The voice of principals must be heard in the current national discourse about the state of education. NAESP's Advocacy and Government Relations team has worked to build partnerships with members of Congress, the Department of Education, and the White House to advance policy priorities on behalf of principals.

In Congress, at the U.S. Department of Education, and at the White House, NAESP represents the nation’s elementary and middle-level principals, providing a strong voice for the principalship.

**NAESP 2019-2020 Advocacy Platform Hi-Lites:**

- Secure robust federal funding for programs like Title II, Part A that support the preparation, training and support of principals
- Advocate for professional development and mentoring programs that strengthen principals' knowledge of early childhood education and providing federal funding streams for high-quality early education.
- Reauthorize the Higher Education Act to improve principal recruitment, preparation and retention, and include provisions to boost clinical-oriented preparation to help principals better meet the day-to-day challenges in schools.

**NAESP Members Legislative Priorities**

- Funding for Education: 82%
- Mental Health & Well-Being: 65%
- Social & Emotional Learning: 53%
- School Safety: 45%
- Professional Development/Title II-A: 44%
- Early Education: 42%
- Trauma-Informed Schools: 37%
Federal Education Funding

NAESP believes that improving our education system is critical to the future well-being of our nation. Investing in education strengthens the entire economy and must be made a high priority. Schools struggle to handle increased student enrollments and the need for additional special services as student populations become more diverse and as school budgets continue to decline during these difficult economic times.

Tell Congress to Support Principal Preparation in the Higher Education Act!

High-quality pre-service preparation is critical to ensuring principals receive the necessary skills and knowledge to successfully lead a school. The opportunity for principal candidates to engage in authentic learning opportunities and receive job-embedded practice play a significant role in helping principals be prepared to support teaching and learning.

Congress is currently working to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA), which provides an important opportunity to strengthen principal preparation across the country. NAESP is urging Congress to incorporate the PREP Act (S.752)—introduced by Senators Kaine and Collins—which includes practical reforms that would help states improve principal preparation, expand principal residences, strengthen efforts to diversify the educator workforce, and help address principal shortages.

NAESP is asking members to contact their members of Congress and urge them to support including the PREP Act in HEA reauthorization.

Contact Your Member of Congress

You can take action now to support federal education policies that improve public education and support school principals. Visit www.naesp.org/advocacy and click on Legislative Action Center which will connect you directly to your members of Congress.

For more information, contact advocacy@naesp.org

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns related to what NAESP is doing at the federal level to advocate for us.

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