

Title I Committee of Practitioners Meeting

April 16, 2014

Purpose

Advise the WDE Title I programs in ways to maximize use of Federal Funds to support student learning, school improvement efforts, and the department strategic plan.

Introduction

Jennifer Peterson began the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and taking time out of their busy schedules to attending the meeting. Jennifer also introduced the chair and vice chair of the Title I committee.

Attendees

Suzanne Martin – Chair from Sweetwater County School District #1

Mary Legler – from Sheridan

Betty Fields – from St. Stephens Staff

Lynette Jeffres – Trustee from Fremont County #25 from Riverton

Title I Updates – ESEA Flexibility Waiver Update

Wyoming does not have the ESEA Waiver at this time. Explanation was given on the ESEA waiver and what this would mean for districts. Jennifer has not sent anything out to the directors at the time of the meeting but is working on a memo. The waiver would not be approved for the 2014 – 2015 year but will still be in the works as of this meeting.

Jennifer will be working on templates for the School Improvement next year to ease the burden. There will be easier guidance and more information to come.

WDE is working on the website. Templates will be on the website. There will be updates at the next meeting. Hope that the next meeting will be on July 29th at the STAR Conference.

Regional Training - Parent Involvement

Jennifer wanted to get more concrete ideas and inventive ways to incorporate the involvement. Jennifer suggested training at the STAR retreat in July. Committee was open to the idea and would be more productive. Everyone was willing to participate if it could be arranged.

Pier's link: <http://www.ed.gov/oese-news/innovative-model-parent-teacher-partnership>

Suzanne did look at the link, and used different perspectives for schools.

There was great response to the link, looked great value and very effective.

Title I Schools exiting School Improvement

It had crossed their minds of possible concerns. Mary believes policy makes sense.

- Does not affect private schools
- Policy will be in the works for discussion at STAR

- Would involve Title I funded schools exiting school improvement. If a district opts to not fund a school in school improvement to avoid school improvement sanctions then how does the school come back into improvement once funded again. A draft of this policy will be presented at the next meeting.

Blue Ribbon Schools -

Wyoming application approved, Using WAEA ranking instead of AYP- the approved 2014 application was sent out in previous e-mails. The policy application was approved as is and that is how they will be making the blue ribbon determinations. All the schools will be ranked but only those schools that have enrollment of 100 or more students with 10 or more students tested in each tested grade will be eligible for blue ribbon school nominations. As far as the recognition it will include all schools. If they want to apply they have to be in the category of exceed expectations in the state accountability plan.

Mary mentioned the smaller schools such as private school such as Sheridan have not been recognized but should be getting recognition. A way to do that would be to recognize them at the School improvement conference. Everyone was in agreement for smaller schools being recognized. This will be worked on over the next year.

Reallocation Policy

Title I statute requires a written allocation policy. Jennifer submitted a draft of the revised policy for review. Feedback was great made total sense. Suzanne was in agreement. Jennifer is working on the final draft and will get it sent out to everyone.

Please see policy for requirements

Overall, eligible LEAs will receive additional reallocated funds based on LEAs initial allocation in comparison to the total State award. For example, if an LEA's original allocation was 10% of the total state award, then the LEA would receive 10% of re-allocated funds available.

Closing:

1. No past minutes were read or review of guidelines.
2. Jennifer will be sending out minutes once they are typed.
3. The Waiver will not be approved for the 2013 – 2014.
4. Jennifer is working on template for School Improvement.
5. There is still work to be done on the website.
6. A training session is being put together at the STAR Conference in July for Parent Involvement.
7. Jennifer is working on the Reallocation Policy and will send final copy out for approval.
8. Jennifer concluded by asking for any other suggestions or comments.
9. There were no additional suggestions.

Meeting began at 4:02 p.m. and adjourned at 4:39 p.m.