



ESSA Planning Committee MINUTES

Monday, February 5 | 9:30 AM- 12:30 PM

Facilitator – Laurie Matzke

Meeting: 9:30 am – 12:50 pm

Planning Committee Members Present:

Amy Arness
Levi Bachmeier
Marc Bluestone
Sonja Butenhoff
Aimee Copas
Teresa Delorme
Mary Eldridge-Sandbo
Jeff Fastnacht
Jennifer Fremstad
Tracy Friesen
Robert Grosz
Nikkie Gullickson
Cheryl Hagar
Rod Jonas
Melanie Kathrein
Tracy Korsmo
Andrea Noonan
Rebecca Pitkin
Mair Riehl
Russ Riehl
Luke Schaefer
Wayde Sick
Russ Ziegler

NDDPI Ex Officio Members Present:

Kirsten Baesler
Rob Bauer
Greg Carlson
Ann Ellefson
Tammy Mayer
Lucy Fredericks
Joe Kolosky
Anni Linden
Laurie Matzke
Ross Roemmich
Gail Schauer
Stan Schauer
Gerry Teevens
Stefanie Two Crow
Bonnie Weisz

AGENDA
ESSA PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

STATE CAPITOL, HEALTH DEPARTMENT RM 210-212, BISMARCK, ND

Welcome – Superintendent Baesler

General Updates – Laurie Matzke

- We appreciate taking the time to be at this meeting and continuing to serve on this committee
- Shauna Greff will email all ppts to the members following the meeting
- State ESSA plan was conditionally approved September 2017
 - Needed to update the Teacher Effectiveness piece
- Final approval January 2019
- USDE Reorganized and has significantly down-sized
- Less oversight however longer wait times for questions to USDE
- Letter from USDE regarding formal ESSA amendments and the process
 - Minor changes can be done without a full resubmission
 - No plans currently to file an amended plan with large changes
- CCSSO has been a huge help to states regarding their state plans
 - Advising to be cautious if changes need to be made
 - Opening the plan might be troublesome and allow other change requirements
- USDE requires all State ESSA plans to be accessible
 - Working on over the next several months – no timeline was given
 - Will send the newly revised accessible plan to all members
- Questions can be asked throughout and don't need to be held until the end of the meeting
- Reviewed objectives of the meeting
 - Updates on ESSA key elements
 - Input and Feedback on information provided
 - Vote on proposed Choice Ready Formula
 - Two proposed accountability changes
- Nearly every federal program received an increase for 2019-2020
- Key issues upcoming:
 - Second School Accountability Reports due August/September 2019
 - Targeted School Support due September 2019

Student Engagement/School Improvement – Joe Kolosky

- Student Engagement survey opened January 14 and is open until February 15
- Approximately 20,000 have taken the survey to date
- Data updated in SLDS every Tuesday
- Common Issues
 - SLDS Access
 - FERPA training not complete
 - EProve system creates problems with survey
 - Transfer students

- Updating enrollment in PowerSchool and STARS
- Broken access codes
- District enrolled students/Home educated students
- Communication memos sent at least once a week to get most of the schools to administer the survey as it impacts the school's points for accountability
- Once the survey closes, it will not be reopened
- Continuous Improvement Phase II is underway with AdvancED
 - Tried to expand the number of meetings due to large participation
 - Anticipate an overflow workshop as most meetings are full or almost full
 - Reviewed the strategy map
 - Continuous Improvement Plans are due May 1 for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years

Dropout Workgroup – Stan Schauer

- Review the federal and state definitions of a drop-out to see if changes need to be made in the state definition
- Committee has met two times and has been working
- Committee did some “hypothetical forecasting”
- If a student were to leave K-12 and start their GED do we need to mark them as drop-out?
 - Not if the school district remains responsible for that student
- What is the definition of “Remain responsible”?
 - No clear answer was given from the USDE
 - This is a good position as a state to take the lead on this and create our own definition
 - Could include attendance, fiscal, progress, data tracking, etc.
 - Possible MOU with learning entity and school district so they work together
 - Conflict may arise with regard to who is in charge
 - Could be avoided because it would be a partnership with Adult Ed and K-12
- If this were turned on today what would happen? All NDDPI offices would be affected
- Need to reach out to other states on their definitions (Virginia and Colorado)
- Could have an impact on graduation rates in North Dakota
- Work has been halted because of legislative session but will start back up again
- GED students testing in ND average age is 24
- Timeline is not known and during legislative session, finding time to meet is difficult
- There are a lot of unknowns:
 - Fiscal note
 - Century or Administrative Code

Financial Transparency – Adam Tescher

- The problem with most financial displays, they do not get used
 - Confusing
 - Too much data
 - Not enough data

- Not transparent
- What will a financial transparency display do?
 - Seek improved equity across districts
 - Seek improved outcomes for the dollar
 - Improve participation in allocation
 - Drive conversation
- Who is it for?
 - Parents
 - Advocacy
 - Principals
 - Teachers
 - District Leaders
- How will it work?
 - Chart on the dashboard broken into 6 categories as the cost of education
 - Is it helpful?
 - Seeking feedback so adjustments can be made to make it beneficial
- School level data has not been collected at this point but will be displayed
 - What will a parent think of this data?
 - How will advocacy groups, principals, teachers, view this data?
 - Will they lobby that district for change?
 - What conversations will this visual facilitate?
- Colorado has a nice comparison display of school financial data
- Schools and districts will be able to dig deeper into each display to see expenditures
- All districts operate differently
- Four things to consider:
 - Funding language must be straight forward
 - Option to provide feedback
 - Alongside relevant student and school information when possible
 - Need to keep evolving
- Working on importing of data so schools don't need to enter all information
- Deadline extended for one year so need to have data posted by the end of 2019-2020
- School board association needs to train business managers

