

Texas Education Agency
Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Title I Committee of Practitioners
Wednesday September 23, 2009

MINUTES

Members Present: Martha Anderson, Tori Austin, Mark Beaty, Shirley Coleman, Craig Henderson, Mary Ziolkowski for Belinda Rojas, Margaret Parks Conner, Jayne Tavenner, Terri Stafford, and Mary Thomas

Members Absent: Pete Bega, Ronald Cavazos, Barbara Martin, Margaret McGettrick, Richard Mik, Linda Roper, Michael Turner, and Richard Vasquez

TEA Staff Present: Cory Green, Anita Villarreal, Vivian Smyrl, Rita Ghazal, Becca Marsh, and Heather Mauzé

SIRC Staff Present: Erica Coppic and Sally Partridge

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Terri Stafford. Ms. Stafford welcomed the COP members present today and informed them there would be no lunch due to a limited agenda.

Reading and Review of June 16, 2009 Minutes

Terri Stafford requested the COP members to read and review the minutes from the June meeting. A motion was made by Mary Thomas to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Shirley Coleman. The motion carried.

Farewells

Vicki Holland (ESC Representative) and Mike McCallum (ESC Representative) are retiring leaving two vacancies, Linda Roper (LEA Representative) submitted her resignation and Mitzi Doggett (Parent Representative) is resigning as well, leaving two additional vacancies. Cory Green added that there may be an additional vacancy for a teacher representative as he believes the teacher retired over the summer.

Even Start Update – Elizabeth Thompson, Even Start State Coordinator

Ms. Thompson distributed two handouts for her presentation.

1. Revising Indicators (ppt) - Recommendations of 7 indicators were presented including a comparison of US and Texas funding levels and numbers served in the Even Start Program.
2. Timeline and Side by Side (handouts)

Ms. Thompson discussed the review process implemented. The revised indicators have been reviewed by TEA. Ms. Thompson asked if there were any questions. None were asked.

SIP Update – Anita Villarreal, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Ms. Villarreal provided the following SIP Updates:

1. SIP Academy correspondence sent out in a Letter to Administrator Addressed outlining the SIP Academy Grant.
2. Review of SIP Parent Notification Letters
3. Updating the SIP Guidance document
4. Campus Compliance Reports
5. SIP/SIP ARRA Application for Funding and associated roll-forward rules.

Erica Coppic (SIRC Senior Coordinator) gave an update of the TSI Conference.

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

SES Update – Rita Ghazal, SES Coordinator, TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination

Ms. Ghazal provided the following SES updates:

1. TEA letter regarding the 13 assurances requirement sthat is due September 13th.
2. Opportunity for waiver to allow LEAs or campuses in SIP to serve as SES providers.
3. Updated SES FAQ released on September 15th.
4. Training dates for required SES Training of LEA program and business office staff.

Ms. Ghazal asked for questions or comments. There were none.

Application Update – Cory Green, Senior Director of the TEA Division of NCLB Program Coordination provided the following ARRA updates:

1. Of the 1,180 LEAs eligible to apply for this grant, 1120 have submitted applications:
2. 1219 LEAs have submitted the NCLB Consolidated applications and have been received. Formula Funding Division has not started issuing NOGAs yet.
3. 1st quarterly reporting to USDE due next month. TEA is supposed to be sending letter out next week.
4. ARRA has doubled the work load of division staff, only 2 new positions have been added.
5. NCLB Consolidated application negotiations scheduled to be complete next week.

Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements Monitoring Visit

1. September 1st and 2nd USDE came to monitor the Title II, Part A and HQT requirements. There were two commendations for the division:
 - a. HQ Guidance document
 - b. Supplement/Not Supplant Guidance
2. We are being cited for
 - a. An LEA admitted to hiring a non-HQ teacher on Title I campus 3 years ago
 - b. Definition of new elementary teachers' HQ status. Handed out a very draft letter for committee to review. Mr. Green stated the state has not changed anything since USDE was here three years ago; however, the interpretation has changed. (This will be cited 4 times in the report—new general education teachers, new special education teachers, inaccurate data in NCLB report card, and inaccurate data in CSPR submission.)
 - c. New interpretation of PNP consultation at state level.
 - d. Late implementation of 2141 interventions.

Members asked about using Title I or Title II funds to help with certify by exam method of assisting affected teachers to meet the new interpretation. Yes

Member asked about teachers previously identified by prior interpretation. Can retain HQ in that subject area as long as they remain teaching in that subject area.

Member asked how the state would resolve the PNP issue. TEA will conduct state-level Title II consultation.

AYP Update –Ester Regalado and Mike Murphy, TEA Division Performance Reporting

Ms. Regalado discussed the following issues with the COP members:

1. Distributed a PowerPoint presentation found on the TEA website from August 20 with the Preliminary results of AYP 2009
2. Public release of NCLB report card in early January
3. Plan to review the graduation rate goal for 2010 (will discuss at later meeting)

4. 2012 student groups will be added for graduation rate

Ms. Regalado asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Update -- Waivers – Cory Green provided the following ARRA Waiver information:

1. Letter to the Administrator Addressed to be disseminated electronically to LEAs.
2. *Texas Register* notice for the required review and comment period.
3. Per COP recommendation the TEA is applying for 5 waivers regarding:
 - a. the 20% obligation,
 - b. the determination of the per-pupil amount for SES,
 - c. the determination of the Homeless set-aside,
 - d. the determination of the timeline for HQ Paraprofessional, and
 - e. the prohibition of SIP schools serving as providers of SES.
4. The TEA decided against the waivers concerning professional development. Since an emphasis is being placed on the need for quality professional development, it was believed to look contradictory to waive the requirements.
5. 15% Roll forward will be waived through Ed-Flex as previously notified to LEAs.
6. Considered not applying for the paraprofessional waiver and having that covered under Ed-Flex. The decision was made to pursue it specifically through a waiver.
7. Title II, Part D ARRA funds may be REAPed; so that waiver recommended by COP is not needed.

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

ICR Reports and Interventions

Cory Green discussed the interventions that should be released by the end of the month. Significant changes on what the ICR Report looks like in this year. The first page of the report is the same as previously provided and reflects the data used for staging interventions. The second page is new and the information is provided to the LEAs for planning and internal use only. All data results, including Report Only indicators, are subcategorized by each program and by similar types of compliance requirements (e.g., parent notifications, uses of funds, roll forward).

Mr. Green discussed the intervention activities for the LEAs to submit Initial Corrective Action Plans for each ICR indicator missed in staging interventions. He also discussed the grouping of similar indicators to be addressed together in the ICAP.

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

ADDITIONAL ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

New SIG Grant

The *Federal Register* Notice of Proposed Rules outlining new Title I School Improvement Grants was provided to members. After the membership read the information, Mr. Green reviewed and discussed the proposed requirements and the TEA comments which would be submitted to USDE later that week.

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

A motion was made by Mark Beaty to accept TEAs comments to USDE. Margaret Conner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 AM.