



## MISSION

OneAmerica  
advances the  
fundamental  
principles of  
democracy and  
justice at the  
local, state and  
national levels  
by building  
power within  
immigrant  
communities  
in collaboration  
with key allies.

November 9, 2016

Washington Board of Education  
PO Box 47206  
600 Washington ST SE  
Olympia, WA 98504-7206

Re: Requirements of Consolidated Plans “Consultation and Coordination”

To Executive Committee Chair Munoz-Colon:

We, a statewide collective of community members, community based organizations, civil rights leaders, educational stakeholders and parent advocates would like to express our concern for the lack of consultation and coordination the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has conducted throughout the ESSA Workgroup development process.

The Federal Department of Education has made efforts to clarify the consultation and coordination requirements under § 299.13(b) by requiring the state educational agency to conduct certain activities to ensure that consultation is taking place. Even with these federal provisions to engage during the ESSA development process, our Title I School communities have not been consulted nor has there been a coordinated outreach plan for participation. OSPI was tasked to “provide guidance to make clear that all stakeholder groups should be engaged and allowed to nominate their own representatives in state and local processes and that there should also be robust and multiple opportunities to provide input in the process” during the ESSA development process. (Secretary King, 11 May 2016).

ESEA was created to serve diverse communities, which have been underserved by our educational system. At its heart, it is a civil rights law, authorized in conjunction with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to desegregate schools and provide funding to address institutional inequities experienced by marginalized people of color and communities in poverty. These same groups are being left out of the ESSA Consolidated Plan development process in Washington.

Institutionalized, systemic obstructionism continues as OSPI sets a premature timeline for the Washington State ESSA Consolidated Plan to be completed by December 1, 2016, when in fact the Federal U.S. Department of Education will not be reviewing ANY state plan until March 2017. This timeline has limited the authentic engagement of our communities and undermines the civil rights intent of the law itself. Without our voice, participation or input, the discourse reproduces the status quo, and continues to limit our democratic potential.



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We are asking you to join us in calling for Superintendent Dorn to delay the submission of the Consolidated Plan so that an authentic community engagement process can be implemented.

1. Extend the state timeline to March 6, 2017 (Federal Timeline)
2. Ensure the OSPI ESSA website page has clear and accessible information that explains the law and the options available to provide input
3. WA Board of Education ensure that OSPI abide by the written provisions of the law: (ESEA Section 3113 (b)(3)(G); (ESEA Section 3115 (c) (3); (ESEA Section 1112 (e)(3)(C); ESEA Section 3111(b)(2)(D)(IV); §299.13 Overview of State Plan Requirements, §299.14 Requirements for the Consolidated State Plan, Civil Rights§299.15.

We look forward to the WA State Board of Education’s support in ensuring that OSPI and the State Superintendent (current and newly elected) abide by these federal parent engagement provisions above.

***States, districts, and schools must be required to consult in a timely and meaningful way with parents and families, community-based organizations, civil rights organizations, Indian tribes, teachers, and school leaders [ESEA § 299.13(b)].***

Thank you for your attention to these critical systemic educational priorities. We look forward to receiving State Superintendent Dorn’s written response, please send to [Roxana@weareoneamerica.org](mailto:Roxana@weareoneamerica.org).

Collective of Community Coalitions,

OneAmerica

Rita Green, NAACP Washington State Education Chair

Vietnamese Friendship Association

Washington State Parent Ambassadors

Annabel Quintero, Fund Title I Schools

Dania Nuno, Empowered Familia Alliance

Dr. Dafney Dabach, Assistant Professor, College of Education University of Washington

Jamie Smeland, Master of Public Health Student, University of Washington

Rebeca Muniz, Master of Education Policy, Organization & Leadership Student

Shirline Wilson, Democrats for Education Reform

Steve Bury, Executive Director, Urban Impact