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NSBA urges Congress to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), referred to in the most recent reauthorization as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and to fully fund ESSA until ESEA is reauthorized to support states and local school districts in achieving the goals of ESSA, including programs that support student academic enrichment that must be identified and implemented by local education agencies working with local school board oversight. NSBA urges Congress to use its oversight authority to ensure that the Administration upholds the local governance provision in the law and meaningfully engages local school boards during each step of the ESSA implementation process, including to support Local Education Agency (LEA) plan development with local school board governance. NSBA also urges the Administration to implement ESSA in a transparent and collaborative manner that recognizes ESSA's limitation of executive overreach and reaffirms local school board governance.

NSBA urges Congress to provide funding for innovation, research, and implementation of locally developed strategies to improve teacher and principal effectiveness authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act and the Higher Education Act to increase student achievement through:

- (a) Evidence-based preparation and professional development, including residency programs administered by partnerships of institutions of higher education and local districts;
- (b) Evidence-based evaluation systems;
- (c) Alternative certification programs;

Vouchers, 6.1, 6.2 21st Century Skills, 2.3, 7.1, 8.1