**COP Minutes**

**June 25th, 2019**

**Firespring, Lincoln NE**

Renee Hyde, COP Chairperson, called the Committee of Practitioners meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Tuesday June 25, 2019, at Firespring in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Attendees

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Members in attendance | NDE Staff in attendance | Not in attendance |
| Andy DeFreece | Benjamin Zink | Bob Ziegler |
| Ann Nickerson | Beth Wooster | Eileen Barks |
| Anne Caruso | Deb Romanek | Kraig J Lofquist |
| Bill Heimann | Diane Stuehmer | Melody Hobson |
| Cheryl Burrell | Jacob Clark | Monica Smith |
| Deb Ross | Jan Handa | Susan Evans |
| Kris Schneider | Joan Luebbers | Tracey Kovar |
| Kristin Schultz | Kim Snyder | Veronica Estevez |
| Linda Hix | Kirk Russell | Bob Ziegler |
| Michele Hensley | Pat Frost |  |
| Randy Johnson | Shirley Vargas |  |
| Renee Hyde | Sue Henry |  |
| Tara James | Terri Schuster |  |
|  | Tim Vanderheiden |  |

**Welcome & Introductions**

Renee Hyde welcomed everyone, and had them introduce themselves. Diane Stuehmer shared some changes taking place on the ESEA Federal Programs team. Karen Hardin retired in June, Diane Stuehmer and Terri Schuster will be retiring in August. Adrian Bowen and Allyson Olson will be joining the team in July. Other retirements on the Committee are; Renee Hyde and Randy Johnson. The service given to the Committee over the years, has been greatly appreciated.

**Nebraska Open Meeting Acts (NOMA) Reminder**

Renee issued a general reminder about the NOMA.

**Open for public comments**

Renee asked if there were any public comments. None were made.

**Approval of Minutes for March 26th meeting**

Tina Forte’ made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2019 meeting. Deb Ross seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Election of COP Chairperson**

Diane Stuehmer reminded the group that Linda Hix was nominated at the previous COP meeting and asked if there were any other nominations. Ann Nickerson nominated Tina Forte’. Randy Johnson moved and Kris Schneider seconded to close nominations. A ballot vote was taken and Tina Forte’ was elected.

**ESEA & ESSA Information**

**Family and Community Engagement**

Jan Handa shared a handout from Kim Larson about updates on Family and Community Engagement updates. Jan discussed the upcoming sessions in Hastings and Neligh for the Nebraska Framework for Positive Partnerships and Relationships for Student Success being offered in August and September. Information on the Statewide Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee and the Collaboration with Nebraska ESUs taking place was also shared. For more information about Family and Community Engagement, please contact Kim at kim.larson@nebraska.gov.

**Equitable services**

Tim Vanderheiden discusses equitable services. All schools have gone through consultation processes. Tim had sit in with LPS and GIPS to observe processes. Diane discusses calculations for equitable services. To try and get calculations a little closer we have worked with DRE. II-A and IV-A are easy to calculate.

**Preliminary allocations handout**

Diane shared that for the first time in a long while final allocations have been released for most programs. The only programs without finals are Title IV-A and RLIS. Nebraska can start calculating District allocations and plan to open app by mid-July. There are increases for all programs except Migrant and Title III. Title III numbers only down because formula has changed. Terri mentions that the formula has switched to amount of test takers for ELPA 21.

**ESSA consolidated app for 19-20**: Quick notes from Diane, goal 9 has changed; if you are a district that transfers funds, you have to have something in writing stating that nonpublic school is okay with that. Title I program change; question 3 changed slightly, added “long statement from Diane.” On targeting step 2; now have choice to rank schools with public and nonpublic, or just public.

**Needs Improvement**: 27 CSI schools received funding for SFI grant. Highest grant was 836,000, lowest was 128,000. Schools were encouraged to only apply for an amount of money that could be used from the time it would be approved through September 30, 2020. The competitive process was very time consuming and Diane recommends moving to a formula process more similar to the Accountability funds in the future. The funds would have been able to be used much quicker had Nebraska done so.

**ESSA/ESEA Program updates**:

**Title I-A**: Diane Stuehmer share some highlights from the supplement and not supplant guidance that was released on June 19th. It is important that LEAs have a methodology for allocating State and local funds to schools that comply with supplement not supplant. For example all buildings get the same per pupil allocation of state and local funds, and then Title I buildings receive Title I funding on top of that. Reasonable and necessary is still required.

