Texas Education Agency Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Title I Committee of Practitioners SEDL First Floor Conference Room 4700 Mueller Blvd. Austin, Texas Wednesday, November 10, 2009 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present: Martha Anderson, Mark Beaty, Pete Bega, Shirley Coleman, Eileen Lytle, Richard Mik, Margaret Parks Conner, Mary Thomas, and Michael Turner

Members Absent: Tori Austin, Ronald Cavazos, Barbara Martin, Margaret McGettrick, Belinda Rojas, Terri Stafford, Jayne Tavenner, and Richard Vasquez

TEA Staff Present: Cory Green, Didi Garcia, Scott Lewis, Becca Marsh, Heather Mauzé, Vivian Smyrl, Christina Villarreal, Shannon Housson, and Esther Regalado

SIRC Staff Present: Sally Partridge

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Cory Green. Mr. Green welcomed the COP members present and informed them of the alteration to the order of the agenda.

<u>AYP Update</u> –Ester Regalado and Shannon Housson, TEA Division of Performance Reporting

Mr. Housson and Ms. Regalado discussed the following issues with the COP members:

- 1. An internal handout on Federal Accountability Update;
- 2. The state's definition of graduation rate;
- 3. The description of the state's reporting plans;
- 4. The state's goal and targets;
- 5. Possible use of the extended year graduation rate; and
- 6. A summary of 2010 AYP Workbook requirements and the decisions to be made.

No changes were made to federal caps. TEA is adding TAK M for growth measure for 4th, 7th, and 10th. USDE did change the requirement for submitting workbooks for peer review. In 2012, all student groups will be added to graduation calculations. Policy decisions to be made by senior management and for internal discussion only. Look for posting on the website in the future.

Ms. Regalado opened the floor for questions and comments.

Reading and Review of September 23, 2009, Minutes

Mr. Green requested the COP members to read and review the minutes from the September meeting.

A motion was made by Shirley Coleman to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Mary Thomas. The motion carried.

<u>Migrant Education Program Update</u> – Christina Villarreal, State Program Director for Migrant Education, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Ms. Villarreal distributed two handouts for her presentation.

- 1. Interim Evaluation Report summarizing how we are doing in Texas
- 2. Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX)
- 3. Online demonstration of MSIX
 - a. Texas is the 18th state to join
 - b. Nightly update provided for interstate coordination
 - c. NGS will continue to be the system used by LEAs
 - d. Will be training and setting up accounts for users
- 4. New Non-Regulatory Guidance

Ms. Villarreal discussed the review process implemented. The revised indicators have been reviewed by TEA. Tentative dates for future visits:

March 8-12

May 10-14

Ms. Villarreal asked if there were any questions. There were none.

SIP Update - Becca Marsh, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Mrs. Marsh provided the following SIP Updates:

- 1. Anita Villarreal and Rita Ghazal are presenting at cluster meetings on SES implementations. We have record numbers of students signing up for services this year.
- 2. SIP Academy roll only application available. Many LEAs and campuses have 100% roll forward because of a waiver to include stage 1 campuses.
- 3. SIP Academy funds for 09-10 have been reallocated to SIG.
- 4. SIP Campus Compliance Reports that were due August 3 originally, were pulled for technical issues. New due date is November 16.
- 5. State Distinguished Schools should be posted on website by the end of December. Letter will be sent to ESC Directors and LEA Superintendents.

Mrs. Marsh opened the floor to questions and comments.

In response to a question related to complaints and investigations regarding SES providers, Mr. Green noted that TEA cannot investigate without an official or formal complaint filed.

A Member commented about the complaint process for parents, stating the need to have a one pager to hand to parents when they come in so that all they have to do is write it up and fax or mail it in.

There were no further questions or comments.

SIG Update - Cory Green, Senior Director, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Mr. Green provided the following SIG updates in a SIG Overview PowerPoint Handout:

- 1. The School Improvement Grant from USDE replaces what had been referred to as SIP Academy Grant. Everything done under SIP Academy can be done under SIP and SIP ARRA 1003(a). 1003(g) was funded for the first time two years ago. This discretionary grant will fund no less than \$50,000 and no more than \$500,000, with priority given to the schools in greatest need. The ARRA funding (\$53 million), originally to be allocated to 1003(g), will now be combined funding. The School Improvement funds became the School Improvement Grant. Final requirements/regulations to be released at the end of November. TEA plans to have the state application turned in before the deadline in February. The intent is to have applications available to campuses with a probable start date during the next school year.
- 2. We will have a COP Meeting by webinar tentatively December 8, to determine what will be in the state application, so the TEA can move forward with this. Our goal is to submit the application one week before the due date.

