

Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents Federal Legislative Platform

ALAS' federal legislative agenda is derived from our organizational vision, mission, goals and most importantly outcomes. The Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents [ALAS] is committed to providing a perspective to all aspiring school and district administrators including superintendents through programs, services, advocacy and networks rooted in Latino experiences and culture. ALAS has nearly 8,000 members across 18 state affiliates with several more states soon to be a part of the ALAS Familia. Our Vision, Mission and Goals are to provide leadership at the national level that assures every school in America effectively serves the educational needs of all students with an emphasis on Latino youth through continuous professional learning, policy advocacy, and networking to share practices of promise for our students and the communities where we serve.

The policies outlined here represent the organization's overarching priorities as it relates to federal education policy. Subject to annual revision, the legislative platform allows the organization to pivot and prioritize a response to emerging federal policy discussions.

Equity must remain at the heart of all federal policy conversations.

- Successful federal education policy is based on the critical concept of equity and ensuring the role of the federal government in creating and supporting policies that level the education playing field for all students.
- The role of the federal government in education is to help ensure access to equitable educational opportunities and to support—rather than drive—education policy implementation at the state and local level.

Supporting Students and Teachers

- It is essential to preserve and increase funding for Title II of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to ensure teachers and leaders can receive professional development that enables them to successfully educate children from all backgrounds, and with a range of needs and abilities.
- It is critical to incentivize more policy and funding opportunities that enable the creation of a strong pipeline of teachers and administrators to work in hard-to-staff schools. *Higher Education and K-12 Public Schools*
- Our migrant education policies and practices must be updated to allow our nations migrant education students a guaranteed and uninterrupted education across stateliness. ALAS is committed to supporting legislative language that joins technology and funding opportunities.
- Our nation's immigration policies must be updated and we strongly support for the Dream and Promise Act that will ensure Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients are able to continue to work and learn in our school districts.
- Support expansion of access to early education to all children without cutting into K-12 funding. *EARLY EDUCATION is a must investment in our communities.*

Funding

- Federal funding must be allocated to school districts via formulae that are fair and equitable.
- Fully Fund Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): By honoring its commitment to support the education of students with disabilities, Congress will enable districts to shift dollars towards new initiatives that address their local needs.
- Stop gap funding measures must continue to shore up the longstanding inequities in education. One-time funds are an inadequate investment in educating our nation's future citizens and leaders.
- Federal funding and state incentives to allocate appropriate funds to meet the needs of the thousands of immigrant children displaced by natural disaster or forced mobility from other countries, to learn and thrive in America's schools.

ADDENDUM:

- Title funding being increased specifically, Title III and honoring multilingualism in our country by promoting Seals of Biliteracy.
- The continued focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion with a specific focus on our Latinx students and staff. We should have a stronger focus on how to better engage our Latinx families.
- A continued focus on removing barriers for our Latinx students as they navigate through our higher education system to support them in their post-secondary education experience that leads to completion. We encourage partnerships with Latinx servicing IHEs to create more seamless transitions for our students and provide support to identify and remove obstacles our Latinx students face.