

Chair Person Renee Hyde called the meeting to order, at 9:00 AM

Attendees

Eileen Barks
Donna Bishop
Cheryl Burrell
Tina Forte
Linda Hix
Renee Hyde
Randall Johnson
Ann Nickerson

NDE Staff

Brad Conner
Pat Frost
Jan Handa
Karen Hardin
Sue Henry
Randy McIntyre
Cathy Mohnike
Terri Schuster
Diane Stuehmer
Beth Wooster

Not in Attendance

Anne Caruso
Brooke David
Andy Defreese
Don Eberle
Susan Evans
Michele Hensley
Lyn Forester
Melody Hobson
Tara James
Sharon Katt
Kraig Lofquist
Joan Luebbers
Susan Oliver
Pat Madsen
Marcella Rademacher
Deb Romanek
Deb Ross
Kristin Schultz
Kris Schneider
Barbara Sunderman
Bob Uhing
Bob Ziegler

Welcome/Introductions

Renee Hyde, Chairperson asked the committee to introduce themselves and express any concern regarding the restructuring of ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) among concerns the most widely expressed concerns were in respect to budget.

Diane Stuehmer, NDE Federal Programs Administrator, let the committee know that Bob Uhing is retiring and will no longer be on the committee. Beth Wooster, Assistant Title I Administrator informed the committee of two new members that will join the committee in October: Bill Heimann, the new ESU #1 Administrator and Veronica Estevez, a parent and MEP State PAC Coordinator.

Nebraska Open Meetings Act Reminder

Renee Hyde reminded the group 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. She asked if there was any public comment, there was no response.

Approval of Minutes from March 21, 2017 meeting.

Tina Forte made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Ann Nickerson seconded, the motion was unanimously approved.

Election of Committee of Practitioners Chairperson

Renee Hyde asked the committee for nominations for a Chair Person for the 2017-2018 year. Eileen Barks asked Renee Hyde if she would serve again and Renee Hyde generously responded she would continue for another year if elected. Eileen Barks then nominated Renee Hyde for Chair Person, Ann Nickerson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by all attending members.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) / Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Diane Stuehmer, shared a power point presentation (handout) on updates on Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Key topics of discussion included:

- Encouraging committee members to complete the ESSA Stakeholder Feedback survey.
- ESSA Plan is still in draft stages and is currently being updated. It will go to the State Board for review at the August 3-4th 2017 meeting. The Governor will then have 30 days to review the plan, prior to it being submitted to USDE.
- Title I School improvement funds will continue in 2017-2018, which amounts to 7% of the Title I-A allocation.

A portion of the available funds may be reserved until 2018-19 school year when schools are identified for Comprehensive Support & Intervention (CSI) and/or Targeted Support & Intervention (TSI) Improvement status is frozen for another year and is based on assessment results.

- Calculations for equitable services amounts for the nonpublics have changed in that the allocation will be determined prior to any set-a-sides for the public schools. Nonpublic funds for equitable services MUST be obligated in the fiscal year for which received.
- Please refer to your handout for additional information or download at :
<https://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Index.html>

Equitable Services – Ombudsman

Diane Stuehmer shared that she is Nebraska's acting ombudsman for equitable services to the nonpublic schools.

Preliminary Allocations (Handout)

Diane Stuehmer shared preliminary allocations. NDE is considering removing all "Year 1", schools from the Needs Improvement list so that those receiving an allocation would receive a more usable amount. Some of the available funds may be reserved until 2018-2019 when new accountability classifications in ESSA are applied.

Title I, Part A: Educationally Disadvantaged

Beth Wooster reported that the first year with the new Schoolwide Plan template went well. Buildings will need to make Title I Schoolwide Plans (not the folders) available to the School District, Parents, and the Public as it is a requirement of the ESSA. NDE suggests putting the plan on the school's webpage under the Title I tab. She also reported that at this time for 2017-18 there would be 366 buildings with schoolwide programs and 99 building with targeted assistance programs.

The Title I Team has worked on updating the wording on a sample compact, and parent and family engagement policies. The samples are available on the Title I webpage (<https://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Title%20I%20Part%20A.html>) for reference. Buildings are updating policies and compacts to meet ESSA requirements. These policies do not require school board approval. Because the policy and compact are reviewed annually to allow updating as needed, it is much easier to not have to go to the board each time they are updated.

The 2018 National Title I Conference will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania February 8th – 11th 2018. Registration is now open. For information go to: <http://www.titlei.org/conference>

Highly Qualified Paraprofessional Requirements

Beth reminded the committee that highly qualified paraprofessional requirements are not going away with ESSA. Paras need to have 48 or more semester credit hours, an Associate's Degree, or on pass on of the four approved assessments – ParaPro (Educational Testing Services – ETS), Para Educator Learning Network (Master Teacher), Workkeys (ACT) or Project Para (UNL).