- 3. TEA to determine the bottom 5% of state in terms of student achievement. Tier 1 5% of 358 equals 18 schools (lowest achieving schools in School Improvement). Tier 2 Title I Eligible but NOT participating or receiving funds approximately 35 or 40 campuses. Tier 3 any campuses in School Improvement.
- 4. Four Options available:
 - a. Turnaround:
 - b. School Closure:
 - c. Restart; or
 - d. Transformation.

If the LEA has 9 or more campuses in grant program, it can only implement the same choice for 50% of its campuses. Each campus may get \$50,000; the LEAs with multiple campuses have some flexibility in how much each campus receives.

- 5. Reporting is expected to be stringent.
- 6. Discussed the differences between discretionary and formula grants and the paper/narrative application versus an electronic application.
- Mr. Green asked if there were any questions, there were none.

Mr. Green then asked the committee to look at Tier 3, because the state defines the program. Discussion centered around the following issues:

- Amount of funding to be reserved at the LEA level;
- Training requirements;
- Teacher training;
- Opportunities for enrichment and extended learning;
- Possible waiver to recoup the 180 ADA to 200;
- LEA self assessment, possible piece of application;
- Campus leadership;
- Campus narratives that include where my school is, where I want us to be, how am I going to get there, and check points along the way;
- Outside evaluation, could be systemic; and
- Community buy in and what that looks like.

Mr. Green reminded committee members of the webinar and told them they would receive an electronic reminder as well.

<u>HQ Equity Distribution Process Update</u> – Didi Garcia, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Mrs. Garcia provided the following updates and a handout on the process flowcharts:

- 1. Changes are reflected in the beginning of the process: comparing elementary schools and secondary schools.
- 2. Clustering elementary in one group with 6th grade as the top grade and secondary as any campus with grade 7 and above.
- 3. Won't be looking at whether a LEA had to do comparability or not, just looking at duplicate grade spans.
- 4. How USDE wants data results effects 100 LEAs in state.

Mrs. Garcia fielded one question regarding grade level distinctions.

<u>Highly Qualified Updates-</u> Cory Green, Senior Director, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination Mr. Green provided the following updates to HQ:

1. Letter went out to LEAs informing them of the change in HQ.

- 2. Letter sent to USDE to appeal findings (4) asking to have them removed and requesting a different implementation timeline.
- 3. Title II funds to provide assistance to affected teachers through test prep and/or assisting with cost of test to meet the new interpretation.
- 4. Response to other findings expected Monday addressing 2141 interventions. LEAs missing AYP for 4 consecutive years (14 LEAs will receive letter) will complete plan. The August 20 Letter to the Administrator went out regarding the Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements.
- 5. New piece to be addressed in corrective action. Also need to address the monitoring process and look at a way to verify LEAs are not hiring non-HQ faculty.

Mr. Green then answered questions from members regarding the implications to the changes.

<u>Application Updates -</u> Scott Lewis, State Program Director Ed-Flex, HQT, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Mr. Lewis provided the following ARRA information:

- 1. 1,200 NCLB Consolidated applications have been NOGA'd, 17 waiting.
- 2. 987 Title I, Part A-ARRA applications have been NOGA'd.
- 3. 104 ARRA amendments have been received.

<u>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Update -- Waivers</u> – Cory Green, Senior Director, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Mr. Green provided the following updates:

- 1. Only 5 comments received on ARRA waivers:
 - a. 2 comments on SES waiver citing significant progress rather than a specific percentage; and
 - b. 2 comments supporting the homeless reservation
 - c. 1 comment commending TEA on applying for the waivers waiver
- 2. USDE reviewing invited and uninvited waivers. The Invited waivers have been fast-tracked. Have not received a timeline for the uninvited waivers.
- 3. LEAs have the option of applying on their own.

Mr. Green asked if there were questions or comments. There were none.

<u>Title I Part D –</u> Vivian Smyrl, State Program Director, Title I, Part D, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination Ms. Smyrl provided the following Title I, Part D updates and handouts:

- 1. USDE encouraging statewide needs assessment (hand-out 1).
- 2. USDE coming to monitor one week in May.
- 3. Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR) data split between LEA adult/juvenile facilities.
- 4. Complete data show the state has some issues (communication).
- 5. Compliance report has a section that deals with program impact: information can be gleaned and a scale created.

Ms. Smyrl asked committee members for input on a statewide needs assessment. The following topics were discussed.

- Data collection
- Surveying the field, including CPS/juvenile justice
- Getting records from last LEA
- Transition issues survey to include info from facility (criminal/neglected)
- Tracking issue knowing where to send information

- International issues where country does not share information
- Discussion needed to prevent barriers, perhaps through committee forums, TETNs
- Interagency coordination
- Need to involve individuals higher up
- Individual needs assessment
- Long-term, student-centered approach, need data from staff who work with students
- Security concerns regarding interface of data

Ms. Smyrl stated that she is in the process of developing the needs assessment. She asked committee members to email her any additional thoughts or questions. She asked if there were any additional questions. There were none.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 PM.