

COP Minutes
October 23rd, 2018
ESU 9 Hastings

Renee Hyde, COP Chairperson, called the Committee of Practitioners meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, October 23rd, 2018 at the new ESU 9 building in Hastings Nebraska.

Attendees

Eileen Barks
Barbara Beck
Cheryl Burrell
Veronica Estevez
Susan Evans
Tina Forte'
Bill Heimann
Michele Hensley
Linda Hix
Renee Hyde
Tara James
Randy Johnson
Kraig J Lofquist
Ann Nickerson
Deb Ross
Kris Schneider
Kristin Schultz
Monica Smith
Bob Ziegler

NDE Staff

Jacob Clark
Jan Handa
Karen Hardin
Sue Henry
Kim Larson
Joan Luebbers
Cathy Mohnike
Kirk Russell
Terri Schuster
Diane Stuehmer
Tim Vanderheiden
Shirley Vargas
Beth Wooster
Benjamin Zink

Not in attendance

Anne Caruso
Andy DeFreece
Pat Frost
Melody Hobson
Tracey Kovar
Deb Romanek

Welcome & Introductions

Kraig Lofquist welcomed members to new ESU #9 building. Renee Hyde followed up with an icebreaker for all members.

Nebraska Open Meeting Act Reminder

Renee reminded the committee the Nebraska Open Meetings Act (OMA) will be followed. A written copy of the OMA was available. No request for public comment was made.

Approval of minutes from June 19, 2018

Tina Forte made a motion to approve the June 19 minutes, Ann Nickerson seconded the motion. Motion to approve June 19 meeting minutes unanimously approved.

Election of Committee of Practitioners Chairperson

No new names were presented for chairperson of the committee. Members unanimously approved the continuation of Renee Hyde as Chairperson. She accepted through June.

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

Diane Stuehmer spoke about the State ESSA Plan and shared information from the NDE Support for Improvement Application Development Meeting held in September. She stated that the ESSA Consolidated Application opened October 4th and is due November 15th. She shared information on 2018-19 reduced Title I allocations. The reduced allocations are what is included in the ESSA Consolidated application. Diane also discussed the new financial that have been implemented for 2018-19. These codes are captured on the Budget pages in the Grants Management System (GMS). Diane shared that the Consultants have been working with Districts to make corrections to time and effort reports. NDE Financial Services is requesting time and effort reports for individuals paid with federal funds at the time final reimbursement requests are submitted. This has been good in that it is bringing to the forefront any reports not completed correctly.

Family and Community Engagement

Kim Larson shared that NDE is partnering with the National Center for Family Literacy and the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to implement Statewide Family Engagement Centers across the state through a five-year grant from the USDE. The project goals include: 1) Improve academic achievement for disadvantaged students; 2) Empower parents of disadvantaged students with the information and tools to make good choices for their child's education; and 3) Increase the capacity of SEAs, LEAs, and community-based organizations to provide high-quality family literacy and family engagement services. In the first year of the grant, participating LEAs will include Lincoln Public Schools, Grand Island Public Schools, and Lexington Public Schools.

Nonpublic Ombudsman

Tim Vanderheiden brought to the group's attention that there have been a few "for profit" institutions making contact to see what equitable allocations of federal programs were available to them. In Nebraska, schools must meet Rule 14 outlines to be accredited, which includes all instructional staff and administration being certified by the State of Nebraska, prior to being considered eligible for federal funds.

Onsite Monitoring

Beth Wooster stated that the next 3-year onsite monitoring schedule has been posted on NDE Federal Program's website: <https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/2018-2021-ESSA-3yr-Monitoring-Schedule.pdf>

ESEA/ESSA Program updates

Title I-A – Educationally Disadvantaged

Beth Wooster reported that all Schoolwide items on the Title I website have been updated for the 2018-19 school year. The Schoolwide Rubric and Template have been updated with the transition changes discussed at the last meeting; one plan for students transitioning into the building and another plan for students transitioning out of the building to the next school or career. Title I Schoolwide Intent forms for new schoolwide programs are due November 1st.

Comparability is open for viewing, with the save and submit button to be activated November 1st through the 15th. She let the Committee know that paraprofessional requirements have not changed and that Cathy Mohnike has been making calls to follow up with any district showing para as not highly qualified.

Beth shared that 12 schools were contacted that they qualified to apply to be considered to represent Nebraska as an ESEA Distinguished School at the National Conference to be held in Kansas City January 30-February 2, 2019. Schools in the *Excellent* category for two years in a row with a poverty of 40% or higher qualified for Category 1: Exceptional Student Performance for two or more consecutive years. If those schools believe they qualify for one of the other two categories: *Closing the Achievement Gap Between Student Groups* or *Excellence in Serving Special Populations of Students*, they are encouraged to apply for those categories as well. There are 5 Elementary, 2 Middle Schools and 5 High Schools eligible to apply to represent Nebraska. Applications are due November 2nd.

Working Lunch

Committee members were asked to discuss other ways to identify schools that would qualify in the future as Distinguished Schools in one of the other two categories.

