

Diane Stuehmer, Administrator of School and Student Support and Services (SSSS), called the Committee of Practitioners meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at the Firespring Meeting Room.

**Attendees**

Eileen Barks  
Cheryl Burrell  
Anne Caruso  
Andy DeFreece  
Veronica Estevez  
Tina Forte'  
Bill Heimann  
Michele Hensley  
Linda Hix  
Tara James  
Randy Johnson  
Ann Nickerson  
Deb Ross  
Kris Schneider

**NDE Staff**

Brooke David  
Pat Frost  
Karen Hardin  
Sue Henry  
Kim Larson  
Joan Luebbers  
Cathy Mohnike  
Deb Romanek  
Terri Schuster  
Diane Stuehmer  
Tim Vanderheiden  
Shirley Vargas  
Beth Wooster  
Benjamin Zink

**Not in Attendance**

Susan Evans  
Jan Handa  
Melody Hobson  
Renee Hyde  
Kraig Lofquist  
Kristin Schultz  
Bob Ziegler

**Welcome & Introductions**

Diane Stuehmer welcomed members and provided updates on staff changes

**Nebraska Open Meeting Act Reminder**

Diane Stuehmer reminded the committee the Nebraska Open Meetings Act will be followed. A written copy of the Open Meetings Act was available. No request for public comment was made.

**Approval of Minutes from the March 20, 2018**

Tina Forte' made a motion to approve the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Deb Ross seconded the motion. Minutes unanimously approved.

**Election of Committee of Practitioners Chairperson**

Election was postponed until the October meeting, since Renee Hyde was unable to be at this meeting.

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

Diane Stuehmer went over the Nebraska State ESSA Plan. Information was provided on the process and length of time it took to get the state plan approved. The goal is for Nebraska to have a single accountability system that blends ESSA, AQuESTT, and State Board's Strategic Vision and Direction. The new indicators were explained; as well as, how the "Funnel" is used to identify Comprehensive Support & Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support & Improvement (TSI), and the levels of support. Approximately 25-30 schools will be identified for CSI for SY2018-19 and each of these school will be required to submit a plan. TSI schools will not be identified until the following year using 2018-19 data.

### **Family and Community Engagement**

Kim Larson shared progress in this new program. A team of individuals from across the state, nominated by Title I principals and NDE representatives, will meet on July 17<sup>th</sup> at the State Office Building to share best practices regarding Family and Community Engagement and to make recommendations of next steps to NDE.

### **Equitable Services**

Diane Stuehmer went over equitable services fund calculations. This is automatically calculated within GMS; however, a district can figure numbers early if needed using the formula provided. Title IV will be calculated the same as Title II-A. Districts must reach a consensus with nonpublic schools prior to transferring the funds or a nonpublic school can file a complaint with NDE.

### **Preliminary Allocations**

Diane Stuehmer went over preliminary federal funds, Title I-A funding is now final. Janice Paling, in finance, is working on calculating district allocations for Title I-A. Once finalized, the allocations will be posted. Preliminary Title IV-A numbers are posted on the Title IV-A website.

### **ESSA Consolidated Application for 2018-19**

Diane Stuehmer discussed updates on ESSA Consolidated application. A narrative will be required for each goal, this year. The “not applicable” box should be checked as the funding source if the goal is not funded with federal dollars. The tab for the nonpublic goal is included in 7-9 goals tab and each section of the application will have a nonpublic question. Additional questions are being added to the Title I program page.

Title IV-A will be a formula grant for 2018-19. If a district is eligible for Title I-A, it will also be eligible for Title IV-A. This grant focuses on well-rounded educational opportunities, safe and healthy students and effective use of technology. All districts will receive at least \$10,000. For those districts that receive over \$30,000 a portion of the funds must be budgeted in all three areas. Districts have the option to transfer these funds to either Title I-A or Title II-A, this action is not the intention of these funds. Because most districts will receive the minimum allocation of \$10,000, the timeline has been extended to August 1<sup>st</sup> for ESUs to decide if they want to have a consortia.

### **Time & Effort Logs.**

Beth Wooster reported that NDE is required to collect more samples of multiple types of time and effort logs during monitoring. Finance will collect a sampling during the two years not monitored with the final reimbursement requests. This change is directly related to suggestions from State auditors. If professional development stipends are being paid the district must keep track of the date, name of PD, identification of attendees with a supervisor’s sign off to show who was in attendance. Summer school is like a Personal Accounting Record (PAR), either hourly or at a set rate, to show teachers actually worked these hours.

### **ESEA/ESSA Program Updates**

Beth Wooster presented updates on the Parent & Family Engagement Policy. Last summer these updates were made to meet ESSA requirements and all districts need to have these changes in place. Beth indicated when staff monitored this year, many schools did not have updated policies. Sample policies are posted on the NDE Title I website, requirements are included in the schoolwide rubric and on the monitoring Guide Checklist.

