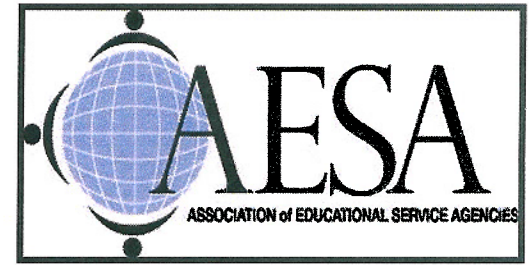


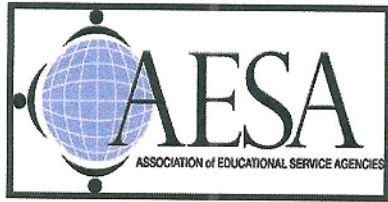
ESA's Are
A Great Investment
In Education &
Economic Development

Presented to
The North Dakota
Interim Education Committee
Bismarck, North Dakota
December 5, 2007
Presented by Brian L. Talbott & Ron Fielder

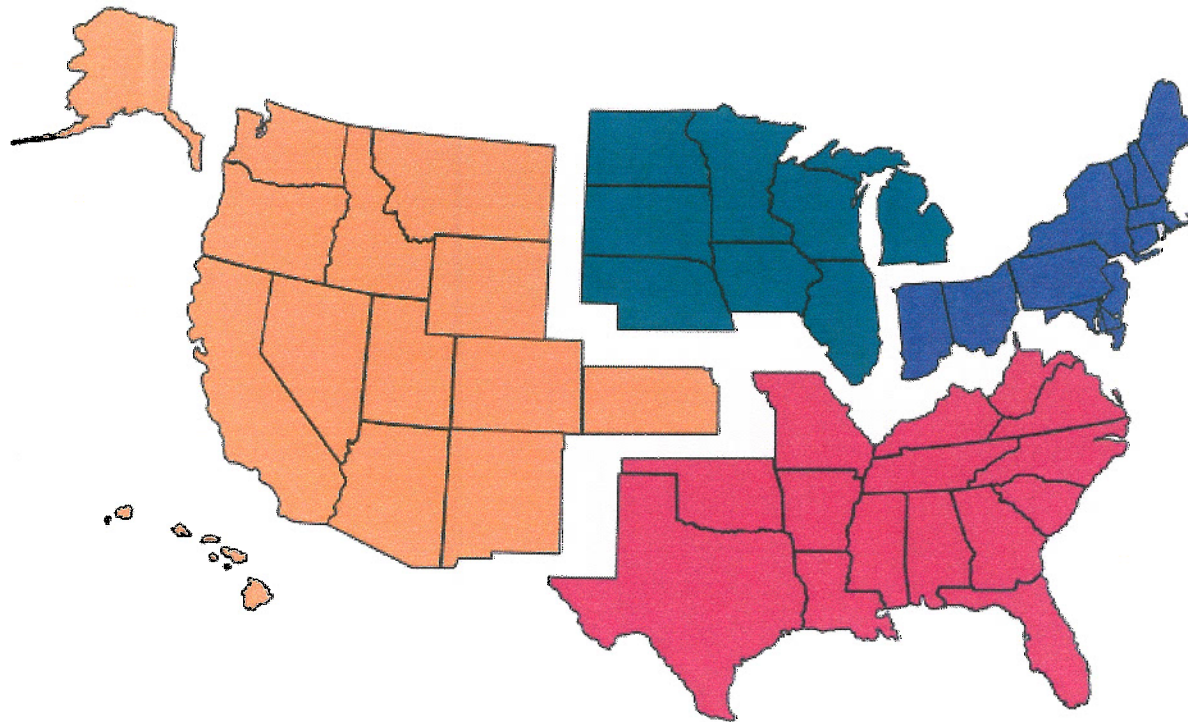


The AESA Mission

- **Serve as a national voice for ESAs;**
- **Provide professional development, technical assistance, advocacy and research;**
- **Help member agencies promote, distribute, and leverage ESA knowledge, products, and services;**
- **Assist in the establishment of ESAs.**



Educational Service Agencies



4 Regions

45 States

565 Agencies

Full Names of ESAs

AEA	<i>Area Education Agency</i>
BOCES	<i>Board of Cooperative Educational Services</i>
CESA	<i>Cooperative Education Service Agency</i>
COE	<i>County Office of Education</i>
EC	<i>Educational Cooperative</i>
ESA	<i>Education Service Agency</i>
ESC	<i>Education Service Center / Cooperative / Commission</i>
ESD	<i>Educational Service District</i>
ESU	<i>Education Service Unit</i>
ISC	<i>Intermediate Service Center</i>
ISD	<i>Intermediate School District</i>
IU	<i>Intermediate Unit</i>
REC	<i>Regional Educational Cooperative</i>
RESA	<i>Regional Education Service Agency</i>
RESC	<i>Regional Education Service Center</i>
ROE	<i>Regional Office of Education</i>
RRC	<i>Regional Resource Center</i>
SC	<i>Service Cooperative</i>



