



# The ENGAGE FOR EQUITY Toolkit

*Product Overview - January 2018*

## What is the *Engage for Equity* Toolkit?

The Dignity in Schools Campaign, Partners *for* Each and Every Child, a project of the Opportunity Institute, and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. developed ***Engage for Equity: A Toolkit for School Communities on the Every Student Succeeds Act*** to serve as a call to action and to empower parents, families, care-givers, students, and other community members with the information and tools they need to be actively involved in making decisions that impact their schools.

**The Toolkit** contains information, worksheets, examples of positive engagement, ideas for action, and other resources designed to support community action.

## Who is the Toolkit For?

**The Toolkit** is a set of resources designed to support community organizers, including parents, families, students, school and nonprofit staff, and others—any school community member that would like to organize with other school community stakeholders to advocate for change in their schools. ***We believe all school community members can be agents for transformative change that supports student success in schools.***

## Using the Toolkit:

The Toolkit contains an Organizer's Packet, including core background material for organizers to get started, and a broad set of resources. *See back for more detail.*

### Three ways organizers can use this Toolkit right now:

1. To build skills and knowledge as an organizer for school change (learn more!)
2. To support community understanding and action (host a meeting!)
3. To support campaigns with school administrators (help your principal to know ESSA is an important opportunity—show them these resources!)



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## What's in the Toolkit?

**The Organizer's Packet (pages 1-14):** The Organizer's Packet is a core set of materials for organizers to get started with the material and begin thinking about their own involvement in their school and community around ESSA. If you are new to ESSA and/or the Toolkit, start here!

**Toolkit Resources (pages 15-47):** A set of resources for organizers to use with families, students, and the broader school community to educate, empower, and act! *These resources include:*

### Fact Sheets:

- The Every Student Succeeds Act
- School Improvement Under ESSA
- Opportunities to Promote School Climate in ESSA
- Early Learning Opportunities in ESSA
- What Funds are Available Through ESSA?

### Handouts & Worksheets:

- Families: Get Involved!
- What Does an Engaged School Community Look Like?
- School Improvement Strategies: What Can You Change?
- Education Governance: Who Affects Policy in Education?
- Engagement Strategies: Advice for Local Officials
- ESSA's Local Engagement Requirements

### Plus!

- **Templates**
- **Slides**
- **Stories of Success**
- **Glossary**

## What's Next?

This set of tools and resources will be available online for download by February 1, 2018. Funds permitting, later this spring, we will be adding additional resources to this toolkit, including new examples of meaningful engagement, sample slides and documents for modification and use, and more!

If you have questions regarding the Toolkit, please contact Sophie Green at [sophie@theopportunityinstitute.org](mailto:sophie@theopportunityinstitute.org) or by calling (510) 470-1405

