

ESSA Planning Committee MINUTES

Tuesday, November 21 2017 | 12:30 - 4:00 PM

Facilitator	Note Taker
Laurie Matzke	Shauna Greff
Meeting Convened	Meeting Adjourned
12:30 pm	3:40 pm

Attendance

Planning Committee Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick Archuleta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Fastnacht	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Nathe
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Arness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Fremstad	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Neal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Levi Bachmeier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Friesen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Noonan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexis Baxley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Grosz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larry Nybladh
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marc Bluestone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nikkie Gullickson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca Pitkin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeffrey Brandt	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheryl Hagar	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Richter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tanja Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rosemary Hardie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Russ Riehl
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sonja Butenhoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Julie Jaeger	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richard Rothaus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aimee Copas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rod Jonas	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Steckler
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scott Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melanie Kathrein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Travis Thorvilson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Delrome	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Korsmo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Russ Ziegler
<input type="checkbox"/>	Teresa Desai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wayne Kutzer		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kirsten Dvorak	<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Lech		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Eldredge-Sandbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marcus Lewton		

NDDPI Ex Officio Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lodee Arnold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joe Kolosky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gail Schauer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kirsten Baesler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Linden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matt Scherbenske
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rob Bauer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Marthaller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gerry Teevens
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann Ellefson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Matzke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stefanie Two Crow
<input type="checkbox"/>	Valerie Fischer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kay Mayer		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lucy Fredericks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ross Roemmich		

AGENDA
ESSA PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 21, 2017 12:30 PM
BRYNHILD HAUGLAND, STATE CAPITOL

Roll call and welcome from Laurie Matzke

Announced those that are participating via conference call and ADOBE

Overview of Agenda

ESSA plan approved; moving full force into the Implementation Phase

Attended CCSSO meeting last week to provide updates

Seventeen states in round one submission, of those, fifteen have been approved

Thirty-five plans submitted in round two

Shortly after Thanksgiving, feedback will be provided to those states

North Dakota made the right choice to submit in the first round

North Dakota is ahead of the pack of states with regard to ESSA

Strong likelihood that there will be no USDE guidance on ESSA

In the past, there has always been non-regulatory guidance but it appears there will not be any

The Administration is trying to give authority to the states and districts

They say they will provide a form or guidance for states to submit an amendment if they need to make changes to their state plan

States have the right to submit a waiver, if there is something we cannot comply with, we can submit a waiver to the law

Some milestones of which to be proud:

- Approved plan
- Implementation committees
- Student Engagement Survey
- Dashboard Implementation
- Communication to the Field
- ESSA resources available

Some challenges:

- Data compilation
- Minimizing reporting for school personnel
- Meeting timeline constraints

There are a number of outside entities reviewing individual state plans. They are making comparisons and categorizing states. Most have sent the review so states can have a heads-up on what is being said about our plan

- North Dakota Strengths – clear vision, growth, stakeholder engagement, choice ready, focus on continuous improvement, partnerships, student engagement
- North Dakota Weaknesses – three: lack of focus on subgroups, GED extender, don't bring it down to one summative rating

ESSA resources: there is now a link to the ESSA page on the NDDPI homepage

Spread the word about the resources that are available for schools and districts

Funding: Currently under a continued resolution. This expires December eight. Predicting another short-term resolution. We can expect cuts to federal funding considering all of the natural disasters that have happened

Title II is still slated for elimination in the Trump proposal and the House however, the Senate proposal keeps it funded. Program may be cut but hopefully not eliminated

ESSA Implementation Committee Reports:

Financial Transparency presented by Adam Tescher - Handout

- Split into two working groups: small districts and large districts as their needs are quite different
- Challenges discussed regarding expenditures
- The plan is to bring these two committees together eventually after the different challenges and reporting has been discussed
- The cost of education is a main focus of the committee and how this data should be reported
- How much detail should be displayed? Need a balance between what we could do and what we should do

Aimee Copas questioned whether we can start at a high-level cost per pupil and if the schools and public desire more information, we can add a deeper level.

Regarding guidance, CCSSO is trying to come up with common terms for states, however; that is challenging

The business managers on this committee have been giving good input

Does a school district have a funding formula on how they use funding similar to how the state has a formula to determine state funding to each school?

Innovative Learning presented by Ann Ellefson - Handout

- This committee is very different because there is no start, end or in-between goal
- It is very dependent on individual school needs
- The handout is a timeline of the Innovative discussions that have been happening since June 2017
- What is innovation, what can we do to start and get this going in our schools and districts?
- Innovation has not just started; it has been happening, we just need to share ideas and the things that are happening
- How do we build partnerships to build innovative ideas throughout the state?
- Working with CTE and EBBP to get educators licensed so these courses work and count for the schools
- Continue to work on opportunities to expand innovative learning in our schools and districts

Graduation Rate/GED presented by Tracy Korsmo - Handout

- Had to fine tune on the rules such as: a student may not be counted as a graduate and a GED completer
- Exit code needs to be changed to dropout when in fact they were enrolled in adult ed and obtained a GED. Suggestion is for NDDPI to come up with an exit code that would coincide with GED that would look better than dropout
- If LEA is coding as a transfer rather than a dropout, those would be picked up
- If they enrolled into an adult ed course, they could be rolled back into their district however, the pool would not be accurate
- A transfer out of district cannot be added back into the pool; we need to find a way to correct this. We are not sure how to calculate because we need a pool to measure against for data
- When coding out of district, need to have a process in which those students can be tracked
- This would include students that transfer and then enroll in GED in North Dakota
- Objective is to recognize GED completers but they were never entered as logged out so they will not be counted