Choice Ready – Laurie Matzke/Ross Roemmich/Greg Carlson

- Two changes to the Choice Ready Report chart
 - Two schools moving forward to standards-based grading so added “or”
 - Allow Workforce ready to get credit for using ACT
- Held a Choice Ready workshop with approximately 250 attendees
- No Choice Ready budget:
 - All presentations were recorded and placed them on the NDDPI website
 - A Q&A was created
 - Choice Ready Guidance was updated

- Need Feedback on:
 - State-Level Baseline Data
 - Choice Ready Report in Ed portal
 - Proposed Choice Ready Formula
- Tracy Korsmo provided demonstration of state-level baseline data and Choice Ready Report
 - Data is not for accountability but would be a good indicator if Choice Ready - the dashboard contains accountability data
 - Districts will be able to dive deeper into the data
 - Districts have ability to mass edit
 - Choice Ready guidance is on the homepage
 - Essential Skills are mandatory fields before any opportunity to be Choice Ready
 - A student can pass 3 pathways however if they have not completed Essential Skills, they will not be Choice Ready
 - The four-year rolling plan is something that counselors missed
 - The field needs to be educated on what is required
 - Transfer students will still be seen but won't be used for accountability
 - Records are per student, not per district
 - A comment was made to move the four-year rolling plan into Essential Skills however, until the field becomes more aware, it will be left where it is
 - A submit button was added and has provided clarity
 - NDDPI will be able to track who has not submitted so calls can be made to those that have not submitted to inform them
 - Many improvements have been made from feedback received. Feedback needs to continue so more changes can be made to make this effective
 - Goal is to graduate students Choice Ready which is 21% of accountability
 - Greg Carlson reviewed/demonstrated proposed Choice Ready Formula
 - ASVAB equivalent to ACT is 31 however, military allows entry if received a lesser score
 - How will this impact the growth formula?
 - This topic will be put on the next Choice Ready subcommittee meeting agenda for dialogue
 - There will always be exceptions to the rule on any pathway
 - ASVAB can be taken for all students, not just those that are interested in the military as it is a good career building assessment
- Everyone agreed to move forward with the Choice Ready formula as presented

ACT for Accountability – Bonnie Weisz

- NDDPI supplied evidence in support of using ACT for accountability
- 2017-2018, 14 school district juniors used ACT for accountability (which is about half)
- 2018-2019, 33 school districts interested in using ACT for accountability (55.51% participation)
- NDSA ELA/Math results available on the Dashboard
- NDSA Science is being finalized with first assessment Spring 2020 for grade 10

Teacher Effectiveness Reporting – Joe Kolosky

- First round of data reported: 75 Ineffective Teacher Equivalent
- Report is due June 30 through STARS
- We are meeting the requirement within the ESSA plan
- Important to identify which districts are struggling and in which areas so resources can be provided to assist those districts and tailor the PD that would be most beneficial
- New committee formed lead by Rod Jonas to validate data
 - Examine data
 - Examine mythology and data collection
 - Examine usefulness of the data
 - Explore alternatives
- Funds were granted to the REAs to assist and train administrators on using the evaluation tool

Phase III Dashboard Release – Ross Roemmich

- Review and demonstration of Phase III release
- Make sure you have the correct school year data selected

Accountability – Laurie Matzke/Greg Carlson

- Recap of the accountability pie percentages for elementary and high schools
- We are required to annually release school accountability reports
- All reports are available on the dashboard
- First draft will be end of August, early September
- Schools will have three weeks to review data before they are final
- CCSSO has aided states on items
 - Recommended a theory of action to guide work internally for the NDDPI
 - Asked for six states to pilot an accountability tool, ND has indicated interest
- Greg Carlson reported Phase IV will be ND's first full accountability report under ESSA to include Choice Ready
- Selection for Targeted Support will take place. Some schools may bump out while others may be newly identified (Comprehensive Support is a three-year identification)
- June 30 deadlines for schools to have data entered are extremely important
- No decisions need to be made today however, we need to start thinking about the following: (changes would be implemented at the earliest 2020-2021 school year):
 - When would this committee like to add School Climate to the accountability report?
 - What are thoughts regarding adding the Choice Ready element into the elementary level?
 - Takes some focus off of state assessment for accountability at the elementary
 - Would give elementary credit for initiatives implemented
 - Scientifically proven indicators need to be used
 - Elementary principals might provide pushback – elementary principals will be given this idea tomorrow
 - For Middle school, this would be a positive change and not a huge reach

- Need to remember good core instruction at the elementary level does assist in making students Choice Ready
- Purpose at the elementary level is academic in preparation for their future studies and career explorations
- Climate/Culture is an important piece
- Do we want to create a workgroup to discuss this issue?
- Can the next full ESSA committee be solely about Climate/Culture and the elementary pie percentages

Questions & Answers

Next Steps

Adjourn