



COLORADO
Department of Education
Commissioner of Education

201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203-1799

July 20, 2018

Dear Superintendents and BOCES Directors,

In our ongoing efforts to act on feedback and be thoughtful about reviewing our data collections, we are going to *pause* the data collection for the Teacher Student Data Link (TSDL) for this coming year (2018-2019). *However, to ease data burden for districts with migrant students, we will still require TSDL for migrant students. That will enable us to populate other required reports for you without having to manually collect the information from you.*

We have done this as a result of feedback from many of you over the past several years describing challenges you have had as well as the desire to ensure this collection is relevant and accurate regarding the purposes set forth in multiple policies (legislation and state board rule). Through a recent policy change regarding reporting, CDE is able to offer this pause to districts on the TSDL collection for the 2018-19 school year. Thus, through the formation of a stakeholder workgroup, we are going to take the next year to re-examine our collection procedures for the Teacher-Student Data Link.

During the pause year, we want to foster a clear understanding of the purposes and the intent of the collection to meet the policy objectives set forth by the legislature. We also seek to understand the impact of the collection on you and want to explore possibilities for reducing the submission burden.

Issues to discuss during the workgroup meetings are:

- Understanding the multiple policy connections that the TSDL collection has (Examples: Educator Effectiveness, Educator Preparation Programs, Course Taking Reports, Migrant Education Data collection)
- Understanding the pros and cons of the TSDL (Example: Pro: we use it to pre-populate other data collections, Con: The workload for TSDL is large)
- Discussing the ability of the TSDL, as now conceptualized, to meet policy objectives (like providing meaningful feedback to educator preparation programs)
- Getting ideas on how to make the data easier to submit while maintaining policy and legislative goals

What this means for your district:

- You do not need to submit data in the Course Instructor File for 2018-19.
- For districts with migrant students:
 - Local Course Codes must be mapped via the Statewide Standard Course Code System (SSCC) for any 8th-12th grade course a migrant student was enrolled in.
 - The Course Enrollment file must be uploaded for the 8th-12th grade migrant students only.
 - The TSDL snapshot must be created and finalized for the migrant students. All other students would not be required to be included.



- For districts without migrant students:
 - Local Course Codes would not be required to be mapped.
 - The Course Enrollment file does not need to be uploaded.
 - The TSDL snapshot does not need to be created and/or finalized.
- You can continue to submit the TSDL data for non-migrant students if you want, but it is not mandatory for this year (2018-19) only.

We will make a determination about what to do with the collection for the 2019-20 school year and beyond, after we receive the report from the working group. Please keep in mind there are legislative requirements here too—so we can't promise anything, but we want to collect the information so we have it as policy changes are considered in the future.

For questions about data submission, please contact Annette Severson at Severson_A@cde.state.co.us. For questions about the workgroup or other elements of TSDL, please contact Carolyn Haug at Haug_C@cde.state.co.us.

Thank you!



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Commissioner

