

**Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Notes  
December 12, 2017**

**Grimes State Office Building – State Board Room**

**1:00 p.m.**

Facilitators: Kim Hermsen and Dave Tilly

Members in Attendance: Herbert Hartman, Kimberly Hermsen, Merilee Sump, Juli Margolin

DE Representatives: Shan Seivert, Phil Wise, Jay Pennington, Erika Cook, Linda Carroll, Pam McDonnell, Jennifer Riedemann, Isbelia Arzola, Steve Crew, Holly Barnes

Guests: Patty Lansink, Eric Goranson, Tracy Bonday

**Legislative Session – Shan Seivert and Phil Wise**

- The DE is asking for and received the status quo for nonpublic textbooks which is \$650,000
- Four areas we addressed for this legislative year:
  - American Sign Language
  - Updated Codes
  - Iowa Learning Online
  - Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC)
    - Instructional Rubric
- The American Sign Language bill changes the word foreign language to world language and it allows the districts the ability to allow to offer American Sign Language as a world language.
  - If a district chooses to offer American Sign Language as a world language in an offer and teach program they can.
- Iowa Learning Online access is currently available to districts and accredited nonpublic schools. This change will allow homeschool or non-accredited school students to access courses offered through Iowa Learning Online for a fee and is a vetted instructional tool offered by a licensed Iowa educator.
- Our biggest agenda item will be the budget. We do not know and have not heard what cuts will be or how they will distributed.
- Another budget ask included eight million dollars to cover the cost of the new statewide assessment. This is critical that we get an aligned statewide assessment to be in compliance with Every Student Succeeds Act.
  - Because the statewide assessment is no longer required by nonpublic schools to use, will the eight million include funding for the nonpublic schools to offer the assessment voluntarily?

- It depends on the mechanism they use to provide it and it will depend on the legislature as it is state money.
- We did ask the vendor in the request for proposal (RFP) to give us the option of the cost for:
  - If the districts are directly billed.
  - If there was a single payer, in this case the General Assembly. Then the question would be would it only cover public schools or could it cover nonpublic schools who voluntarily choose to offer the assessment? We just do not know yet.
  - We also asked in the RFP if there was an additional costs for nonpublic schools to administer that assessment could that be included on a separate line item.

### **Statewide Assessment – Jay Pennington and Jennifer Riedemann**

- In August, we brought together an evaluation team of educators to review RFPs with a notice of intent to award to American Institute for Research with their own assessment.
  - The highest scoring RFP won based on the Iowa Department of Administrative Services scale for scoring an RFP.
    - Scoring - 700 points for the technical merit was taken straight from Senate File 240 and 300 points based upon cost.
- After the intent to award was issued, Pearson appealed the decision and a hearing has occurred. We are now waiting on the judge's decision.
- As a result of the appeal, we are now under a stay until the judge's decision is released within the next thirty days.
- The implementation for the Every Student Succeeds Act comes with conditions.
  - When we went through the peer review with the federal government it was determined that we must procure a new test to be implemented in spring of 2019.
    - If we end up in court and we get another stay, we may not be able to make the spring of 2019 deadline. We are not sure how that will affect our federal funding.
- Update on Every Student Succeeds Act: We did get an email from the federal government and we got an invitation to have a discussion with them about our plan here within the next few weeks.
- ELPA21: Last time we looked at the additional \$12 allowance for this year.
  - The State will cover the braille version as it is very expensive and there is only a handful of those who need it.
  - In most cases, we cannot flow money to nonpublic schools directly, but the work around was paying the vendor directly. More than likely we will not have the funds to cover the costs of testing next year. If the money is appropriated, then we will look at it again, but we are not counting on this.
- Cost for next year for ELPA 21 is now being finalized, current estimates is that it will be approximately \$30 - \$31 for the summative assessment.

- We will also be looking at implementing the ELPA21 screener. The cost for the screener is \$11. The screener will need to be used if your student hasn't been screened.

### **Update on Computer Science Task Force – Erika Cook**

- The Governor in the last session asked us to create a task force to look at extending computer science in our schools.
- Currently we have 28,770 high school students enrolled in computer science courses throughout Iowa.
- Computer Applications; Business Computers; and Intro to Computers are the top classes taken.
- Standards: 21<sup>st</sup> century skills that are in the Iowa Core are required. Information Technology Standard is voluntary within career and technical education.
- Currently there are no offer and teach requirements.
- There are no official certification or endorsements required to teach computer science.
  - If a school is offering advanced placement (AP) computer science and they have a math teacher teaching it then can count as a math credit.
- The goal of Senate File 274 is that by July 1, 2019, every elementary school will offer instruction in the fundamentals of computer science; every middle school will offer exploratory computer science; and every high school will offer at least one high-quality computer science course.
- The workgroup had five recommendations to be in place by summer 2019:
  1. How computer science course could satisfy graduation requirements for math or science?
  2. How one or more high-quality computer science courses could be integrated into a career and technical education?
  3. The setting in which courses could be delivered, (including in traditional high school settings, concurrent enrollment classes, and online).
  4. Guidelines for an appropriate scope and sequences of computer science instruction at each grade level.
  5. How the computer science professional development fund created in the legislation could be used to meet the goals of the law.
- We will have a standards review team gathering feedback, incorporating feedback, and having the document of the recommended standards ready to present to the State Board by June.
- We just sent invites and letters to gather participants for the work group. Cory Emily (Mount Olive) is recommended to serve to represent the Nonpublic School Advisory Committee.

