



To: Presidential Transition Team
From: National Alliance of Pupil Services Organizations
Date: December 18, 2008
Re: Education Policy Recommendations

The National Alliance of Pupil Services Organizations is pleased to submit the following recommendations, to be incorporated in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as summarized below:

1. Adopt the terminology "specialized instructional support personnel" to replace the current terms "pupil services" (ESEA) and "related services" (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), acknowledging that this team of professionals brings specialized skills that support instruction to improve school outcomes for every student.
2. Establish an Office of Specialized Instructional Support Services in the U.S. Department of Education. Creating this office would facilitate the development of a comprehensive, child-focused, multifaceted, and cohesive system of learning supports.
3. Ensure that the broad array of specialized instructional support services is available, to the greatest extent feasible, to all students, including support services not specifically listed in the ESEA and the IDEA.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer these policy recommendations and would be happy to offer any additional information.

Sincerely,

Myrna R. Mandlawitz and Christopher C. Campbell
Co-Chairmen