

## ESSA Implementation Committee Meeting

December 21, 2023  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
MS Teams

**Facilitator:** Laurie Matzke  
**Note Taker:** Kassie Schaff

### Minutes

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**Welcome:** Supt. Baesler welcomed the group.

**Updates/Overview of Day:** Assistant Supt. Matzke started the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of topics. Below are some of the highlights:

- Assessment Updates
- Choice Ready Recommended Changes
- ND Scholarship Study
- Accountability Updates
- Update on State and National Priorities
  - Federal Funding
  - Teacher Shortage
  - Learning Recovery
- Next Steps
  - Filling Committee vacancies
  - Spring 2024 ESSA Committee meeting

#### **Presentations:**

**Agenda Item:** Assessment Updates

**Presenter:** Stan Schauer

#### **Discussion:**

Stan presented the below topics and provided updates on the Assessment.

- Presented updates on the 2023 assessment test windows.
- Went over the timeline for the Federal Peer Review for NDSA, ACT, and NDAA. When new standards and assessments are implemented, the Peer Review process resets, and new submissions will be required.
- Participation rate monitoring process, analysis, and data.
- Improvements done with ND A+ and NDSA and what's on the horizon for these.
- Discussed Lexile and Quantile Academy updates, data, and professional development available.

**Agenda Item:** Choice Ready Recommended Changes & Multicultural Awareness

**Presenter:** Laurie Matzke & Jim Upgren

**Discussion:**

Laurie Matzke presented the continual improvements and changes to the Choice Ready Framework based on feedback received during Choice Ready workshops. Below are the three recommended changes.

- The first was to use multiple years of data which was approved already by Supt. Baesler.
- The second was to eliminate English and Math from the Dual Credit option in the Post-Secondary Ready pathway and allow students to use any Dual Credit course to meet this option the same way as AP courses. The committee unanimously voted verbally to approve this change.
- Jim Upgren presented the third change and proposed to add multicultural awareness to the list of additional indicators in the Essential Skills section of the Choice Ready Framework. The committee decided to wait on voting until after the subcommittee meets in mid-January so the guidance can be updated. Jim Upgren will schedule a subcommittee meeting to work on the guidance. A link to the guidance will then be provided to the field and this committee. The ESSA committee members will then vote on this proposal via an electronic poll.

**Agenda Item:** ND Scholarship Study

**Presenter:** Sam Unruh

**Discussion:**

- Sam proposed pulling data from SLDS regarding teacher shortages to investigate comparing wages before and after teachers leave the field and then bring the discussion to Governor Burgum's Taskforce. Maria Nessel will contact Sam Unruh to coordinate.
- Addressed the question in dealing with state scholarship information and whether or not it was associated with retention to post-secondary enrollment and post-secondary completion. Showed data on CTE scholarships going up and academic scholarships declining. Choice Ready does not have enough years of data to share yet but Sam will continue to monitor and share out when able.

**Agenda Item:** Accountability Updates

**Presenters:** Amanda Peterson

**Discussion:**

- Amanda discussed the accountability team's timeline for identification, data collection, and review. They meet monthly to discuss how to continuously improve internal processes.
- AP data collection for the State report has historically been received in an untimely manner; therefore, the committee decided that the “blue cloud” feature on the Choice Ready report will be removed starting in 2024. Schools will have to self-report instead in order to speed up the process.
- SB 2254 bill will be called “ND First” (Fostering Intensive Rigorous Support Teams) instead of Low Performing Schools. Discussed this bill’s definition, timeline, interventions, feedback, and requirements.

**Other Discussion:** Ednomics Training

**Presenter:** Maria Nettet and Luke Schaefer

- Maria requested that Luke explain to the group training webinars regarding GEER funding opportunities.
- Luke explained that the “Wild Ride training” through Ednomics focuses on the upcoming ESSER funding cliff and how to ensure effective programs continue to be funded. How to look at the return on investment on these programs and services and disseminate if the funds are actually realizing results. How to braid and blend funds. Luke will share when the next training is available.

Assistant Supt. Laurie Matzke made closing comments on what is coming next: Meeting Minutes, PowerPoint presentations, a Doodle poll on when to schedule the next meeting, the link to the guidance for the cultural awareness vote, and a memo to the field outlining any changes.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:26 AM.**