### **Title III Consultant – Introduction – Linda Carroll and Pam McDonnell**

Pam McDonnell is the new Title III Consultant. She comes to us with extensive experience with language learners in education, administration, and district coordination.

If anyone needs to contact Pam you may reach her at: [pam.mcdonnell@iowa.gov](mailto:pam.mcdonnell@iowa.gov) or 515-380-5115.

Pam is transitioning in at a time where our Department is consolidating many of our processes for our Title programs within our consolidated application plan for our Every Student Succeeds Act. This means we must allow districts to run a consolidated plan. This application framework must be submitted by July 1, 2018, so Pam will play a big role in this going forward.

#### **Title II-A – Linda Carroll and Isbelia Arzola**

- Change meeting funding: we have not heard a second preliminary allocation. We have decided not to recalculate unless we get new preliminary numbers soon. There should be a new preliminary allocation in February and a final one in May.
- Should schools still hold back five percent: yes, it is still recommended. If there is unspent funds, an extension request should be submitted as soon as the nonpublic school becomes aware.
- We have a checks and balances in place to ensure that all public schools submit and do their consultation application.
- If their consultation process is not uploaded in their application, districts know they will not be approved until the documentation is uploaded. We have been enforcing what is expected, while still allowing some flexibility during the transition year.
- Isbelia will send out an email and include it in the School Leader Update. Dave will also send an email out to superintendents as a reminder as well.
- Collaboration is the key to this process.
  - Isbelia will send out an example of how Title II can also support Title I and Title III efforts without supplanting.
  - Think about the services and not the amount of money in your collaboration.
- The special education consultation should occur between the area education agency (AEA) and the nonpublic school or representative of the nonpublic.
  - We will add this as a future agenda item. Steve Crew or John Lee will need to come speak on this.
- Is there a mechanism for nonpublic and public school to update the Department about consultation meetings and amendments?
  - This is an ongoing process. With the consolidated application needing to be complete by July 1, we are still trying to figure out how things will work together.
    - There may or may not be a unified consultation process right away in this application.
    - We want to make sure we are getting an application that is not only consolidated and in compliance with federal law, but that it will be integrated so those using it in the field don't have to enter everything piece by piece.
  - We also want to make sure that there are real conversations occurring and that the needs of the students is discussed and decided on appropriately. Most of the time, this process works very well; but there are times where there are issues with the consultation meeting and there needs to be a follow-up meeting that the nonpublic cannot get it to occur.

- If this happens it is very important to come to the consultants at the Department. If they cannot handle the issue, then the complaint can be taken to Steve Crew for a formal complaint.
- Under the Every Student Succeeds Act the perimeters were created to pool Title funds. If we are going to a consolidated application for all Title funds, but the Title III funds are still held by AEA how is it possible to get the Title III funds consolidated under the application for us to use?
  - For the Title III and the AEA holding the funds, the decision was made in a time when our demographics were different. This may need to be something that is reconsidered and is a legitimate question. It is something we should discuss and consider how this should be handled in terms of consolidation, and what is best for the students in the state as a whole.
  - We must also look at the code, return on investment, and ultimately determine what is best for the student.
- Can an instructor come from the public school building into the nonpublic school building to provide services and still allow the public school to claim those students on their numeric count for weighted State funding?
  - Amy Williamson and Thomas Mayes opinion is: Yes, they can send them in but it has to be their choice.

#### **ESSA – Where we are going – Dave Tilly**

- We are creating a consolidated application.
- Created Coherence: we are going to work really hard to create a site where the district can get their information on all their Title allocations and information in one place.
- We will have 120 days to review all the components of everyone’s consolidated application.
- Our intent is to take a group to each AEA computer lab regionally and hold workdays to help everyone work through the application. This way everyone gets the same help and is on the same page.
- We are also going to have parallel tracks of work:
  - Conditions of Learning Survey
  - Postsecondary readiness index
  - Consolidated Application (internal work team)
  - To make sure that everything we ask in this application are things that are only required by federal law.
  - That the application is streamlined so you are not answering the same things in multiple locations
  - Accountability Index.
    - We do not know what our large scale assessment will be, but once we get this decided we will put together professional learning, timing, education about the test, getting kids ready for new format, etc.
    - Goal Setting will be needed with the new assessment:
      - Different Disaggregation group

- Racial and ethnic subgroups
  - Students with disabilities
  - Students living in poverty
  - Second Language Learners
  - As well as all kids.
- Next month we will be communicating through multiple vehicles information about Every Student Succeeds Act.
- We will have about 18 months of transition:
  - The next year will be a ramp up year
  - We will also bring in our special education federal programs and directives into this collaboration.
- Every Student Succeeds Act is supposed to be reauthorize every five year so we would like to make sure we get the foundation of what we are doing right and we have a good platform for growth.

Next meeting February 13, 2018