



National Association of  
Elementary School  
**Principals**  
*Serving All Elementary &  
Middle Level Principals*

## **NAESP Policy Proposal for ESEA:**

### ***Quality Mentoring and Ongoing Professional Development for New School Principals***

NAESP is working with Members of Congress to advance a legislative proposal in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to increase support for principals through high-quality professional development and standards-based mentoring programs, especially for those principals new to the profession.

The role of the principal continues to change and become more complex and challenging. The current social and educational context of the principalship—which combines high-stakes accountability with the high ideals of supporting social, physical and emotional needs of children—demands that all principals demonstrate the vision, courage and skill to lead effective learning communities where all students reach their highest potential. To ensure this, all principals need access to high-quality professional development throughout their careers and new principals need to be provided standards-based mentoring to guide them through the first, challenging years of the profession.

NAESP's proposal will help principals improve a broad range of their leadership skills that include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Designing and implementing data-driven school improvement plans;
- ✓ Effectively utilizing student assessment data, including formative and summative assessments and program evaluation data, for the purpose of making instructional decisions and improving school-based programs;
- ✓ Building and/or expanding relationships within the learning community and collaborating with the broader school community, including parents and community stakeholders;
- ✓ Building relationships and communicating effectively with State and central office officials;
- ✓ Ensuring that rigorous, relevant and appropriate teaching practices are being implemented in classrooms by qualified staff; and,
- ✓ Supporting teachers and other school staff by providing the necessary time and resources to collaborate and compare data and best practices during the school day.