5 Steps to Creating Your Local’s ESSA Team

The opportunities of ESSA will only become real if educators lead implementation. Take steps now to build a strong ESSA Team from your Local, so when the District forms its ESSA Stakeholder group (as required by ESSA), your members can be included and make their voices heard.

HERE’S HOW TO BUILD YOUR LOCAL’S ESSA TEAM SO YOUR LOCAL CAN LEAD THE WAY ON ESSA IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Inform and engage your members
   - Reach out to members with information and resources from NEA and other organizations [here](#) and [here](#).
   - Engage members with 10-minute meetings and one-on-one conversations.
   - Identify your members’ issue and activity interests using ESSA commitment cards and issue survey.
   - Hold ESSA mini-briefings at school and/or community sites.

2. Invite existing member-leaders to join Local ESSA Team and to help identify and invite new leaders to participate. Connect member-leaders to each other through ESSA Implementation Group on NEA’s edCommunities.

3. Cultivate leadership. Recruit new member-leaders to participate in your Local’s ESSA Team with special focus on early career educators, diversity, practitioner leaders.

4. Convene Your Local ESSA Team
   - Determine priority issue interests. Use issue list from NEA's ESSA implementation webpage, ESSA commitment cards, survey, or create your own list.
   - Identify other community allies to partner with.

5. Claim your Community’s ESSA Implementation Space
   - Send letter to District and School Board requesting ESSA implementation meeting.
   - Pass ESSA School Board Resolution.
   - Host ESSA Community Briefing with and resources from NEA.
   - Conduct a scan of “stakeholders.”
   - Request an assessment audit.