**COP Minutes**

**March 24th, 2020**

**Online Via Zoom**

*The March 2020 meeting of the Nebraska Committee of Practitioners will be held, pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order 20-03, by a combination of videoconferencing and teleconferencing on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 9:00 am. Access to the meeting will be made available to the Committee members, members of the public and members of the media via Zoom.*

Contact information below to connect:

**Zoom address:** https://zoom.us/j/4024712452  **Meeting ID:** 402 471 2452

Or via **Telephone:**  +1 346 248 7799  **Meeting ID:** 402 471 2452

Tina Forte’, Title I Director for Omaha Public Schools, called the Committee of

Practitioners meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Tuesday March 24th, 2020, via Zoom.

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| **Member in Attendance** | **NDE Staff in Attendance** | **Not in Attendance** |
| Tina Forte | Sue Henry | Shirley Vargas |
| Susan Evans | Beth Wooster | Karig Lofquist |
| Monica Shipman | Jacob Clark | Andy DeFreece |
| Robert Ziegler | Kirk Russell | Veronica Estevez |
| Anne Caruso | Pat Frost | Michelle Hensley |
| Tara James | Karen Kentfield | Melody Hobson |
| Brent Cudly | Tim Vanderheiden | Kim Snyder |
| Kris Schnieder | Adrian Bowen |  |
| Matt Rohlfsen | Benjamin Zink |  |
| Itandewi Mendoza | Allyson Olson |  |
| Deb Ross | Kim Larson |  |
| Rodrigo Mataloun | Jan Handa |  |
| Tracey Kovar | Joan Luebbers |  |
| Ann Nickerson | Deb Romanek |  |
| Michelle Hensley |  |  |
| Linda Hix |  |  |

**Welcome & Introductions:** This COP meeting was held via Zoom on March 24th, 2020 due to Covid19 outbreak. Beth Wooster welcomed everyone to the Zoom session after some technical issues were resolved.

**Nebraska Open Meeting Acts (NOMA) Reminder:** Beth reminded the committee the Nebraska Open Meetings Act will be followed. A written copy of the Open Meetings Act was available.

**Open for public comments:** No request for public comment was made.

**Approval of Minutes for October 22nd meeting:** Deb Ross made a Motion to accept the minutes. Michelle Hensley seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**ESEA/ESSA Information:**

o Accountability – CSI, ATSI & TSI Updates Beth informed everyone that there will not be any new schools identified this year; ATSI schools will be moving up; going to make an amendment change so ATSI schools won’t move up until year 5 to coincide on the same rotation. Otherwise there would be 2 different cohorts taking place at the same time and not enough funding, work in progress, talking about removing EBA from Accountability, would remain part of Accreditation requirements,

o Nonpublic Updates Update on Consultations Tim gave update encouraged to use virtual methods to conduct consultation with all nonpublic; looking at changing one spot on form for next year, resident students from specific LEA, membership number showing for all districts not building specific, within boundaries need to add field on nonpublic report, Extenuating Circumstances affecting Carryover. Beth encouraged districts to work with nonpublics to allow support to spend funds if possible something like virtual professional development,

o Family and Community Engagement - Kim Larson shared link

New resource: Scheduling in the Home Environment (sample schedules and resources for families)

<https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/SchedulingHomeEnvironment-R2.pdf>

Statewide Family Learning Centers - recruiting for year 3 sites. Contact Roger Garcia, [rgarcia@familieslearning.org](mailto:rgarcia@familieslearning.org).

Will continue to work remotely on writing the School-Family-Community Engagement Framework. Let Kim know if you have teachers, community members, others who would like to assist with this project.

o Nebraska Preliminary Allocations *(*[*Handout*](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PsTX61uFpQzO15kVa6YDfm0c8A-SjfeidQHlNhUlozo/edit?usp=sharing)*)*

**ESEA Program Updates:**

o Title I-A: Educationally Disadvantaged; Beth reported the 2 schools represented nebraska at National TItle I conference Pender Elementary and Norfolk