Beth Wooster shared that the National ESEA conference will be in Atlanta this year. Registration is open. At the last COP meeting there was discussion about only considering Title I buildings for Distinguished School status also the possibility of providing some funding to support those buildings in going to the conference. The committee requested that Beth find out what other states are doing. Beth shared a spreadsheets of the responses she got from other states and their processes. All of the states responded that they only name Title I buildings. The majority of states responded that they do provide some funds, mostly from Title I reallocated funds. The committee discussed the findings and Ann Caruso moved that Nebraska only consider Title I buildings for Distinguished School status. Randy Johnson seconded the motion. The vote passes unanimously. Renee Hyde then moved to continue to investigate ways to reimburse expenses and to vote electronically after it has been determined that Nebraska would allow this with some of the reallocated funds. Ann Nickerson seconded the motion. The vote passed.

**Time and Effort reporting**: While time and effort has been monitored closely over the last few years, it is now going to be tied to final reimbursements. Tom Goeschel from the finance team will begin doing much of the financial monitoring for all programs, which includes time and effort.

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**Nebraska Leadership and Learning Network (NLLN)**

The Nebraska Leadership and Learning Network (NLLN) is a group of NDE, ESU, and other educational organizations committed to ensuring that students in Nebraska experience educational equity. Conversations around equity-driven leaders have led to a process never before accomplished in Nebraska. Four principals and their supervisors were chosen by the NDE to come together to determine what a statewide system of supports for Nebraska’s school principals would look like. The unique part of this process is that other educational organizations are at the table listening and learning from these principals and supervisors, so that together as a state, we can determine what everyone’s roles are when it comes to supporting Nebraska’s principals. Approximately once a month, the principals and supervisors are meeting together with a representative from almost every ESU in the state, along with representatives from NCSA, higher education teacher prep programs, and NDE. After each meeting, the NDE facilitates an hour-long, invitation-only webinar, in which a summary of the NLLN is given and then participants give their own feedback. Participants in these webinars include representatives from OPS, LPS, NSEA, NASB, and the Urban League. The end goal is for all educational groups involved in the conversations to partner up and help the principals and their supervisors roll out a statewide system of support, first for Nebraska’s Needs Improvement Schools, and then eventually for all schools. The success of this process depends on the ability of all educational groups involved to work together to determine what each of their organizations can contribute individually to the benefit of the whole.

**Effective Educator**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires each state plan to describe how low-income and minority children enrolled in Title 1 schools are not served at disproportionate rates by ineffective, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers, and the measures the state education agency (SEA) will use to evaluate and publicly report the progress with respect to such description. Also required—each local education agency (LEA) plan shall describe how it will identify and address any disparities that result in low-income and minority students being taught at higher rates than other students by ineffective, inexperienced, or out-of-field teachers. Conversations are currently happening at the NDE about the need to 1) ensure that the chosen definition of ineffective reflects the overall vision of educator effectiveness in Nebraska, 2) minimize costs and time burden for districts and educators, 3) maximize educator and other stakeholder engagement, and 4) create coherence across the various state data-reporting and plan-development requirements. Since February 2019, stakeholders groups have been convened to create broad definitions of “effective teacher” and “ineffective teacher”. These broad definitions will inform the revision of the Nebraska Teacher Principal Performance Framework (NTPPF). The NDE is also currently developing a communication plan so that all stakeholders are kept informed of the process.

**Nonpublic Update**

Tim Vanderheiden shared the 2018-19 Nonpublic Federal Programs within Boundaries Consultations and stated that they are 100% complete. Title I Nonpublic Consultations have one school left to submit. This school has not responded to phone messages or email and is going through a superintendent change. Plans are in place to contact the superintendent the first part of July.

**Title I-A School Improvement Grant (SIG)**

Tim Vanderheiden provided an updated on the progress of the School Improvement Grants (SIG). All seven schools had their spring on-site monitoring visits during the months of April and May. During these monitoring visits, separate interviews were held with their Instructional and Leadership Teams. Also during the visits programs and equipment funded by the grant were verified, as well as, making sure equipment was located in appropriate buildings and/or disposed of appropriately. After the visit Karen met with the schools financial personnel to clarify Time and Effort, Budgetary, Staff Coding issue and to provide an informal Question/Answer opportunity.

Additionally, Tim shared on June 5th all seven schools were in attendance for the required End-of-the-Year SIG Presentation. This year’s presentations were of consistent quality and all schools exhibited in their student and staff growth outcomes. The end of the year presentations have proven to be a great networking and validating experience for the SIG schools. Schools are currently working on submitting their end of the year reimbursement requests.

This was the last year for Paddack Elementary as part of SIG. Next year (2019-20) will be the last year for Lincoln HS, Madison MS, Wakonda Elementary, and UmoN HoN Nation Elementary. 2020-21 will be the last year for SIG, as well as, Schuyler Central HS and Walthill Elementary.

