



District Administration Office

Mr. Sean Gallagher – Superintendent

629 Easy Street

Brookings, OR 97415

Office: 541 469-7443

Fax: 541 469-6599

Email: seang@brookings.k12.or.us

www.brookings.k12.or.us

Brookings-Harbor Voices PSA – ESSA

Hi, this is Sean Gallagher – Brookings Harbor School District 17C Superintendent here to talk to you about the newly passed federal legislation called the Every Student Succeeds Act otherwise known as ESSA. This legislation was signed by President Obama in November of 2015 and essentially unravels many of the federal requirements that public schools have been required to comply with under 14 year reign of one size fits all legislation call The No Child Left Behind Act. The ESSA also reinforces and enhances some current practices. Here are some of the highlighted characteristics:

1. Shifts a great deal of control back to the states providing more of an opportunity for local influence on major decisions affecting public schools;
2. Maintains current state level testing and school report cards requirements;
3. Emphasizes academic success through increased monitoring of graduation rates and English Language Learner student growth rates;
4. Ends federal mandates on teacher evaluations, while realizing that Oregon passed SB 290 which does require the new teacher evaluations that adhere to national standards still remain in place;
5. Eliminates Highly Qualified Teacher reporting requirements;

It is important to recognize that despite the major changes that the ESSA legislation provides, school districts need to proceed cautiously and wait for state level guidance. Local school districts need to continue focusing on solid educational principles and guidelines.

For more information on ESSA legislation, please contact visit the Oregon Department of Education website at www.ode.state.or.us and search for ESSA, or you can contact the school district office at 541-469-7443

Remember that only together we can ensure that Every Student Can Succeed here at Brookings-Harbor School District