ESA FACTS

- **ESA Services Reach:**
 - **87% of the nation's public school districts,**
 - **85% of the nation's private schools,**
 - **85% of professional staff, and**
 - **Over 43 million students.**
- **There are more than 180,000 ESA professionals nation wide.**



Governance

ESA Board Member Selection Process

(5) Elected by the general public

**California, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon*

(16) Elected/Appointed by LEA Board Members

Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, North Dakota, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, West Virginia

(22) States where LEA Superintendents make up the boards

Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia and Utah

(1) State without Boards - Arizona

(1) Board made up of Chief State School Officers - Hawaii

Governance

<u>Category</u>	<u>ESA Boards</u>	<u>States</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Term</u>
1. States where ESA Boards are the Superintendents		22	5-74	Indefinite
2. States where LEA Boards elect the ESA Boards		16	5-40	1-6
3. States where ESA Boards are elected by the public		5	5-15	3-5
4. States without Boards		1	0	0
5. ESAs with Chief State School Officers as their Board		1	10	Indefinite
Total Number of States	45			



ESA Programs and Services



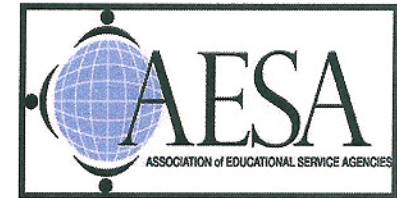
Teaching and Learning

- Direct services to students
- Operating schools and programs
- Professional development



Administrative & Operational Support

- Business and financial services
- Certification and transportation
- Cooperatives



ESAs...

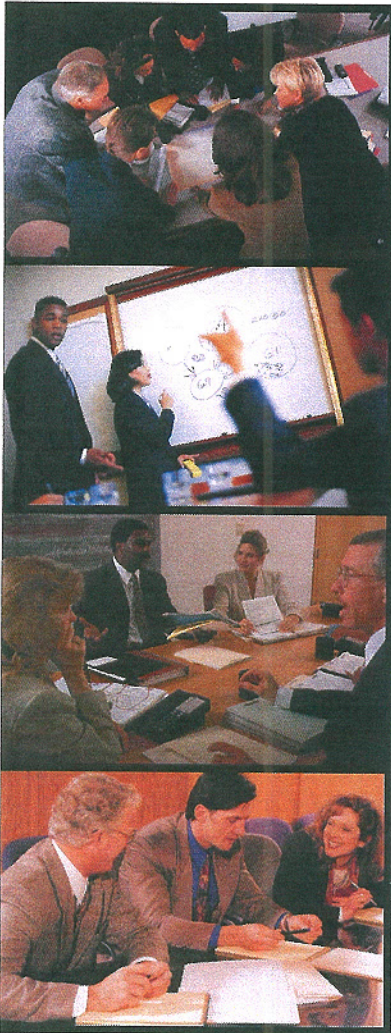
Train teachers and paraprofessionals,

- * Provide training which leads to alternative certification,
- * Provide supplemental services for eligible students,
- * Provide/coordinate expert teams for school improvement

Help integrate technology into school improvement efforts,

- * Communication and dissemination, and

Provide feedback on regulations & rules.



ESA Cooperatives



- **Greater cost savings**
- **Emphasis on criteria for excellence**
- **A shift to the education consumer (the local school district)**
- **Governance by members**
- **Meeting local school needs**



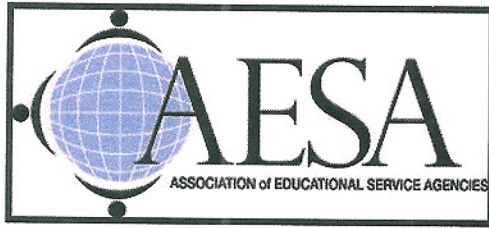
ESA Services

565	Professional Development
440	Special Education
429	Technology
390	Early Childhood
350	Leadership Training
340	Cooperative Purchasing
318	Computer Services