**Title I-C**: Two transitions in Migrant projects. ESU 1 has new hired a new Program Coordinator and LPS has two new people to coordinator their Migrant Education Program (MEP). Parent and Student recognition conference, over 200 migrant parents and students attended. A private funder provided scholarship to two graduating migrant students. The State Migrant Conference was in Kearney April 15-18. UNMC provided mental health first aid training. Assistant Attorney General Glen Parks provided a keynote on labor trafficking in Nebraska, and Jessica Castañeda was also a keynote speaker and discussed Ag trend in Nebraska and the U.S. National Migrant Education conference was in New Orleans and our state was well represented. The past three weeks, we have been visiting several of the 27 MEP Summer Programs throughout state. Eleven Bi-national teachers from Mexico have been teaching within these programs.

**Title I-D**: Pat Frost discussed the June National Part D conference which included her participation in panel presentations and training of new state coordinators. Information was shared regarding the monthly meetings with Office of Probation and NE Health & Human Services. She has started collaboration meetings within the department to share information on this group of mobile students. She gave information on the upcoming October count and on the Annual Performance Report for this 18-19 school year.

**Title II-A**: Nothing to report.

**Title III**: Allocations are down, but not as low as expected. Sending out preliminary counts for GMS. A few changes to GMS, noted in handouts in yellow. Terri went over examples on handout. ELPA 21 currently has two assessments. ELPA 21 summative, and ELPA 21 Dynamic Screener, which is open year round. The difference is they need downtime to retool the program. The screener opens August 1. The online reporting system is changing to Airways Reporting, just a site upgrade, and will be available at the end of September. Summative window is February 3rd to March 13th, eliminating paper supplement for youngest students. The writing test online will be more complete for accurate analysis. It is required under ESSA to offer alt ELPA 21, for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Terri went over an example in the second packet. NDE has signed on with Iowa to develop Alt-ELPA 21. It will be 2-3 years before the assessment is available.

**Title IV-A Formula Grant –** Kirk Russell shared that the State Education Agency’s have access to a Title IV-A State Coordinator Portal web-page. Questions, discussions and resources can be posted for other state education coordinators to use and benefit from. Also, demonstrated on the NDE Federal Programs website under Title IV-A page is Title IV-A LEA Needs Assessment Tool developed by T4PA Technical Assistance Center. The Needs Assessment Link can be found at:

<https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Title-IV-A-LEA-Needs-Assessment-Tool-06.18.2019.xlsx>

**Title IV-B**: **21st CCLC**: The 17-18 final report is now posted on our website. There are 10 new sites around the state. There are now 5 year grants, and groups are eligible to apply for continuation grant at end of 5 years. We are growing to 148 sites by the end of the year. We have 9 sites participating in a NASA engineering design challenge.

Our state funded expanded learning opportunity grants are 2 year grants for supplemental clubs. 48 sites have received funding and were awarded $300,000 total.

**Title VI REAP**: Kirk Russell shared that in August to September schools will be notified directly from US Dept. of Education of their Grant Award Notifications.

Also reported that the RLIS –Rural Low Income School Program has not released allocation amount for 2019-2020.

**Title VII-B Mckinney-Vento**: Kirk Russell share that the Liaison training modules that have been created and can be accessed through NDE Moodle site https://moodle.education.ne.gov has currently certified 134 school administrators. Also shared through NDE Adviser webpage that the homeless kids count stands at 4554, an increase of 611 over last year’s count. The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth will be holding their national convention this fall in Washington D.C. on November 2. Pre-Session November 3 – 5. Lexington Community and Lexington Public school were accepted to present. Kristi O’Meara and a community partner will be the presenters. The number of Unaccompanied homeless count is not being correctly reported to ADVISER, there is an error when school district student information system’s report to ADVISER.

**Head Start Performance Standards**: Joan Luebbers shared the Head Start Service Area map. [Link to map](https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/head-start-contacts-map.pdf). She also shared that Beth Wooster sent out information to Districts about the coordination requirement for LEAs receiving Title I funds and Head Starts. These agreements need to be in place by Spring of 2020, and will be part of the monitoring process starting the 2019-20 school year.

Diane discusses Administrator Days – the NDE day will be on Wednesday, July 31st, 2019. Many of the topics covered today will presented in greater detail.

Beth discusses Hispanic Latino Summit. NDE is partnering with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and the Latino Commission as done last year. The Summit will be in Columbus, NE on Monday, October 21st.

**Next Meetings:**

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at ESU #9 in Hastings

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at Tom Dinsdale Chevrolet in Grand Island.