

## Meeting Minutes – Committee of Practitioners, September 7, 2010

**Location: Colorado Children’s Campaign, 1580 Lincoln**

**Attendees:** Kirk Banghart, Christy Bloomquist, Holly Brilliant, Parke Covarrubias, Leanne Emm, Jesús Escárcega, Mary Ellen Good, Anne Hausler, Sue Ann Highland, Dianna Hulbert, Melanie Jones, Bridgette Muse, Paula Niemi, Jonelle Parker, Mark Rangel, Jane Toothaker, Christine Vidal

**8:30 Food/Visit**

**9:00 Welcome / Introductions**

**Molly Stevens** wishes to resign & will do so formally via co-chairs

**Discussed recruiting new members:**

- Would like Title teachers, maybe metro area
- Use CASB network to recruit
- CASE, too
- Parents
- Approx 19 members now

**Housekeeping** - Reimbursement procedures

- Fill in form with receipts to Clara; Kathryn will hand out forms
- CoP website link [http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/ti/a\\_cop.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/ti/a_cop.asp)
  - Several of the pages at the link will be updated in the coming weeks

**What does CoP do?**

- NCLB advisory committee
- Role more important at this time because of NCLB reauthorization
- CDE perspective:
  - Also for getting input, though it can be difficult due to timing
  - Sometimes between meetings use electronic means to get feedback
  - Also important for CDE to give copies of handouts in advance, (though didn’t happen this meeting)
  - Using group for info spreading

**Federal audit coming up next week**

**Meeting dates: 2010**

- Sept 7
- Dec 1
- Feb 2
- April 6

**Binders**

- Kathryn brought binders for new people

**Officers:** 2 year terms (midway)

- **Co/chairs:** Christy & Mary Ellen
- **Sec:** Anne H

### 9:45 Feedback on Consolidated Application Process - Brad

- **Updates:**
  - Wanted aggressive timeline to get apps approved this year
  - First goal = get apps in on time
  - Substantial approval in July = 99% accomplished
  - Comments to districts
  - Revisions back by August = 96% had submitted; follow up with six others
  - All districts will be at final approval by end of Sept; with FINAL final approval by Oct 15<sup>th</sup> (Last year some went into end of Jan)
  - Letters will go out when all are done; meanwhile can go to website to see if you have final approval for separate programs even if all not done; then you can start requesting funds
  - Plan on using same system for next year, though, as always, are looking at alternatives, (i.e. State of Ohio system)
- **Input from CoP**
  - **Q:** Concerns or ideas from this year?
    - **Jesús** - Are you looking at changes to other program systems if change fed programs system? **A:** Yes, will do all
    - **Christy** - Transitions don't always work, ie, contacts change so info doesn't get to right people in a timely way **A:** Yes, is a glitch
    - **Kirk** - Much better on personnel side; frustrating that certain tables lock down when push return - better to wait till push "submit" to lock down **A:** That feature was because of ARRA
    - **Dianne** - Didn't know she could enter set asides
    - **Mary Ellen** - how will feedback and revision process be done? **A:** Consultants will notify districts by email and phone and re-open once, with only comments that still need to be addressed. September will be interesting this year
    - **Leanne** - Would like a way to upload from a table or something so could be populated electronically; ie poverty tables needed to be entered multiple times. Could open up to more errors as well as lots of work.
    - **Mary Ellen** - Title II-D has so little money and so much red tape...Can it be simpler or get more help for people?
    - **Jonelle** - Really nice to have plan tracker
    - **Brad** - The small group trainings were very helpful, esp. in small, rural districts. Hope to add in medium and large districts this year, too
    - **Dianne** - Webinar was useful, but app wasn't live yet. It would be helpful to have it live when trainings occur
    - **Jonelle** - ARAC (sp?) form access sooner would help a lot
    - **Brad** - Hopefully issues will go away with ARRA done

- **Kirk** – Could only upload for Title I...Couldn't we upload for other Titles... Couldn't we just submit Unified Plans? Would be good to be able to use Tracker system...A: Expansion of use of Tracker is in the works...

**Email suggestions/comments to Brad: [bylsma\\_b@cde.state.co.us](mailto:bylsma_b@cde.state.co.us)**

10:15

Break

10:45

**Unified Planning; District & School - Lisa Medler, Title II Programs Supervisor**

- CDE has tried to create a tool that will **streamline** improvement planning, (not necessarily making it “easier”.) Helps make better meaning and coherence, and remains a living document that guides ongoing improvement. Template includes: Title I as a school; or Title II- A as a district; or if not making AMAOs; can also work for school district accreditation plans; dropout prevention programs; Title I-C; Special Ed

**HANDOUT** – School template

**HANDOUT** – First portion of district template; rest very similar to school, so saved paper

- Goal is to be more transparent
- Much more pre-population of data
- Here's what's expected & here's how you did (first page)
- Here's how you must go about fixing things (2<sup>nd</sup> page, school; 4<sup>th</sup> page district)
- Big shift: Root cause analysis
- Data driven. State gives data, but district has much more that will inform discussion. Use it.
- Document in narrative. Tell the story. Set the context. Connect the dots as to why going in direction you are going.
- Target date worksheet with interim measures & improvement strategies. Comes from new laws requiring schools to set own targets. Puts onus on schools and districts.
- Only ask for three strategies; may do more, but be thoughtful. Probably not possible to take on more than can chew.
- District Accountability Handbook on School View in Learning Center...CDE will look at adding more title stuff to this...  
<http://www.schoolview.org/StateAndFederalAccountability.asp>
- Curt: Some issues that are root causes, like parent & family engagement, are getting lost in this template...Would be good to roll data in for smaller districts...If you really want to get the plans off the dusty shelf and into operations...
- Brad & Lisa: When you turn in on Jan 15 it's an event; we want it to be a working document
- Diane – Like that it's pre-populated. Q: What is the process to get the data? A: It's from School View
- NEWS: All will submit all plans through Tracker to keep it consistent...Jan 15 if on watch; April, if not

