**Policy Advisory Committee**

**March 13, 2013 Meeting Follow-up**

NOTE: The next meeting of the Policy Advisory Committee will be April 24, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in the State Board Room in NDE.

Progress Report Highlights: The Data Cadre (Goal 2) is established and already working on a framework for the professional development on data use and analysis. The eScholar Interstate Locator project is moving forward and a staff person has been hired.

Dashboard: The decision has been made to adopt the Ed-Fi Alliance’s dashboard. A Video showcasing their dashboard, as designed for Texas, was shown. It can be found at <http://vimeo.com/47511948> The following article was distributed:

<http://www.zdnet.com/ed-fi-alliance-taming-the-state-and-local-data-beasts-7000012384/>

The group discussed whether to do a “fast start” with only one local school information system (SIS) (an option offered by Troy Wheeler from Ed-Fi) or stay with our original thoughts of starting with multiple systems. It was decided to seek pilot districts having different SIS to ensure that the system works with them even if this means a slower start.

Ed-Fi will provide the standards and the tools for the dashboard. Nebraska must decide the content and this will be done through stakeholder engagement. The group talked about a design team and an assembly team. In the March 28th NDE Bulletin, we will be inviting any district or ESU to be a part of a Design Team. Members of the Design Team must commit to holding one meeting of classroom teachers and administrators before the end of the school year. NDE will provide the instructions and agenda for the meeting. The meeting will collect input on the questions the dashboard should answer and the data that is needed to answer the questions. This input must then be entered into a file that NDE will provide. NDE will analyze the reports from all members of the Design Team and identify the priorities for Nebraska’s dashboard. With this format, any district or ESU can participate and provide their input.

The assembly team would be the pilot districts. The pilot districts, which can include an ESU (if the ESU has FERPA approvable access to a district’s data and systems), will be selected yet this Spring. The PAC discussed having one district per ESU and we will try to meet that goal if there are enough volunteers that meet the criteria we have set. Pilot districts must commit staff time of a data steward or someone knowledgeable in data bases and systems. As of now, we are uncertain as to how much local staff time this would involve. Our tentative timeline is to identify pilots in April, complete selection in May, finalize the contracts in June and July, and begin work in August. We are working on a project plan for the dashboard and will, hopefully, have a proposal for the next meeting of this group.

The 2013 Annual NDE Data Conference **“THE POWER OF DATA”** will be held April 29 & 30, 2013 in Kearney, Nebraska at the Younes Conference Center. Please visit the conference website at <http://ndeconference.education.ne.gov> to register ($100) and find other information.

Thank you for your continued participation and support.