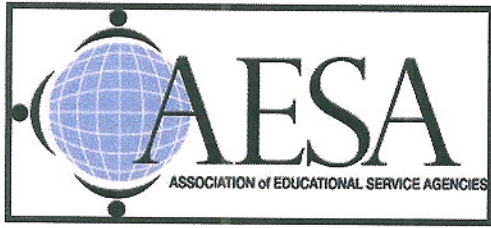
ESA Services

316	Adult Education
308	Media/Instructional Libraries
297	Vocational Education
286	Gifted Education
253	Incarcerated Students
251	Student Testing/Evaluation
239	Computer and Audio-Visual Repair



ESA Services

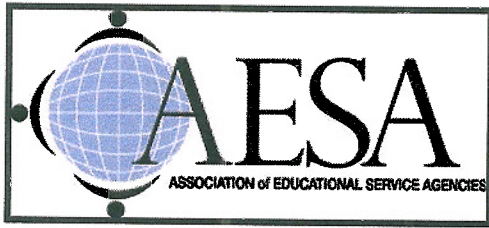
228	Personnel Recruitment/Screening
186	Printing Center
186	Insurance Services
164	Safety/Risk Management
159	Teacher Training Centers
147	Telecommunications/Distance Learning
128	Energy Management



**What are the characteristics
of an effective ESA delivery
system?**

... in other words

**What differentiates states that
do this well from states that
do not do it well?**



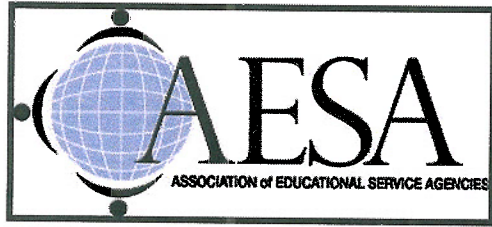
- ***When ESAs are recognized as partners with SDOE and LEAs***

- ***When ESAs are closest to the districts and a strong Link between the LEAs & SDOE***



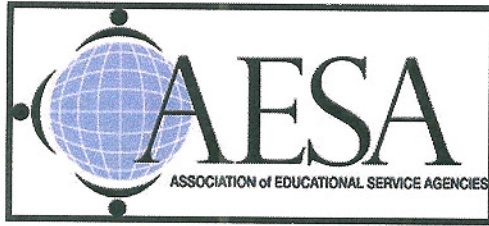
When Governance Policies Are in Place and Well Understood

- relationship with USED***
- relationship with SDOE***
- relationship with LEAs***
- relationship with other entities***
 - higher education***
 - juvenile justice***
 - DSHS***

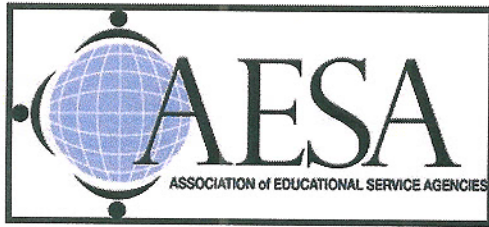


What State Level Policies Contribute to the Effectiveness of Regional Delivery Systems?

- *When ESAs assist SDOE and SBE in carrying out their duties***
- *When ESAs help insure equity, adequacy and equal access for all students***
- *When ESAs develop cost effective cooperatives that meet LEA needs***



- Where a basic level of funding is established for core services***
- Where ESAs have permissive rather than specific authority***
- Where coordination of agency services is supported by the State***
- Where ESAs can leverage effectiveness of scale (cost effectiveness)***



What State Level Policies Are Barriers to Effective Services

- ***When ESAs are required to provide assistance and also act as the regulatory arm (professional development – vs – certification requirements)***
- ***Where services are a patchwork (i.e.; professional development, special education and technology)***



- ***When ESAs have traditional geographic and/or arbitrary boundaries***
- ***When ESAs do not have the ability to execute inter-local agreements***
- ***When ESAs lack performance and/or accountability standards***