* Schoolwide Peer Review Updates – Sites canceled, NDE Staff to Review? Motion from COP in order to make a change in PEER Review due to COVID19 pandemic.
* Tara James (OPS) Motion by and Seconded by Susan Evans (ESU #10) to approve PEER Review for 2019-20 be completed by NDE Consultants. Motion passed (as per google voting page)

o Title I-A School Improvement Grant (SIG) - Adrian reported an update with School Improvement Grants, 5 schools currently in program and 2 schools have crossover with being CSI Schools as well, 4 schools in need of spring visit - looking at zoom meetings at this time, discussions on how to have end of year presentations, working with Shirley and Phillip to plan for next year, clearly defined expectations,

o Title I-C: Migrant - Sue Henry shared updates

* Canceled: MEP Parent & Student Recognition Conf. & Binational MEP Initiative - still have an opportunity to award 5 $1,000 scholarships to continue college career,
* Migrant Student Information Exchange requirements

o Title I-D: Neglected At-Risk Delinquent ([Handout](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Hf8GvMg7mHiB4E3HHHluo9lRBb58w16SY9pmLYhbWaA/edit?pli=1))

* Pat Frost shared information about the changes to the DHHS Schools., national concern about closed facilities working in close proximity to students due to coronavirus outbreak, a zoom meeting today, with Brad Dierkson, regarding sharing information with facility based schools, concern about re-entry back into schools for these students

o Title II-A: Improving Teacher Quality-

Adrian shared updates online trainings, looking at different ways to utilize these funds with nonpublic schools as well,

o Title III: Language Acquisition - Allyson shared that

* ELPA21 Update - Allyson was able to observe 11 sites and the test administration went really well. The ELPA window was extended through this Friday since Fremont closed before all of the students were tested, due to the COVID-19 but because schools are not reopening the window will go ahead and close. For Peer Review there are a few changes that need to be adopted and how NE determines proficiency. Update Iowa is the lead on the. ACS Ventures received the bid for the alignment study.

o Title IV-A: Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE)

Kirk shared that NDE is needing to track the spending for those LEAs that had allocations over $30k to make sure that the minimum percentages were used. ED wants to know how LEAs are using the funds. We may need to make changes on the grant for next year

o Title IV-B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

148 sites across the state. Are working to determine ways to continue to pay their staff. Please follow the policies and procedures that the vendor has. If they are LEA staff, the policies that the LEA also covers the after school staff.

3rd zoom call this month with project directors to share how they are handling the closing of schools and talking about what their staff will be doing. Moving into another phase depending on what their needs are, will start sharing tools to help after school learning and enrichment while they are stuck at home. 12 continuation grants to be discussed at the April board meeting.

3 New sites are being recommended to be funded.

Title VI: REAP – Rural Education Achievement Program

A notice was sent out by ED to all 240 LEAs, including those that did not qualify for. Must have under 600 students. It was confusing to many LEAs.

* SRSA – Small Rural School Achievement Program

Does not run through the state, comes from the Federal Dept of education. This year's grant has changed. The application used to be done in Grants.gov, will be simplified to max.gov? Streamlined process down to 10-15 minutes. Application closes April 26. Title II-A and Title IV-A grants that an LEA received takes away from what they receive in the way of REAP funds. Switching from free and reduced counts to Census counts. They will be holding off on switching until at least next year to determine how allocations will work.

* RLIS – Rural Low-Income School Program

Nothing to report

o Title VII-B: Education of Homeless Children and Youth

There are quite a few questions on McKinney Vento funds and how they can be used. There were questions if the funds could be used to transfer students to get meals, or transport parents to the schools to pick up chromebooks. The answer was “No”. There are several resources available to help. There have been no changes in what is allowable even with COVID-19. There are few ways that the funds can be used with schools not in session. Keep an eye out for students who are falling into homelessness. With many families not being able to work - they are going to have problems with paying bills.

* [Authorized Activities](https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/) (pages 20-22)
* [COVID-19 Resources from NCHE](https://nche.ed.gov/covid-19-coronavirus-information/) (National Center for Homeless Education)
* [Sample Housing Information form](https://nche.ed.gov/homeless-liaison-toolkit/) (sample in App 3-A)

**Other:**

o  [NDE Job Postings](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/nebraska?department%5b0%5d=Department%20of%20Education&sort=PositionTitle%7CAscending)

o NDE Data Conference (~~April 6~~~~th~~ ~~& 7~~~~th~~ ~~in Kearney~~)

* Working to create a Virtual Conference (date to be determined)

o 2021 National ESEA Conference in Boston, MA – February 8-11, 2021

Early Childhood: Headstart is making family activity packets, directed to stay engaged with families through this time. Bus drivers may be dropping off activity packets. Utilizing school districts for meals. Problems getting formula and food for infants. Bill passed last week may allow for this. Headstart programs using emergency funds. HS staff still receiving pay and benefits. Still taking referrals, but still working on how to handle referral process.

**Next Meetings:**

o Tuesday, June 23, 2020 @ LPSDO lower level Conference Room C, Lincoln

o Tuesday, October 20, 2020 TBD