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# ANNOUNCEMENT

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## **Policy Brief Outlines National Organizations' Common Recommendations for NCLB Reauthorization**

February 7, 2007 - The National High School Alliance (HS Alliance) announces the release of a new policy brief, *Federal Policy Positions of National High School Alliance Partners*. The brief examines the federal policy positions of HS Alliance partner organizations, representing multiple stakeholder and constituent groups. It provides a summary of the common themes and differences in partner organizations' positions on the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and a short summary of partners' statements on other federal legislation, including legislation specific to high school graduation and dropout rates.

The themes that emerged from an analysis of partners' positions on NCLB include:

- Ensure high quality and empowered educators in every classroom;
- Provide flexibility, support, and technical assistance for schools that need it most;
- Require schools and districts to collect and report meaningful data;
- Use growth models to measure the progress of schools and students;
- Include students with disabilities and English language learners appropriately; and
- Fully fund the implementation of NCLB.

The common themes that unite these partners' positions make a powerful statement to legislators as they determine the priorities for NCLB reauthorization and the role the law will play in high schools.

**Gerald N. Tirozzi, Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals** stated, *"The HS Alliance policy brief successfully synthesizes the positions of its partner organizations on NCLB and other federal policy issues. As the paper shows, though diverse in mission, interest and scope, partners of the HS Alliance converge on many educational issues. NASSP applauds the National High School Alliance for providing a comprehensive—yet easy to read—report that Congress should take into consideration in its legislative process."*

**Betsy Brand, Director of the American Youth Policy Forum** stated, “*The National High School Alliance’s policy brief provides a useful and timely summary of the policy positions of its partners on high school reform and No Child Left Behind. From this concise analysis, it is clear that there is an emerging consensus on various key policy areas, such as increased flexibility in serving low-performing schools and in designing assessment systems that better represent the progress of certain groups of students, such as English language learners and students with disabilities.*”

The National High School Alliance, established in 2002, is a partnership of over fifty national organizations whose leaders share a vision for a nationwide commitment to fostering high achievement, closing the achievement gap, and promoting civic and personal growth among all youth in our high schools and communities. These partner organizations have committed to work together to achieve this vision by individually and collectively informing policy, practice, research, and promoting public engagement and awareness. The HS Alliance is housed at the Institute for Educational Leadership in Washington, DC.

To access the policy brief in PDF form or to order copies, and to find out more about the policy positions of HS Alliance partners, visit the National High School Alliance Policy Center at [www.hsalliance.org/policy/index.asp](http://www.hsalliance.org/policy/index.asp).