

# Steps to creating your local's ESSA team

The opportunities of ESSA will only become real if educators lead implementation. Take steps now to build a strong ESSA team from your local, so when the district forms its ESSA stakeholder group (as required by ESSA), your members can be included and make their voices heard.

## Here's how to build your local's ESSA team so your local can lead the way on ESSA implementation:

- Inform and engage your members
  - Reach out to members with information and resources from NJEA and NEA
  - Identify your members' issue and activity interests using ESSA commitment cards and issue survey
  - Hold ESSA mini-briefings at school and/or community sites
- Invite existing member-leaders to join your local ESSA team
  - Help identify and invite new leaders to participate
  - Connect member-leaders to each other through the ESSA implementation group
- Cultivate leadership and recruit new member-leaders to participate in your local's ESSA team
  - Consider a special focus on early career educators, diversity, practitioner leaders
- Convene your local ESSA team
  - Determine priority issue interests
  - Identify other community allies who are potential partners
- Claim your community's ESSA implementation space
  - Send letters to the district and school board requesting an ESSA implementation meeting
  - Organize to pass a school board resolution on ESSA\*
  - Host an ESSA community briefing with resources from NJEA
  - Conduct a scan of stakeholders
  - Request an assessment audit

*\*Contact your field rep for more information*