School Improvement Grant (SIG)

Karen Hardin, Title I and School Improvement Grant Coordinator shared with the committee that the SIG End of Year Presentations were held in June. The SIG Intervention Project Managers (IPM) shared power points explaining how these funds were used to improve the academic achievement of students and provide professional growth for staff. Each school was able to give feedback on the data collected, positive steps taken, and things that could improve for next year. Randy McIntyre, Title I and School Improvement Grant Coordinator informed the committee that \$1,926,139 would fund seven buildings from seven different districts in the 2017-18 school year. Of those buildings, five schools are Tier I & II schools and two are Tier III.

In the future, NDE will most likely implement a competitive grant process for CSI/TSI schools. The ESSA State Plan must include information on how schools will be identified for CSI and TSI status. The data will be tied to AQuESTT and will include the lowest-performing 5% of Title I Schools. Randy McIntyre emphasized that regardless of how School Improvement funds are awarded to schools, the basis for success always depends on sustainability, quality leadership, data analysis, and commitment.

Title I-C: Migrant Education Program (MEP)

Sue Henry, Title I-C Migrant Education Program informed the committee of changes to Migrant (Title I-C) sub grant allocation process. The Nebraska Migrant Education Program participated in the Binational Teacher Exchange program by hosting twelve teachers from Mexico. Migrant Projects that hosted teachers are Omaha, Madison, ESU

1, ESU 7, and ESU 13. The visiting teachers taught in migrant summer schools in coordination with teachers from the migrant projects.

The primary goal of the program is to improve the education of migrant children who travel between the U.S. and Mexico. One of the principal components designed to improve educational continuity for binational students is the Binational Teacher Exchange Program. The objectives for the program is to reinforce knowledge about the history, culture, values, and national traditions of Mexican – origin students who live in the U.S. The programs goal is to strengthen their identity and improve their education; to encourage ongoing communication between U.S. and Mexican teachers in order to share educational experiences that promote continuity of educational practices, to improve the educational services offered to the Mexican and Mexican-descent school population living in the U.S. through the Binational Teacher Exchange Program. Through exchange programs, teachers have opportunities to learn first-hand about different countries' educational practices including Standards and benchmarks, testing requirements, curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices, general and special program offerings, class size and structure, successful teaching strategies, effective discipline methods, and expectations for parent involvement.

Title II-A: Diane Stuehmer and Brad Conner outlined changes expected in the Title II-A Consolidated Grant application because of requirements in ESSA. Although Class Size Reduction will remain an allowable activity, schools will be required to demonstrate that they are reducing classes with these funds to an 'evidence-based level'. While no longer restricted only to teachers in CORE subjects, any professional development being budgeted for the use of these funds will still have to include some explanation to reflect that the activities/training being conducted are 'evidence-based'. Funds will also need to be targeted toward schools identified as being 'In Need of Improvement'.

Due to the removal of the former "Hold Harmless" clause included in the Title II-A LEA formula, it is expected that some districts in NE will see a significant reduction in the amount of funding available to them in 2017-2018. The new formula is based on enrollment and poverty, with 80% weighted toward poverty and 20% toward total enrollment. While some districts will gain funding, many smaller districts will lose. As soon as state allocations are available, NDE will calculate at least an estimate of each LEA's funding and notify schools of these amounts. In addition, a change was made in determining the 'equitable services' amount for nonpublic schools. The new formula is based on enrollment of public and nonpublic students. This will likely result in a larger percentage of the total LEA grant being available for use by the nonpublic school.

Title II, Part B: Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP)

Jan Handa, MSP Grants Manager, reported on the regional workshops funded by an MSP grant awarded to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Approximately 165 Nebraska teacher participants were led by 50 teacher leaders during intensive two-week workshops at locations throughout the state. Since the MSP program was not reauthorized in ESSA, all grant activities must conclude by September 30, 2018.

Title I-D: Neglected and Delinquent

Pat Frost, Neglected and Delinquent Coordinator and Title I Consultant reported on Title I, Part D:

- Annual Performance Report Collection upcoming for facilities
- Caseload information received from HHS for the October count
- Transition requirements discussed for the Part D facilities
- National Part D conference presentation on panel in June
- A co-webinar presentation for national technical center with 2 other participants and Randy Farmer LPS principal at detention center

Title III: Language Acquisition

Terri Schuster, Title III Coordinator reported the following information:

Title III

- For 2017-18, allocations will be determined from June End of Year Snapshot
- New Activity: Parent, Family, and Community Engagement will be added to the GMS program page and ESSA Monitoring Guide

ELPA21

- Screener: Working with AIR and UCLA-CRESST to roll out an initial instrument to be available August 1
 - Centrally scored in 2017-18 (up to 7-day turnaround); Locally scored in 2018-19
 - Directions for Administration and other materials are being developed and will be released in July
- ELPA21 Summative

- Scores were released the first week of May
- Testing window for 2018 is Feb. 5-March 16

