

Meeting was called to order by Chair Person Renee Hyde, at 9:02 AM

Attendees

Eileen Barks
Cheryl Burrell
Brad Conner
Brooke David
Don Eberle
Susan Evans
Lyn Forester
Tina Forte
Michele Hensley
Linda Hix
Renee Hyde
Tara James
Ann Nickerson
Toni Palmer
Deb Ross
Barbara Sunderman
Bob Uhing

NDE Staff

Brad Conner
Brooke David
Pat Frost
Lindsay Ickes
Jan Handa
Karen Hardin
Pat Madsen
Randy McIntyre
Cathy Mohnike
Deb Romanek
Diane Stuehmer
Beth Wooster

Not in Attendance

Andy Defreese
Don Eberle
Pat Frost
Sue Henry
Randy Johnson
Sharon Katt
Ben King
Kraig Lofquist
Joan Luebbbers
Marcella Rademacher
Kristin Schultz
Terri Schuster
Barbara Schweiger
Bryan Seck

Welcome/Introductions

Introductions were made by the committee members including our newest members Barbara Sunderman (Hastings College), Lyn Forester (Doane University), Toni Palmer (GIPS) and Tara James (OPS).

Public Comment

Renee Hyde asked for public comment - there was none.

Nebraska Open Meetings Act Reminder

Renee Hyde, Chairperson, reminded the committee that the committee follows the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. A written copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review at all Committee of Practitioner's Meetings.

Approval of Minutes from March 15, 2016 meeting.

Diane Stuehmer, NDE Federal Programs Administrator, indicated that on page 2 the first paragraph should not have been underlined. Bob Uhing made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Tina Forte' seconded the motion and all agreed.

Election of Committee of Practitioners Chairperson

Renee Hyde asked for nominations for chairperson. Ann Nickerson moved to nominate Renee Hyde. Michele Hensley seconded the motion. The committee unanimously decided to retain Renee Hyde as chairperson of the committee.

Review Process Rules and membership needs (Handout)

Diane Stuehmer indicated that the process rules have not been reviewed since 2013 and asked the committee to review them for changes. Membership shows the group be no more than 30 members. Diane would like clarification as to whether this means voting members or total membership including NDE personnel. The

committee felt it would be voting members. Ann Nickerson made a motion to approve the changes as they were discussed Cheryl Burrell seconded the motion and the motion was carried. Please refer to the handout for additional information located on the NDE Federal Programs website.

Recruitment

Diane Stuehmer indicated we are in need of additional members from across the state. Of particular need are school board members, parents, teachers and pupil services personnel. An Ad Hoc Committee was created to address recruitment throughout the state. The members appointed are Eileen Barks, Beth Wooster, Deb Ross and Renee Hyde.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Diane Stuehmer presented a Power Point concerning the conversion of NCLB (No Child Left Behind) to ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act). In this presentation Diane referenced regulations that will change. NDE will continue to provide updates through administrator days, webinars and the NDE website. Please refer to Diane Stuehmer's Power Point presentation located on our website for additional information:

<https://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Index.html#COP>

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)

Diane Stuehmer informed the committee that the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for State Accountability Plans and Consolidated State Plans has been posted in the Federal Register. Comments will be accepted until August 1, 2016.

Transition to ESSA (2016-17)

Please refer to the handout (Nebraska's Title I Transition Plan) for more information. Diane Stuehmer indicated a few changes were made regarding the application process for Title I Accountability funds for the 2015-16 school year. The transition plan is posted on the Federal Programs page of the NDE website:

<https://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Index.html#COP>

Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

SES will be optional, but not be required, for the 2015-16 school year during the transition from NCLB to ESSA. Schools that offered SES in the past must have a plan for how they will provide additional services for those students that had received it in the past. It may be that afterschool or before school tutoring is offered, summer school, etc.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

Diane Stuehmer stated the USDE Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) may be undergoing changes. The current requirements are that districts or schools must have at least 40% or higher direct certification to qualify or participate. There is a proposal with ESSA to raise the qualification to 60%.

