Goals of the Public Policy Institute

Participants will...

• Learn about how public policies are made and the changing federal role in education.

• Understand the relationships between a “whole child” education, academic progress, and healthy school environments.

• Understand the connections between IDEA, ESEA/NCLB, emerging national policies, and current federal legislation that promotes safe and successful schools.
Goals of the Public Policy Institute, continued

- Explore how schools can recognize and respond to the needs of vulnerable student populations such as homeless or foster children, abused and neglected youth, children with military deployed parents, families in economic crisis, immigrant and migrant children, and others struggling to cope with barriers to learning.
- Learn how to develop advocacy campaigns which can influence legislation, administrative policy, and professional practices.
- Develop personal or organizational action plans to promote advocacy agendas.
- Engage with national leaders and experience firsthand how legislation is created and advanced on Capitol Hill.
Who are “Vulnerable Student Populations?”

• Students who are at higher risk for school failure as a result of variables often out of their direct control

• Students who commonly need higher levels of support, mentoring, and specialized interventions in order to be successful in school

• Populations include, but are not limited to:
  » Homeless Students
  » Students living in Foster Care
  » Students with high mobility like those living in military families, migrant children
  » New immigrants and refugees
  » Students with disabilities
Common Public Policy Themes Addressing the Needs of these Groups

• Need for Educational Stability
• Transportation
• Responding to “Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs”
• Interagency communication and collaboration
• “Wrap Around” Services (school, family, community)
• Portability of records
• Flexible and Responsive Graduation Policies
• Consistency, follow-through, mentoring and support
Program Highlights: July 6-8

Day 1  Foundations of Education & Vulnerable Populations

• Foundational and feature presentations by prominent leaders from the Institute for Educational Leadership, Committee for Education Funding, IDEA Partnership, and Annie E. Casey Foundation

• Panel presentation addressing the educational needs of vulnerable student populations

• Evening Networking Reception for all PPI Participants at TONIC—2 blocks down the street. (Free food and a drink)
Program Highlights: July 6-8

Day 2  Learning supports for Vulnerable Students

• Field trip to US Department of Education
• Keynote: Dr. Maurice Elias, Director of Rutgers University Social Emotional Learning Lab
• Video Gallery featuring “Student Voices”
• Evening Session for 3-day Participants Only: NASP GPR committee presents “NASP Advocacy”
Program Highlights: July 6-8

Day 3  Capitol Hill Day Experience

- Continental Breakfast on Capitol Hill
- Legislative Hill Staff Panel Discussion
- Hill Visits to Elected Officials
- Touring the Capitol and Observing the Legislative Process
- Final Debriefing & Dismissal of 3-day Participants
Program Highlights: July 11 & 12

Day 4 Policy into Practice, Part 1

» Featured Presentation: Student Voice. Award Winning Documentary Film Maker Dan Habib and the “Star” of his new Film


» Safe Schools, Healthy Students Coordinator Addressing the Needs of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth

» Point-Counterpoint Activity
Program Highlights: July 11 & 12

Day 5  Policy into Practice, Part 2

» Featured Presentation: Debbie Staub, Casey Family Programs Supports for Foster Children

» School District Spotlight: Montgomery County, MD--English Language Learners and RTI

» Team Presentations
PPI Etiquette

• All cell phones need to be muted or off in class.
• Please be on time to all scheduled events, Capitol Hill appointments, and start of day.
• Use scheduled breaks wisely in order to minimize disruptions during speaker or panel presentations.
• Business dress is required for fieldtrips. Comfortable shoes are recommended.
PPI Etiquette, continued

• Be respectful and considerate of differing opinions and points of view. Introduce yourself when speaking.

• Pick up all trash and place in appropriate receptacles.

• Questions about GW campus or academic/course requirements should be directed to Carol or Bob.

• Questions about NASP, logistics, and/or organizational issues should be directed to Stacy or Allison.
Here to Help You During PPI

GW University
• Bob Ianacone, Assistant Dean
• Carol Kochhar-Bryant, Professor and Chair, Special Education
• Kandace Wernsing, Research Assistant

NASP Staff & Leaders
• Stacy Skalski, Director of Public Policy
• Allison Bollinger, Manager of Professional Relations
• Mary Beth Klotz, Director of IDEA Projects & Technical Assistance
• GPR Committee & Regional Assignments for PPI
  » Sally Baas Co-Chair (MN) Northeastern
  » Candis Hogan (OK) Central
  » Jeanne Pound (GA) Southeastern
  » Katie Eklund (CO) Western
  » Trisha Pedley (CA) Western
Questions? Comments?

Participant Introductions