Other Activities

- April 13 EL PD Cadre Workshop
- May 12: ELP/ELA Standards Alignment
- June 15-16: Workshop to develop additional EL PD Modules
 - New modules will center on programming, staffing, and program review
 - Session on new modules planned for Admin Days
- Fall meeting of EL High School Working Group
- November 9: EL PD Cadre Workshop
- December 5: ELP/Math Standards Alignment

Rule 15 Revision/Update

Rule 15

- August 30: Stakeholder review/work session
- All sections are subject to review by the committee
- Changes are expected to *Section 007 Exit Requirements*
 - ELPA will become primary means of Exit
 - K-2 Teacher Recommendation will be eliminated
- Change to *Section 008 Program Review*
 - monitoring academic progress of ELs for 4 years (previously two)

Title IV-A:

Brad Conner informed the committee that due to the reduction in the expected allocation of the new Title IV-A funds for Nebraska, this will be a competitive grant application process rather than a formula grant for 2017-18 school year. School districts can apply for the funds individually, through a consortium of districts, or through an ESU. Three broad categories of activity are available to be funded (See Power Point from ESSA update) and districts can apply for any, or all of these categories. Awards must be made by the State on a geographic and economic basis, as well as making sure all three of the categories in the grant are being covered somewhere in NE. Applications for this grant should be available in late summer or early fall. It is a one-year only grant.

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

Jan Handa, 21st CCLC Coordinator, invited committee feedback to the proposed application for the February 1, 2018 grant competition. Eligible entities must propose quality afterschool programs serving students attending buildings with a free/reduced lunch rate of 40% or greater. She summarized the required components of the application. Jan also explained a new requirement in ESSA that states must prescreen external organizations that could provide assistance in carrying out a quality afterschool program. The 21st CCLC Office is requesting feedback from stakeholders to determine the criteria that will be used in the prescreening process. She also invited committee members to attend the GetConnected Statewide Afterschool Conference in Kearney on September 29, 2017.

LB 519, Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant (ELO)

Jan Handa, 21st CCLC Coordinator, reported that the One-Year Opportunity grants funded by the Nebraska Legislature would conclude on June 30. These grants were awarded through competition to partnerships of school districts and community-based organizations that delivered at least 15 hours of student programming each semester of the 2016-2017 school year in experienced 21st CCLC programs. Profiles of the eleven funded projects will be available soon on the ELO website at <https://www.education.ne.gov/ELO/OneYear.html>. She also reported that Two-Year Opportunity Grants funded by 1% of lottery proceeds are being awarded this summer to partnerships who will deliver programming in established 21st CCLC sites during the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years.

Title VII-B: McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Cathy Mohnike, State Homeless Coordinator and Title I Consultant reported on the Iowa-Nebraska Homeless Symposium where she and Omaha Public Schools Homeless Liaison, John Bright, presented information about the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the changes due to ESSA.

The McKinney-Vento competitive grant application is now open in GMS and closes June 30, 2017.

Cathy presented information from the National Low Income Housing Coalition (www.nlihc.org/oor) that researched the wages needed to afford rent across the U.S. It was found that in no state can a minimum wage worker afford a one-bedroom rental home at Fair Market Rent, working a standard 40-hour workweek, without paying more than 30% of their income.

Foster Care Requirements

Michelle Borg, Education of Systems-Involved Students (ESIS) Coordinator for Nebraska Department of Education shared an overview of the changes to the foster care regulatory guidance and requirements by NDE and local school districts.

Topics of discussion Michelle Borg included were:

- Children must remain in their school of origin whenever possible.
- No Child under the age of 11 can be charged with any unlawful felony, misdemeanor etc.
- Frequently asked questions have been revised to increase understanding and user friendly guidance.

Please refer to your handout for additional information or visit the website at

<https://www.education.ne.gov/ESSA.index.html>

Ad Hoc Committee

Diane Stuehmer asked that the committee seek and share any suggestions for membership, particularly teacher and educational professionals and local school board members. Please contact one of the ad hoc committee members:

Beth Wooster,

Eileen Barks.

Deb Ross or Renee Hyde

Administrator Days

Diane Stuehmer announced registration is currently open for Administrators' Days – NDE Day, July 26, 2017

Hispanic/Latino Summit – Monday, October 16, 2017 in Kearney

Beth Wooster reported that the 2017 Hispanic/Latino Summit would be Monday, October 16 in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center. The keynote speaker will be Joaquin Zihuatanejo, and breakout sessions are still in the planning stages. The couple that sponsored the 2016 scholarships have increased the amount to ten \$1,000 scholarships. Last year there were two \$500 and five \$250 scholarships. The conference committee is looking for organizations to help sponsor the summit. With the decrease in federal funds available, this may be the last year for the summit if outside sponsors cannot be found.

Next Meetings

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 in Kearney @ ESU #10

Tuesday, March 19, 2018 @ Hastings College