NDE is working on changes to the Title I Targeting steps of the NCLB Consolidated Application that will allow options for determining within district allocations. We anticipate the options will include the following

- Direct Certification Data in CEP schools and Free/Reduced Lunch Data in Non-CEP Schools
- Direct Certification Data for All Schools
- Direct Certification Data with the 1.6 Multiplier for All Schools
- Other Allowable Data for Schools (i.e. Medicaid, TANF, etc. Or a Combination of Data)

Educator Equity Plan Update

Pat Madsen, Adult Programs/Teacher Education Specialist, reported that information received from ED shows that the identification 'inexperienced', 'out of field', and 'unqualified' that currently are part of Educator Equity Plan will change to 'inexperienced', 'out of field', and 'ineffective' teachers in the ESSA language. Currently NDE does not collect this data, so changes will have to be made in the type of data Nebraska will have to collect.

Onsite Monitoring 3-year schedule continues

Beth Wooster, Title I Assistant Director, shared that the three-year monitoring schedule will continue as we move to ESSA. Changes to the monitoring checklist will be minimal for the 2016-17 school year, but there will be likely many changes for the 2017-18 school year when ESSA is in full effect.

NCLB Consolidated Application for 2016-17 – New GMS site

The grant applications are no longer on the NDE portal, but are now housed by MTW in Kansas City they are still accessed through the NDE website. When going into the system all of a districts applications/grants are in one place. The goal was to make it easier for districts.

Accountability Application for 2016-17

Randy McIntyre, School Improvement Grant Coordinator, reported on changes in the Accountability application due to this being a transition year for ESSA. The districts in needs improvement will have a tab on the NCLB Application with only three questions. Schools in needs improvement will still need to complete the Accountability application, which will be opening approximately the same time as the NCLB. This application will be much shorter with all schools identified completing the same 1-page requirement that consists of only 6 questions.

TransACT Demonstration

Brooke David, Title III Consultant, demonstrated how to navigate the TransACT website and outlined the benefits of using the website for translation. The Nebraska Department of Education has a contract with TransACT that allows staff in all Nebraska districts the ability to access the website and documents at no charge. Diane Stuehmer and Beth Wooster are on committees that have been reviewing documents for the TransACT website. <http://www.transact.com>.

Title I-A: Educationally Disadvantaged

Distinguished Schools Criteria (Handout)

Beth Wooster reported that a third category is being added to the selection criteria for the 2016 National Title I Distinguished Schools Program. Each state may still only select two schools. The three categories now are: 1) Exceptional student performance for two or more consecutive years, 2) Closing the achievement gap between student groups, 3) Excellence in serving special populations of students (e.g. homeless, migrant, English learners, etc.).

Suggested Schoolwide Template and Peer/Self Review Rubric Updates (Handouts)

Beth Wooster shared changes that the Title I team are recommending be made to the Title I Schoolwide (SW) Rubric due to requirement changes with ESSA; 10 elements from the current Rubric can be eliminated, pieces that were included in the abstract will now be part of the school information page on the template as will the planning team which had been requirement (B-1). There were four proposals requested of the committee to approve. Deb Ross made the motion to add an assurance to the bottom of the Cover Sheet indicating that the SW Plan will be made available to parents. Michelle Hensley seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Eileen Barks made the motion to eliminate the annual staff vote to implement or continue implementing a schoolwide plan, which had been (C-1), on the SW Plan requirements. Susan Evans seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Tina Forte' made the motion to approve the new SW Rubric and Templates as presented with changes as discussed. Toni Palmer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Bob Uhing made the motion to approve to change the schedule for Schoolwide Reviews; 1) Create Plan to be Peer Reviewed. 2) Participate in District Monitoring. 3) Complete a SW Self-Review and participate in reviewing other schools plans at Peer Review. Tina Forte' seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Once all changes have been made to the three documents – Schoolwide Rubric, Schoolwide Plan Template, and Schoolwide Self-Review Template they will be posted on the Title I website and a notice will be sent to the committee members.

Schoolwide Peer Review schedule discussion

Beth Wooster asked the committee to consider moving the Title I Schoolwide Peer Review time from the first week in April to the first week in March, to avoid leadership staff being pulled out of the buildings at the same time NeSA testing is being completed. Bob Uhing made a motion to approve this and Michelle Hensley seconded. The vote was 5 in favor, 5 against and three abstaining, so the motion did not carry. The committee agreed to re-evaluate at the June 2017 COP meeting. They would like to see how the changes made to the Schoolwide Plan approved earlier will affect Peer Review in 2017.

National Title I Conference will be held in Long Beach, CA – February 22-25, 2017.

Registration is now open. Conference information can be found at: <http://www.titlei.org/conference>

Location Change

The consensus among committee members was in favor of a change of locations that might attract more members from other areas of Nebraska. It was agreed the October meeting will be held in Kearney at ESU 10 and our March meeting will be held in York or Hastings if these sites are available.

