ESSA Subcommittee Meeting – Data Collection and Reporting

Date, Time: Friday, July 22, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

ALSDE Facilitator:	Melinda Maddox
Members present:	Dom Martel, Tony Thacker (ALSDE), Shaq LaPrade, Patrick Patterson, Deborah Love
Members absent:	none

Summary: A review of workgroup meeting #1 was presented. A discussion on data accessibility, timely manner in which data is available, and data points required by law were topics covered during this workgroup meeting.

Subcommittee recommendations are included.

Link to CCSSO handout:
http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/2016/ESSA/ESSAStateReportCardRequirementsMemo01262016.pdf

Next meeting: Thursday, August 18, 2016, 1 p.m., 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

All notes below are comments with committee members and the ALSDE facilitator.

A review of discussion items from the last meeting was presented.

- Develop timely and appropriate technological solutions that minimize the lag time between data creation and data reporting.
- Stressed the importance of not sacrificing the protection of data when seeking to increase speed of delivery.
- Clearly define all of the indicators and define how they were calculated and measured. Most indicators have already been addressed. Make available the work sheet provided during assessment training to all systems. Make sure the criteria for report cards is available to the public prior to release of report cards (i.e. develop a complete and easily understood legend for each public report).
- Data center needs to have a search function.
    - Would like the data center to look similar to the AIMS portal
    - Include a landing page with tabs or tiles that allow the public to look at what they want to check
- How will the collection of each required data point help the system to move forward?

Review of Resources

A. Council of Chief State School Officers
    1. Distributed January memorandum on ESSA
        a) 128 descriptors will be included in the report card—based on analysis of how states will construct new accountability systems
        b) States will adopt and report seven indicators
            (1) Student proficiency indicator
            (2) Student growth indicator
            (3) One other academic indicator for elementary-middle schools
            (4) The four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate
            (5) One school quality indicator or student success indicator applicable to elementary and middle schools
            (6) One school quality indicator or student success indicator applicable to high schools
            (7) English language proficiency indicator
        c) Quality, climate and safety is data now required to be reported with ESSA
            (1) "Includes rates of in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, school-related arrests, referrals to law enforcement, chronic absenteeism, and incidences of violence, including bullying and harassment"
            (2) Number and percentage of students enrolled in pre-K programs
            (3) Number and percentage of students enrolled in accelerated coursework to earn postsecondary credit while still in high school

       d) School by school financial data is not currently collected

            (1) "Under ESSA, the state report card must include per-pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds"

            (2) "There was no comparable language under NCLB, and states will need to implement procedures for collecting these data, including by clearly defining four 'personnel' and 'non-personnel' expenditures, specifying which expenditures are attributable to which funding source, and, most importantly, specifying which expenditures are truly 'school-level'"

   B. Proposed Guidance from USDOE

      1. Card provided to all in attendance that gives link to USDOE website for public input regarding ESSA

         a) Overview of timeline and items that will need to be reported

         b) How will three summative ratings be provided?

         c) Data reporting needs to occur in conjunction with stakeholders

      2. Comments on overview

         a) Have these proposals been compared with the actual law? Is the guidance what the USDOE wants? If it's not in accordance with the law, then we should not consider it. We do not need to make recommendations that are contrary to the law.

   C. Comparison of Other States' Websites, Likes and Dislikes

      1. Easily Accessible Manner

         a) State will take the responsibility of posting school and LEA reports

            (1) Format should be like the portal formats

      2. Timely

         a) Data needs to be available quicker, needs to be ten days. Dr. Maddox replied that is logistically impossible. Committee clarified that they want test scores back to schools and systems within ten days of administration. Writing causes the data to take a little longer but it is not a mandated part of the test. Must be available before the start of the school year so that it can drive decision making.

         b) Currently, data is reported as soon as the ALSDE verifies it. It is a challenge to get all data from LEAs. If all systems turned in clean data by October 15, we would probably be able to report out by December. Can we recommend reporting to the public at a date after the first of the year rather than in January?

Next Steps:

Recommendations to the ESSA Implementation Committee (included)

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that districts and schools should post public data on their websites utilizing the following considerations:

- Consider cost to districts and schools
- It should be a district decision if they post their own data or utilize the link provided by ALSDE
- Some schools and districts may not have technical expertise to develop their own data. It is recommended that they utilize the link provided by the ALSDE
- Regardless of whether a district uses their own data or the data developed by the ALSDE, it should be formatted similarly to allow for cross-district comparisons

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that a comprehensive, systematic, and multimodal plan of communication be developed that includes but is not limited to the following:

- The ALSDE should create a public announcement when the public data reports first go live
- The announcement needs to inform the public of what is in the reports and do so utilizing easily understood language so that all stakeholders clearly understand what is available
- It is strongly recommended that districts take ownership of their local data and create additional communication that is nuanced to local data

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that data be made available in a timeline manner.

- All data needs to be made available to LEAs/schools and the public as quickly as possible
- Districts must be able to see all date prior to public release
- However, at no point should any party sacrifice protection of data when seeking to increase speed of delivery.

The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup *strongly* recommends that the ALSDE only publicly report data that is required to be shared because of federal or state law.

- Though all publicly shared data will be disaggregated by subgroups, the Workgroup further recommends that the ALSDE continue the current FERPA compliant policy of not publicly sharing <u>any</u> student level data that includes personally identifiable information (PII) that could lead to the identification of an individual student.

ESSA Required Information to Inform Educational Improvement for All Kids

The following is a partial list of the data points that the USDOE requires to be submitted and will require to be publicly reported. The list is not exhaustive but was included at the request of the Workgroup to provide insight into the amount of data that will be reported.

- Poverty
- Assessments
- Federal Titles – Homeless, Migrant, ELL
- Child Nutrition
- Transportation
- Financials (LEA)
- Special Ed – IDEA
- SIR Reports
- Grad Rate
- Teacher Certification
- Enrollment – Demographics
- Accountability

*The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup **strongly** recommends that the ALSDE only send to the USDOE data that is required to be shared because of federal law. The Workgroup further recommends that the ALSDE continue the current policy of not sending student-level data to USDOE.

Other Recommendations

- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that the ALSDE develop and distribute a document that provides a clear purpose for why each data element is collected and how will it help inform decisions regarding education plans and policies in Alabama.
- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that publicly available data be linked to LEA and school *Continuous Improvement Plans* to ensure that said plans are informed by the data.
- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that all LEAs have a *Data Security and Privacy Policy* in place.
- The Data Collection and Reporting Workgroup recommends that under no circumstances should data mining of PII for profit be allowed. PII shared for legitimate research purposes should be available to parents/students upon request. Parents should have access to **all** data collected on their child.