- Q: Master calendar? A: One pager for Accreditation and NCLB Link = <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdegen/downloads/SB163/TimelinesforSchoolAccreditationandPlanSubmission6.17.10.pdf>
- ALL schools will have improvement plans on School View by April...
- Diane: Q: AYP targets...Can you pre-populate targets for them? A: Toyed with, but it got too complicated quickly...Short answer is no.
- Mary Ellen: Data is very quantitative; surveys may not work; focus groups may be better...A: It's fine to use whatever methods will tell story...
- Q: With 100% expected by 2014, how balance realistic growth targets? If your "real" priority is to get off improvement and you set goals accordingly, how reconcile with NCLB 100% expectations? What's CDE's position/advice? A: State and NCLB systems not aligned...NCLB is what it is...Unless reauthorization changes things. Use "keep up/catch up" terminology.

### **Teacher Effectiveness – Lisa Medler and Jill Holly**

- (Part of Colorado Educator Effectiveness Project) New Teacher Project; Colorado Legacy; Rose Foundation funded
- CDE highlighting Educator Effectiveness as a priority

### **HANDOUT – Developing a Statewide System of Educator Effectiveness – Overview of Project Deliverables**

- Help CDE develop a more systematic approach to supporting educator effectiveness
- There's a lot of work going on but it's not often connected; interesting good stuff in lots of places
- First, find out all good efforts going on and coordinating efforts
- State Council charged with Senate Bill 191 implementation
- So, this group's job is to get CDE ready to do this, ie getting house in order
- Weekly work group that represents all depts.
- Issue: Licensure process
- Issue: Support district performance planning process
- Issue: What data and how use? (Ex, LA Unified published teacher value added scores with names)
- Hope to have recommendations by end of September
- Begin discussing in Oct to get feedback
- Commissioner will "articulate" Colorado's position on teacher effectiveness in December
- Thoughtful and aligned about funding streams: can maximize district's abilities to use how they want to
- Example: Inventory existing policies and connect them: recruitment and retention, licensure, etc...Not look as buckets but pull from segmented places and pulling together
- Not seeing lots of new stuff but rather bringing together what's already there into a UNIFIED SYSTEM
- Is there a universally accepted statement of what "teacher effectiveness" is? Are there definitions? In the works for teachers and principals...Combo of observable

criteria and outcomes. Needed before can set targets and/or performance standards

- Issue: not just how and what to measure, but also what to do about it if you determine ineffectiveness, i.e. tenure, etc...

### **Title II-A State Plan – Lisa**

- Equitable distribution of teachers in schools
- Kirk: Q: Equity for rural areas = What is funding structure you look at? Finances? Equitable across state? State funding formulas? Policies have stood in our way, ie pre-service...Teacher prep, alt licensure, etc...Teachers are expected to get content mastery but not necessarily pedagogy

11:55 Lunch

12:30

### **Set asides for Title I Schools on Improvement – Trish**

HANDOUT: Set Asides for Title I Schools on Improvement

- Divisive question: Should law requiring 10% spent on professional dev be interpreted as written = you don't have to unless you're on year 1 or 2
- Or should state require it?
- Law loophole...
- Could it be used for something besides PD?
- Trish: would be good to have recommendation from CoP  
Q: In view of the fact that the feds do not require it, should state set higher standards require schools to continue 10% set aside for PD in improvement years 3-5 or higher? Answer: No
- Q: Should the state impose higher standards than the feds? Answer: No

### **Federal Programs Symposium – Friday, October 22, Adams 12 Training Center – Kathryn**

- Day of talking about best practices targeted to Principals and Federal Program Directors, instead of a directors' meeting
- Space for about 300 people; no cost
- Judy Huddleston coordinator
- Registration will go out in *Scoop*

HANDOUT – Federal Programs Symposium agenda

### **ESEA Complaint Form – Cheryl**

- The emphasis is to resolve issues at school then district level, but CDE takes complaints seriously

- The link below expresses the process

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/ov/index.asp>

### **Distinguished Principal / Teacher – Kathryn**

- Lynn Bamberry coordinates
- If you want to apply to be on selection committee, send application to [burnham\\_k@cde.state.co.us](mailto:burnham_k@cde.state.co.us) by noon Monday, September 13

HANDOUT – Memo to Potential Selection Committee Members, Title I Distinguished Teacher/Principal of the Year

- Parke Covarrubias is interested and CoP strongly supports her candidacy

### **What would you like to cover at the meetings this year? Kathryn**

- Other relevant program offerings and requirements, such as refugee, etc
- Chart showing where Colorado standards/requirements exceed Federal requirements
- How to balance interventions with well rounded education, ie music & art, ec for target assistance interventions
- If district is put on watch, etc, are all schools including charter schools involved? Cheryl Miller is the go to person to discuss this ... ext. 6214
- Opportunity to hear from each Title each time so we can stay abreast of what they are working on...Idea: Have standing agenda item for each title, and they have to opt out if there is nothing
- NCLB Reauthorization involvement
- Ongoing Teacher and Principal Effectiveness and how it trickles down with evaluation
- Comparability, dollar for dollar vs headcount issue, if we are going to move forward on it
- Policy issues that pertain to our programmatic issues

2:00

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Anne Hausler