School Improvement Grants

Karen Hardin gave a School Improvement Grant (SIG) update. Tim and Karen are in the process of completing the fall on-site visits with all seven schools. These visits consist of observing a couple of classrooms, meeting with the Leadership Team and a panel of teachers to discuss progress with SIG.

Karen is working on 2017-18 final reimbursement requests for all districts and collecting Time and Effort Logs for individuals whose salary is paid through SIG funds. She is also working with districts to ensure the coding is correct in NSSRS for any salary paid with SIG funds.

Title I-C

For Title I-C Migrant, Sue Henry mentioned that the application was still in the test phase due to issues with the budget page on GMS. She also spoke of interstate coordination activities through the Identification & Recruitment Rapid Response Consortium (IRRC), in which Nebraska is the lead state. The purpose of IRRC is to build capacity amongst the states to be more consistent in the way families are interviewed and how eligibility for MEP services is determined. The other consortium she mentioned that Nebraska is a

member state is Graduation and Outcomes for Success for Out of School Youth (GOSOSY). The purpose of the consortium is to build capacity in states with growing secondary-aged migrant out-of-school youth population.

Title I-D

Beth reported for Pat Frost that counts are being taken now that will determine funds for next year. The annual performance reports are in and are being evaluated. State agencies will be part of Advisor data reporting this year.

Title II-A

Karen Hardin shared a "Quick Reference Guide" handout outlining allowable and unallowable expenses with Title II-A funds. She worked with staff in NDE Financial Services who handle Title –A reimbursements to help make the guide as explicit as possible for LEAs. The copy shared is in the draft stage with the final copy to be posted soon on the Title II-A website.

Educator Equity Plan

Kim Snyder has taken on the role of Director of Statewide Teacher and Principal Support. There were no updates to the states Educator Equity Plan.

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

Jan Handa reported that the MSP competitive grant program was not reauthorized in ESSA and final grant activities concluded on September 30, 2018. The annual performance report will be shared at the next Committee of Practitioners meeting.

Title III

Terri Schuster shared resources that were recently developed by NDE and Nebraska educators and are available on the Title III web page:

Supporting English Learners (ELs) in the math content classes—how EL and math teachers can collaborate to help English learners access both sets of standards. Supports were developed to correspond to ELs' language levels—Emerging, Progressing, and Nearly Proficient. This resource includes sample lessons at each grade level.

Supporting students with limited or interrupted formal education (SLIFE) students at the high school level. Recourses are *ELL Program Guide: A Guide for Secondary ELL Programming*, *English learner Instructional Language Plan*, *Student Monitor Support Plan*.

Home Language Survey (HLS) - Translations of the HLS questions now available via TransACT in Spanish, Karen, Arabic, Somali, Kurdish, and Vietnamese.

ELPA21 – The testing window for ELPA21 Summative is Feb. 4-Mar. 15. Testing label uploads: K-1 on Nov. 2; Grades 2-12 on Jan. 9. Terri reminded attendees of the

importance to ensure ELs are accurately identified on the EL Eligible field of ADVISER. ELPA21 Dynamic Screener is now available to districts as an option for use in identifying ELs. This meets requirements of Rule 15, Section 003

Title IV-A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

Kirk Russell shared a handout of a *Suggested List of Allowable Activities for *Well-Rounded; *Safe & Healthy; *Effective Use of Technology*. For 2018-19 Title IV-A is a Formula Grant and is found "within" the 2018 ESSA Consolidated Application. In 2017-18 it was a competitive grant.

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

Jan Handa provided the timeline for the next 21st CCLC grant competition, which has a postmark deadline of February 1, 2019. Committee members were invited to contact her if they had questions or feedback on the application criteria.

State Funded Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Program Act (LB 519)

Jan Handa reported on the Two-Year Opportunity Grants funded by 1% of the education portion of lottery proceeds to partnerships who deliver programming in established 21st CCLC sites. Current grantees will continue providing services during the 2018-19 school year. The next competition is scheduled for spring 2019.

Title VI REAP-Rural Education Achievement Program

Kirk Russell shared that the requirements to be eligible for this grant is to have 600 or fewer students enrolled, must register two places with U.S. Dept. of Education: Sam.gov and G5.gov. Grant funds are to be used within a one year span, 2018-19 funds to be allocated by September 30, 2019; requested by December 30, 2019 from G5 account. 170 Nebraska School Districts are receiving funds for 2018-19 school year.

Title VI- REAP Rural Low Income School Program

Kirk explained that only two schools received U.S. Dept. of Education Funds for 2017-2018: Mitchell & Scottsbluff. Two schools received U.S. Dept. of Education Funds for 2018-2019: Scottsbluff and Gordon-Rushville. These funds flow through NDE.

Title VII-B Homeless Education

Cathy Mohnike spoke about the training for the LEA homeless liaison. The video production is on track to be completed for a January open date. Cathy and Kirk will be attending the NAEHCY (National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth) Conference in Anaheim at the end of the month.

Hispanic/Latino Summit

Beth reported that the Hispanic/Latino Summit will be next Tuesday, October 30th in Columbus, Nebraska with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce taking the lead. The

Conference reached capacity October 2nd and should have some very interesting sessions.

Other

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.

Next meetings: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 in Grand Island

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 in Lincoln