School Improvement Grant (SIG)

Randy McIntyre reported five applications were received for the FY15-16 SIG application. Two applications received were from Tier III schools and three were Tier I & II buildings. The Tier I & II schools have priority over the Tier III schools. The total amount requested is approximately \$4,800,000 and the amount available for the SIG award this year is approximately \$4,575,000. This is the last year for the SIG as we know it due to the passing of the new ESSA law. The Federal Programs Team will be reviewing the applications this week.

Title I, Part C: Migrant

Lindsay Ickes gave a report on the Binational Visiting Teacher program. Eleven teachers from Mexico participated in the Nebraska exchange this year. The program is designed to support students that may be enrolled in students in both countries in a given school year. The teachers from Mexico are able to provide firsthand knowledge of the culture, values and national traditions of Mexican-origin students who live in the U.S.

Lindsay provided information on Nebraska's current migrant programs, which include a new program through ESU 1, that supports students and families in the northeast part of the state.

Title III: Language Acquisition

Brooke David gave an update on the English language assessment ELPA21. The standards setting for this assessment will be on July 19-22 with scores available to districts by August/Sept 2016. Students should not be exited from the ELL status until such decision can be confirmed by the ELPA21 scores—grades K-2; confirmed by the ELPA21 scores and/or the NeSA-Reading scores in grades 3-12. Students' status should not be changed on NSSRS Field 95/113 until exit criteria in Rule 15 is met. The ELPA21 Screener is currently under development, both Brooke and Terri are part of this team, with a pilot planned for late Fall. Nebraska will be joining a consortium of states implementing the ELPA21. UCLA—CRESST (Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards and Student Testing) will be overseeing all aspects of the ELPA21. With the implementation of ESSA, Title III Accountability will be moving to Title I.

Title VI: REAP – Rural Education Achievement Program

Brad Conner, NDE Staff, reported that no significant changes are expected in any of the REAP programs as a result of the passage of ESSA. Nebraska continues to have 181 school districts eligible for Small Rural School Achievement (SRSA) funds and 2 school districts eligible for Rural Low Income Students (RLIS) grants in 2016-17.

Title IV, Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

Jan Handa, 21st CCLC Grants Manager, reported that the Nebraska Legislature appropriated \$250,000 to be awarded through competition to partnerships of school districts and community-based organizations delivering at least 15 hours of student contact per semester of the 2016-2017 school year. Eligible sites must have an existing 21st CCLC continuation grant and been in operation at least five years. The competition has a postmark deadline of July 1 and proposals will be recommended for funding to the State Board of Education at their August 5 meeting.

Title II, Part B: Math and Science Partnerships

Jan Handa, MSP Grants Manager, reported that the MSP program was not reauthorized in ESSA and that the final MSP grant competition had been conducted and a proposal will be recommended for funding to the State Board of Education at their August 5 meeting.

Title X, Part C: Education of Homeless Children and Youth

Cathy Mohnike, Title X Part C Coordinator, reported the new rules for District must presume the best placement for students is their school of origin; this excludes pre-schools. Students must be placed even if they miss the application deadline. They cannot be excluded from that school. Homeless records cannot be part of directory information due to the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act” (FERPA) requirements. When a student obtains permanent housing the school must provide transportation for the student until the end of the school year. For additional information on homeless regulations please go to <http://www.naehcy.org>.

Title II-A: Improving Teacher Quality

Brad Conner indicated that as outlined in Diane's Power Point, the most significant change in Title II-A under ESSA is the removal of requirements for “High Quality Teachers” (HQT). Some restrictions in how schools identified as being “In Needs Improvement” could use Title II-A funds were also removed. Districts no longer need to notify parents about the HQT status of their teachers. However, they still must notify parents that they have the right to inquire about the qualifications of their child's teacher. This notice is typically included in handbooks and/or posted on district websites.

Administrators' Days

Diane Stuehmer encouraged committee members to attend NDE Administrator Days. The NDE Day is on Wednesday, July 27th. There is no charge to attend only Wednesday of the conference. There are subsequent break-out sessions on Thursday, July 28th & Friday, the 29th.

The Hispanic/Latino Summit is scheduled for October 24, 2016 in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center. Information about the conference can be found at; <http://www.latinosummit.org/home.html>

Next Meeting

October 17, 2016 in Kearney at the Educational Service Unit #10 (76 Plaza Blvd. Kearney, NE)