensure an Appropriate Federal/State/Local Balance

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ensuring an appropriate Federal/State/local balance.

- The role of the federal government is to support and strengthen, not dictate and prescribe to, schools and state and local policies.
- School systems should not be required to spend state and local funds for federal mandates.
- Ensure all entities receiving public dollars are subject to the same requirements, accountabilities, and flexibilities.

Support Students through Appropriate Curriculum and Assessments

- Provide developmentally appropriate curriculum, instruction, and assessments to all students.
- Tests must be used for the purposes for which they were designed: one test cannot serve multiple measures.

Enhance District Technology Infrastructure & Student Data Privacy

- Permanently exempt E-Rate from the Anti-Deficiency Act.
- Provide coherent guidance for parents and educators regarding laws around data security.
- Update definitions to address the realities of the digital age.

Support Students, Families and Special Populations

- Support equitable distribution of federal dollars with greater investments in formula-driven programs.
- Permanently resolve sequestration through a combination of spending cuts and revenue increases.
- Fully fund IDEA: By honoring its commitment to support the education of students with disabilities, Congress will enable districts to shift dollars towards early education to all children.
- Provide expanded access to early education to all children.
- Support IDEA: By honoring its commitment to support the education of students with disabilities, Congress will enable districts to shift dollars towards new initiatives that address their local needs.
- Support expansion of access to early education to all children.
- Support federal policy that flexibly supports the unique needs of rural communities, including REAP, Impact Aid, and Forest Counties, among others.
- Support use of a metric that reflects the total ELL subgroup.
- Support equitable distribution of spending cuts and revenues through a permutation resolve program.
- Support equitable distribution of Federal dollars with greater enforcement of spending cuts and revenues through a permutation resolve program.

- Support equitable distribution of Federal dollars with greater enforcement of spending cuts and revenues through a permutation resolve program.

Support Personnel

- Exempt substitute teachers and other variable hour employees from coverage under the ACA.
- Reduce the paperwork requirements for Perkins and E-Rate.
- Streamline IDEA procedures by removing burdensome requirements.
- Reform the special education due process system to provide more effective, less costly, and less litigious means of resolving disputes.

Strengthen District Operations

- Reduce the paperwork required to report or verify students and disburse to permanent funding sources and districts to streamline IDEA procedures by rate.
- Permanently resolve Perkins and E-Rate.
- Reduce the paperwork from coverage under the ACA.
- Other variables are employees, substitute substitute teachers and specials.
- Support equitable distribution of Federal dollars with greater enforcement of spending cuts and revenues through a permutation resolve program.