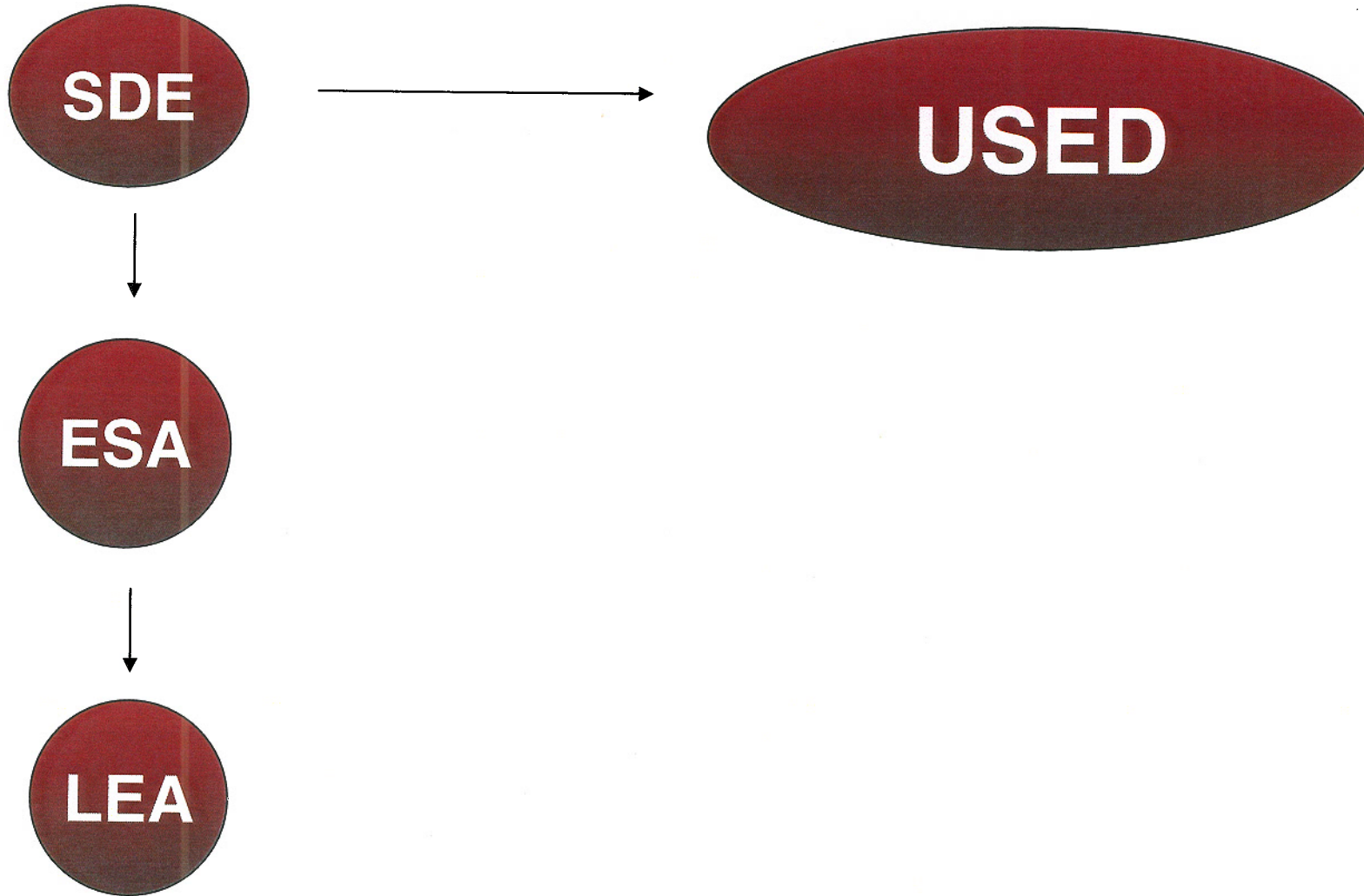


ESAs With Successful Programs Are...

- ✓ ***Well Defined***
- ✓ ***Closest to the Customer***
- ✓ ***Results Oriented***



Formative Model



Yesterday's Model

**ESAs are the Bridge to
the Future**

ESA's



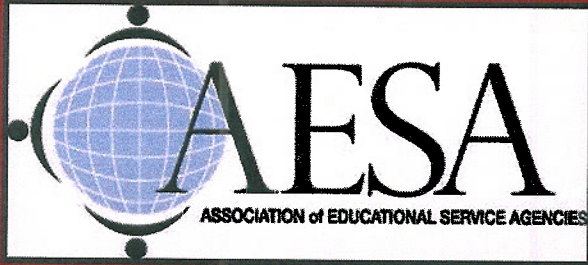
ESAs Are the Hub for Leveraging Partnerships



The usage of ESA services will grow and expand

Accountability policies that identify “failing” schools pose an urgent policy challenge for state governments. Public identification of schools where performance falls below acceptable standards implies an obligation to turn these schools around, but our knowledge about how to make ineffective schools effective remains limited. In this paper we ask which institutions— school districts, state governments, mayors’ offices, universities, for-profit education management organizations, or regional education service agencies— are best suited to turn around “failing” schools, on the basis of three criteria: capacity, scale, and trust. **Our analysis suggests that regional education service agencies are especially strong candidates to meet this challenge.**

(Arsen, Bell and Plank, 2004)



***“Educational Service
Agencies are Essential to
Improve
Student Achievement”***

Ted Stilwell