

1-877-820-7831, passcode 712581
Committee of Practitioners
February 26, 2015
Colorado Children's Campaign Conference Room

Attendees: Jesús Escárcega, Kirk Banghart, Christy Bloomquist, Mary Ellen Good, Holly Goodwin, Laura Gorman, Melanie Jones, Bridgette Muse, Ines Stabler, Brad Bylsma, Pat Chapman, Darcy Hutchins, Jeff Klein, Nazanin Mohajeri-Nelson, Jennifer Phillips

The meeting was called to order by chairman, Jesús Escárcega. The committee agreed to review the minutes from the November and February meetings at the committee meeting in April.

MSP Grant – Jennifer Phillips and Nazanin Mohajeri-Nelson

- MSP Stakeholder Info Sheet provided electronically
- Jennifer and Nazie discussed the information on the MSP Stakeholder Info Sheet that was shared with the committee
- A motion was made by Christy Bloomquist for the CoP to recommend the “continued funding for current projects” option. The motion was seconded by multiple members and passed by a unanimous vote of those present.

Family Partnership Surveys (in accordance with SB – 193) – Darcy Hutchins and Nazanin Mohajeri-Nelson

- Surveys and sample letter provided electronically
- Surveys are being vetted for reliability
- Surveys will be piloted with a small group of willing districts
- As an incentive for participation, schools from districts with an adequate number of respondents will receive a report of their survey results
- End result of project will be a free resource for districts to use for evaluation and enhancement of family partnership programs
- Committee members provided the following feedback
 - Surveys should be translated into more languages than English and Spanish
 - Existing surveys, such as ones used in Aurora Public Schools, and past results can be used for guidance in developing a tool to be provided state-wide
 - Translated surveys should be offered in a format suitable for oral administration for families that may not be literate in native language, English or non-English
 - Work through superintendents and school boards to recruit pilot districts rather than other family partnership contacts at districts
 - Be respectful of rural districts and how administering a survey may have a different impact than it would in larger districts
 - Ensure a quick turnaround of data – 30 day max, but hopefully closer to 2-3 weeks – to ensure relevance and usefulness for schools and districts
- If members would like to offer feedback on the process or the surveys themselves, contact Darcy Hutchins before March 17

Consolidated Application Update – Jeff Klein and Brad Bylsma

- Power Point presentation provided in hard copy and electronically in PDF form
- Proposal to add program-specific assurances added to the Titles I and II sections of the online platform
- Commonly used strategies added to the strategy-based budget
 - Strategies will be available to all LEAs, but LEAs may also, or exclusively, develop their own strategies
- Summary of feedback:
 - Positive feedback about the assurances as a way to meet program requirements in a relatively nonburdensome way
 - Committee members affirmed that information in assurances is appropriate in decision of whether or not to release funds
 - Commonly used strategies is a useful tool for districts
 - Application should reference "districts and BOCES" or "LEAs" instead of "districts"
 - Assurances language must be clear when requirements are differentiated, such as those that do not apply to districts with fewer than 1,000 students
 - All assurances (program as well as general) should be in one place so that Superintendents and other district personnel that have to sign off on application can acknowledge all requirements at one time
 - Clarification needed when requirements are different for non-public schools that receive Title I funds.
 - Resources that support assurances section, such as those related to schoolwide plans, must be clear, comprehensive, and user friendly
- If you have feedback about the proposed changes to the application described above or in the document that was shared, contact Jeff Klein or Brad Bylsma by March 17
- Pat commented that the application has undergone an evolution of yearly tweaks that has rendered it unrecognizable from the original application. To make it function properly going forward, the application will need to be redeveloped with a theory of action and a central focus, such as equity or the State's strategic goals.

TIG Application

- Power Point presentation provided in hard copy and electronically in PDF form
 - This is in the same document as the Consolidated Application Update
- Focus schools are now eligible for TIG, but may not be funded until all approvable applications for priority schools are funded
- Districts applying for TIG must identify an intervention model in application, even if they are applying for a planning year
- CDE is proposing a secondary success model as an option state-determined model
- If you have feedback about the proposed model or the state's TIG application, contact Brad Bylsma by March 17

ESEA Waiver – Pat Chapman

- Power Point presentation provided in hard copy and electronically in PDF form
- Public comment may be submitted to eseacomment@cde.state.co.us through March 6
 - Email address will remain open indefinitely to receive comments past this date
- Reference on slide 23 about bringing request for approval in March is intended for the State Board of Education
- Mary Ellen Good made a motion for CoP to endorse CDE's submission of an ESEA Waiver Renewal request as explained to the committee and to write a letter on behalf of the committee members, addressed to the board and to be included in the renewal request submitted to the U.S. Department of Education.
 - Christy Bloomquist seconded the motion and it was passed by a unanimous vote of the members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55. The next committee meeting will be on Thursday, April 23, 2015.