

State COP Meeting – September 11th, 2003

Meeting Notes

Committee Participants: Paige Grubbs, Sheryle Hutter (Meeting Co-Chairperson), Evelyn Jacobi, Jan Johnston, Melanie Jones, Carol Harris, Mary Ann Saffer

CDE Attendees: Alyssa Pearson, Darrell Ryan, Trish Boland

Update Items (see attachment)

SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES – No questions or feedback

DISTRICT TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY - Trish clarified that there is concern from some school boards that the specificity of the law does not align with how districts adopt policy. However, a due date for adoption has been set of December 1, 2003. Failure to meet this deadline will result in a freezing of funds to districts. Carol Harris expressed interest in policies that are the purview of the superintendent, as is the case in Durango. Two questions posed by the members:

1. How is the department going to evaluate the policies as to their effectiveness in improving academic achievement?
2. Where does the evaluation process go? Does it become part of the annual performance report?

A recommendation to the State from the Committee was to formally notify districts of the December 1st due date through email, ensuring that superintendents and Title I personnel were aware of the repercussions for not meeting this deadline.

SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAMS – No questions or feedback

HIGHLY QUALIFIED – Question was posed as to the notion being circulated among some folks that teachers may be considered highly qualified if they have a record of successful teaching (i.e. high achievement among students) for three years. Trish indicated that this was not part of the State's definition of highly qualified teachers. It was also clarified that it is the district that makes the determination with respect to the acceptance of coursework/classes related to the 24 hours required in a subject area.

In consideration of using Work Keys as an assessment for documenting highly qualified paraprofessionals, Jan Johnston indicated that Harrison School District, through its Human Resources Department, has set up a process for assisting individuals with this test, both in taking the assessment and preparing for it. The contact number is 719-579-2018.

DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS – Darrell Ryan presented an updated version of the criteria for selecting Title I distinguished schools and teachers (attached).

The committee provided the following feedback regarding the teacher identification process:

- Add an abstract on the nomination form itself. While this is described in the overview, it needs to be included on the actual nomination form
- Develop the criteria and rubric that will be used to ultimately select the distinguished teacher

With respect to the school criteria, national distinguished schools are identified through the national criteria. Regional distinguished schools are selected using similar criteria. The following question was raised:

- Can an N or D institution/school be considered for either of these awards?

AYP – Suggestions included:

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- Ensuring that districts know what is to be captured through the AYP process
- Additional training needed for assessment folk or anyone else who is interested

MONITORING – No feedback or questions

Discussion Items

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Sheryle Hutter led a discussion of issues related to private schools and Title I funding. The following were clarified for the committee:

1. Districts need to clarify the identification process for students in private schools
2. Title I dollars follow students from low income families to private schools
3. Cherry Creek sends out one letter to private schools and notifies all private and nonprofit schools
4. Parents receiving Title I services must be notified of the private school's intent to serve the student
5. Districts urged to document their intent to meet the requirements of the law

DISTRICT TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

No discussion needed. Points of clarification handled in the update and handout

COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

Sheryle Hutter led a discussion on adoption of committee by-laws. A draft of a set of by-laws developed by a previous committee were reviewed in depth. Trish will incorporate these suggestions into a new document and send out to the committee for their review. Committee members were urged to begin recruiting for vacancies on the committee, including parents, school board members, and other Title I administrators.

MISCELLANEOUS

- A monthly newsletter has been developed in the Office of Special Services and sent to all superintendents, Title I folk, etc in the state. This newsletter is designed to keep districts apprised of important issues and topics, as well as upcoming dates and FAQs.
- The department intends to post the State Committee of Practitioner meeting dates on the CDE calendar, thus providing public notice of the meeting to those interested. The meeting notes will also be posted on the State COP website: http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/tia_cop.asp
- The next meeting date is set for November 10th, from 10 am until 1 pm at CASB