



ESSA IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

ESSA Subcommittee Meeting – Data Collection and Reporting

Date, Time: Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

Location: 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

ALSDE Facilitator: Jerome Browning (for Melinda Maddox)

Members present: Shag LaPrade, Patrick Patterson, Deborah Love, Amanda Robinson (for Nichelle Nix)

Members absent: None

Summary: Brennan Parton from the Data Quality Campaign gave a presentation on the opportunities with ESSA as it relates to data. The subcommittee spoke briefly after the presentation, and agreed to stay with the key decisions made from previous meetings (included).

Next Meeting: To be announced.

Detailed Notes

All notes below are comments with committee members and the ALSDE facilitator.

Brennan Parton with Data Quality Campaign, Presentation

- Data informs parents, teachers, school leaders, policy makers and the public
- ESSA provides great opportunities for stakeholders
- Four key takeaways with ESSA
 - This is an opportunity to reset the conversation
 - This is an opportunity to use data in different ways
 - Get your data house in order
 - Engage stakeholders and plan thoughtfully
- The new law helps mobile students and asks states to keep up with homeless students, students in the foster care system, students in a military household
 - Pennsylvania, Alaska and Washington are already collecting military info
- For accountability, the new law requires additional indicators
 - Report school rates of chronic absenteeism on report cards
 - Other measures of school climate include discipline and bullying rates
 - Report postsecondary enrollment
 - Include student growth rates on report cards
 - Show where effective educators teach and define what effective teaching looks like
 - Include per-pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds for each LEA and school
 - DQC has a Four Policy Priorities To Make Data Work for Students report
- Looking at other states:
 - Illinois developed a College and Career Ready Report Card

Key Decisions: Data Collecting

The subcommittee spoke briefly after the presentation, and agreed to stay with the key decisions made from previous meetings.

Decisions made from July 22, 2016 meeting continued on next page...



Recommendations to the ESSA Implementation Committee:

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that districts and schools should post public data on their websites utilizing the following considerations:

- Consider cost to districts and schools
- It should be a district decision if they post their own data or utilize the link provided by ALSDE
- Some schools and districts may not have technical expertise to develop their own data. It is recommended that they utilize the link provided by the ALSDE
- Regardless of whether a district uses their own data or the data developed by the ALSDE, it should be formatted similarly to allow for cross-district comparisons

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that a comprehensive, systematic, and multimodal plan of communication be developed that includes but is not limited to the following:

- The ALSDE should create a public announcement when the public data reports first go live
- The announcement needs to inform the public of what is in the reports and do so utilizing easily understood language so that all stakeholders clearly understand what is available
- It is strongly recommended that districts take ownership of their local data and create additional communication that is nuanced to local data

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that data be made available in a timeline manner.

- All data needs to be made available to LEAs/schools and the public as quickly as possible
- Districts must be able to see all data prior to public release
- However, at no point should any party sacrifice protection of data when seeking to increase speed of delivery.

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup ***strongly*** recommends that the ALSDE only publicly report data that is required to be shared because of federal or state law.

- Though all publicly shared data will be disaggregated by subgroups, the Workgroup further recommends that the ALSDE continue the current FERPA compliant policy of not publicly sharing any student level data that includes personally identifiable information (PII) that could lead to the identification of an individual student.



ESSA Required Information to Inform Educational Improvement for All Kids

The following is a partial list of the data points that the USDOE requires to be submitted and will require to be publicly reported. The list is not exhaustive but was included at the request of the Workgroup to provide insight into the amount of data that will be reported.

- Poverty
- Assessments
- Federal Titles – Homeless, Migrant, ELL
- Child Nutrition
- Transportation
- Financials (LEA)
- Special Ed – IDEA
- SIR Reports
- Grad Rate
- Teacher Certification
- Enrollment – Demographics
- Accountability

*The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup ***strongly*** recommends that the ALSDE only send to the USDOE data that is required to be shared because of federal law. The Workgroup further recommends that the ALSDE continue the current policy of not sending student-level data to USDOE.

Other Recommendations

- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that the ALSDE develop and distribute a document that provides a clear purpose for why each data element is collected and how will it help inform decisions regarding education plans and policies in Alabama.
- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that publicly available data be linked to LEA and school *Continuous Improvement Plans* to ensure that said plans are informed by the data.
- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that all LEAs have a *Data Security and Privacy Policy* in place.
- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that under no circumstances should data mining of PII for profit be allowed. PII shared for legitimate research purposes should be available to parents/students upon request. Parents should have access to ***all*** data collected on their child.