NDDPI and working group needs to dig deeper into this and figure out a solution

Need a process in place to reenroll

School Improvement presented by Stefanie Two Crow – Handout

Topics for discussion with this committee:

- Partnerships - A partnership is secured with the School Improvement Network/Ed Direction and there are monthly meetings taking place.
- Identification of Comprehensive and Targeted Support Schools
- Timeline

Choice Ready presented by Laurie Matzke – Handout and Chart

- This committee has met and had many conversations, as this is a large issue.
- The reviews indicate North Dakota is in the bottom of the first seventeen states that have been evaluated. We need to be fair to our schools but must show rigor
- The chart has been updated
 - Military Ready remains constant
 - Workforce Ready changed
 - Post-Secondary Ready is the category that is currently under discussion
 - ✓ Can we say a student is post-secondary ready if they need to take remedial courses in college?

Need to come to a consensus and finalize this chart

Since it has changed so much, we plan to have a live webinar to explain the chart

There are many questions, so a guidance document will be needed to help with understanding of all sections

Superintendent Baesler has been spending a lot of time with national colleagues and this is not seen positively

NDDPI and educators need to work together to have one vision

Need to drive equity and cause innovation and change

Need to expand and push the status quo

The authority and ability to govern ourselves can be easily taken away if the USDE thinks we are not doing our job

The review that was written based on the old choice ready chart shows ND as weak North Dakota had three red marks, while all of the other states only had one

- Weak in GED - we can support this
- Subgroups - we can support because we are a small state
- Not having one summative rating - we can defend

The one thing we were commended for is the Choice Ready initiative and now we are weakening this component

It has been said that if we make this rigorous, the administrators will just dismiss it, which is very disheartening

We have to do well by our students, have to stand as one, make a decision and then stand behind it

What is the weakness as the chart stands right now?

Jeff Fastnacht - Is the concern that a student labeled post-secondary ready but has to take remedial classes is not in fact post-secondary ready?

Matt Scherbenske - the issue is if your district indicates a student is college ready yet when they get to college the NDUS says they are not ready and needs remediation, it is not a true representation

The composite score comes into play for admission requirements however; the individual scores are what the NDUS uses for placement and remediation

Jeff indicated he would be in favor of removing the composite ACT score section

NDUS, NDDPI, and administrators need to sit down and have a conversation on K12 education

Administrators and educators are okay with removing ACT composite score

Has anyone looked at the data and aligned the top section with the bottom section of the chart of the post-secondary category?

Matt Scherbenske recommends a study of the data. It needs to be taken to a greater level so we can have data to support the solution

We need to show that our students are post-secondary ready

This is the face of North Dakota's ESSA plan and we need to come to a consensus

Would removing the composite ACT improve the rigor and would it be defensible?

Student Growth presented by Rob Bauer – Handout

A model will be ready to go with data on the dashboard in February.

Working with AdvancED and support people to begin gathering data to run the model to start producing graphs and charts with results.

The first iterations will be high-level charts, graphs, and tables, and then in the future can dig deeper.

Every school and district has its own starting point.

Student Engagement presented by Joe Kolosky – Handout

- Survey launched November 1 and ran smoothly after SLDS worked to resolve an issue
- Frequent Issues/Resolutions:

- Students enter a school district after the survey window opens/AdvancED help desk worked to assign access codes
- Large and small districts administer codes differently/User worked their way through the issue
- Window for the survey closes December 8; the window will not be extended

Effective Teachers and Leaders presented by Gail Schauer – Handout

- Challenge - a new piece for schools to report
- Tried to get the word out at conferences, memos, etc.
- When the time came to input the information, there were many questions
- Collecting data - is there some way we can use this data to make it beneficial to North Dakota other than using it for reporting?
- Can we align the components/elements between models?
- USDE said this data does not need to be included on the dashboard.
- We want to be transparent, how do we want to share this data and exactly what data do we report?

Stef Two Crow – comprehensive schools are working with coaches on ineffective teaching strategies. They can assign different strategies for the low scoring teachers. Perhaps we can use this data to work together to align strategies

There will be an internal dashboard for the schools to be able to see this data

The schools report it by building but the report does not have to be by building

Grants went out to REAs for PTESS for schools and districts to utilize

High School ACT Option presented by Bonnie Weisz - Handout

- Districts were made aware of the flexibility in ESSA with regard to high school academic assessment
- An email was sent to all districts requesting them to select which option they felt their district was interested in
- If a district was going to use the ACT for assessment purposes, they needed to make their stakeholders aware of this option
- 143 districts completed the survey. 18 indicated an interest in using ACT in lieu of 10 NDSA for accountability, of which 6 were the largest districts
- The waiver is currently in the public comment period
- To date, there are eight responses and they are all in favor of using ACT
- If the waiver is approved, districts can move forward and prepare for administration of the ACT in 11th grade for accountability
- If denied, districts will need to give the NDSA in grade 10

School Dashboard presented by Ross Roemmich – Chart

- Review timeline of dashboard information going live

School Dashboard Demo presented by Tracy Korsmo

Update on ESSA Tribal Consultation presented by Lucy Fredericks – Handout

- Continue to provide meaningful consultation and engagement with Tribal education leaders
- All 29 school districts submitted their consultation agreement requirements

Recap:

- Release of dashboard next week
- Waiver to USDE on ACT
- Registration for Choice Ready Webinar
- Closing Student Engagement Survey and compile data
- Continue to work with Implementation Committees

AIR will be the new assessment used in spring 2018

Information will be sent out weekly regarding the new assessment

Meeting Adjourned