Beth recommended a change to the schoolwide plan for the transition sections (6.1-6.4). A proposal to reduce the 4 current questions to only 2; changing the language to require all schools to identify a plan for students transitioning into the building (e.g. PK – K, from Elem – Intermediate/MS, or MS-HS) and another plan for students transitioning out of the building to the next school or career. Currently there are buildings with only two grade spans where transition plans are not included. The Committee accepted the proposal.

The National ESEA conference will be in Kansas City this year January 30 – February 2, 2019. Conference information can be found at: <http://www.eseanetwork.org/conference>

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

Karen Hardin reported on what is happening in the SIG program. 25 people attended the SIG year end presentations on June 5, where the Intervention Project Managers (IPM) presented the impact SIG funds have had on their school. Due to transitions occurring in several SIG schools, additional technical assistance is being provided to ensure a smooth transition and continued success of the implementation of the action plans. In SY2018-19 there will still be seven SIG recipients and expectations are all programs will continue to run smoothly. There will be six recipients in SY2019-20 and two districts will finish out the SIG programs ending in SY2020-21.

Karen is also working with UNL to find a SIG school for a program case study. She is working with districts to find the right fit.

**Working lunch will be to discuss membership needs.** Diane identified the AdHoc committee members as contacts regarding possible candidates. The Committee is in need of representation from the following areas: members of local school boards, parents, teachers, and paraprofessionals. Suggestions were mentioned, and members will check to see if these people might be interested then let the AdHoc committee know.

### **Migrant Education Programs (MEP).**

Sue Henry reported that the increase in Migrant funds was based on three years of data rather than the one year normally used. The migrant application will open soon.

The Bi-National Migrant Education Celebration was held Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Fourteen visiting teachers from Mexico were recognized. Each visitor presented what they had been doing while working out of ESU 1, ESU 7, Madison Public Schools, Head start, and Omaha.

### **Update on Title I-D**

Pat Frost explained the sections of Title I Part D; subpart 1 and subpart 2 in NE. Information was given on the National Part D conference held in April in DC. The Education of System Involved Students, ESIS meeting was held in early June for the Rule 18 schools and the Special Purpose Schools.

The State Agencies' online application was completed this year by the Dept. of Corrections and NE HHS.

Upcoming events: The Part D Annual Performance Report will be due in October of 2018. The October caseload information will be shared with the districts the end of August.

### **Title II-A Educator Effectiveness**

Karen Hardin reported that the Title II-A preliminary allocation amount is showing an increase. The group was informed there will be changes on the program page of the Title II-A portion of the Consolidated Application. Changes will include a drop down menu for allowable activities and the removal of the four levels of evidence based practices. Class Size Reduction (CSR) will continue for SY2018-19 with the new requirements limited to grades K-3, for schools identified for needs improvement and classrooms where the student/teacher ratio is greater-than 18.

### **Title III: Language Acquisition Updates**

Terri Schuster shared updates in Title III. The Governor signed the changes made to rule 15 on May 8, 2018, these included one change of the Home Language Survey questions and change to the exit criteria. Updates to Rule 15 – A Guide for Implementation, Scenarios, FAQ, recommendations, checklist, tools and template were shared with the Committee.

Brooke David demonstrated how to maneuver through the modules on Title III website. She also shared the TransACT website, which is available to any Nebraska school for all kinds of forms, signs, and documents already translated into roughly 22 different languages. The updated ELPA 21 screener will open on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **McKinney Vento**

Cathy Mohnike shared that the McKinney-Vento grant is due July 16<sup>th</sup>. There are no changes to the grant this year. There will be at least one session at NDE Day, July 25<sup>th</sup>, for training the district's local homeless liaison. This is a perfect opportunity for liaisons to receive the training required by ESSA. There will be online training available later in the year, so it is not mandatory to attend.

An overview was provided of the 2018 report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Out of Reach: The High Cost of Housing. The report can be found at [http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/OOR\\_2018.pdf](http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/OOR_2018.pdf)

Cathy recommended checking out the organization "Schoolhouse Connection". This organization provides excellent resources concerning the education of homeless children and youth. Reminder: The 30<sup>th</sup> annual National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHYC) Conference is October 27-30 in sunny Anaheim, CA.

### **Head Start**

Joan Luebbers shared with the committee Head Start received a \$610 million increase in funding this spring for FY 2018. The increase will be used to fund Early Head Start Expansion or the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership grants. All Early Head Start grantees are eligible to apply for the expansion funds. Any existing Early Head Start grantee may apply for the Child Care Partnership grants or those entities that are eligible to become an Early Head Start Grantee. The Partnership grant would include Early Head Start partnering with a local childcare, which is either a center based or home based program. These are continuous grants operating on a five-year cycle of renewal. The application notice sent to all public school and ESU administrators when available.

**Administrator Days**

Administrator Days is July 25-27 in Kearney. NDE will present on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> and the Office of Student and School Support & Services will have several sessions that day.

**Hispanic Latino Summit**

Beth Wooster shared the Hispanic/Latino Summit will be held October 30<sup>th</sup> in Columbus. The Columbus Chamber of Commerce has taken over the planning, which has helped.

Next meetings: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 @ ESU #9 in Hastings

Tentative: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 in Grand Island