

# *State Committee of Practitioners*

**April 8, 2003**  
**CASB Conference Room**

**Attendees:**

Karen Benner, NW Region, Meeker SD  
Robert Finkle, Pikes Peak Region, Pueblo 60 SD  
Paige Grubbs, WC Region, Plateau Valley SD  
Sheryle Hutter, Metro Region, Cherry Creek SD  
Evelyn Jacobi, NC Region, Poudre SD  
Jan Johnston, Pikes Peak Region, Harrison SD  
Kevin Patterson, Denver Public Schools School Board  
Barb. Rhine, NW Region, University of Northern Colorado  
Larry Romine, SE Region, Lamar SD  
Mary Ann Saffer, NE Region, EC BOCES  
Trish Boland, NC/NE Regional Title I Consultant & Co Facilitator of State COP  
Arti Winston, NW/WC Regional Title I Consultant & Co Facilitator of State COP

**Regional Committee of Practitioners Review:**

Those who had convened a Regional Committee of Practitioners meeting since the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting gave an update of items discussed:

- ✓ Consolidated Application
- ✓ Small area representation
- ✓ Highly Qualified definition
- ✓ AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)
- ✓ Paraprofessional assessment

**Paraprofessionals:** – Information presented by Bush White, Title II Consultant.

The criteria for a "highly qualified" paraprofessional are on the CDE website (<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdepara/Index.htm>). Districts may develop their own paraprofessional assessments, but tests must measure two years of college and an individual's ability to assist in reading, writing, and math instruction. Commercially-developed tests are emerging that meet the requirements of NCLB. CDE believes that *Work Keys*, distributed by ACT, meets the requirements. As additional assessments are found to meet the NCLB requirements, they will be posted on the

CDE Paraprofessional website. Below are some aspects of the *Work Keys* assessment:

- ✓ Has been validated.
- ✓ Tests 4 areas:
  - Observation/Practical piece
  - Provides both a technical and business writing piece
  - Math
  - Reading test
- ✓ Each area has its own tutorial.
- ✓ Cost of complete test: \$25.00. If the test is taken in sections, the cost is slightly higher.
- ✓ Can be an "approved" Keys tester. Bush will check on charges and get back with us.

**Distinguished Schools:** - Presented by Darrell Ryan, Title I Consultant SE and Pikes Peak Regions.

Two schools have been selected as the winners of the Colorado Title I Distinguished Schools, 2002-2003. Each state selects two distinguished schools. They will be presented at the National Association of State Title I Directors Luncheon held at the International Reading Association's Convention, May 4 – 8, in Orlando, Florida. The schools selected to represent Colorado are:

- ✓ Eads Elementary School, Eads School District, Kiowa County. It was selected because it represents the Title I school with the highest score in reading and math, with the greatest percentage of students reaching proficiency.
- ✓ Manassa Elementary School, North Conejos School District, Conejos County. They were selected because they made the most progress in closing the achievement gap among all groups in the school.

Each school will receive a \$10,000 award.

In addition, the Title I Distinguished Schools Program has been expanded to include the selection of one school from each of the eight regions. The schools selected will receive a \$5,000 award. Their selection will be based on the past year's combined highest CSAP scores in reading and math. Watch for this announcement.

**AYP:**

- ✓ K-1/K-2 Schools Pat Chapman is organizing a committee to identify AYP targets
- ✓ New Targets New targets have been released on AYP. Those passed out during the meeting should be the most up-to-date. Please review the end of the document used during the

Single Accountability Conference entitled "The ABC's of AYP FAQs: Title I Adequate Yearly Progress. The sheet listing Performance Targets for Elementary, Middle and High School, should begin with a target of 76.92 for Elementary school Reading and 75.86 for Elementary Math.

- ✓ AYP Regional Workshops: Regional workshops are being planned for AYP. These will either be set to begin before the end of school this year or later in the 2003 school year.

#### **School Support Teams:**

Mandated by NCLB, section 1117, the State's organization of School Support Teams continues to be defined. As soon as information is available, it will be shared with the Committee.

#### **Regionalization of Statewide Parent Conference:**

- ✓ The State will no longer sponsor a statewide parent conference (traditionally held in Denver in September). Support for regional parent conferences was discussed. Reasons for this are many fold:
  - Cost of putting Statewide Conference on.
  - Low parent turnout
  - Question effectiveness of Conference
- ✓ Regionalizing makes more sense, since it:
  - Could be customized by regional needs.
  - Probably more accessible to parents in the region
  - As a result of the previous bullet parent participation would probably be higher.
- ✓ Some districts/regions already sponsor a district/regional Conference...
  - Jan Johnson shared her Parent Conference program with the group. She discussed the following:
    - Spring Parent Conference for Colorado Springs is to be held on 4/24/03 with Iris Hogue as the Keynote speaker.
    - Food provided by the districts
    - Registration fee acts as "seed" monies for the following conference.
    - Districts generally pay scholarships are provided for some of the parents to attend.
    - Free Book coupons are distributed.
    - Have had up to 300 parents in attendance
    - Held at locations that can provide childcare (i.e., churches)
  - Need further research into:
    - Timeline for conference
    - What will promote a good conference

- Possibilities of co-sponsoring the conference with:
  - Regional Professional Development Councils
  - Special Education Conferences
  - Even Start/Early Childhood groups
  - SAC

**Committee of Practitioners Website:**

Discussed items that could go on this website, for example:

- Mission Statement/NCLB requirement for convening the Committee.
- List of current members of the State Committee including contact information.
- Schematic of how the State Committee of Practitioner's interact with the Regional Committees and CDE.
- Other items for posting will be discussed at the next State Committee meeting.

Topics for discussion at the next COP meeting scheduled for Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003, from noon until 3:00 include:

- √ On-site information/discussion
- √ Parent Involvement Conferences
- √ School Support Teams

Prepared by Arti Winston