



**Joint Meeting of the
Commissioner's Task Force to Develop a Performance-Based
School Accountability System
and the NH DOE Accountability Task Force
June 3, 2011, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Room 15 (Londergan)**

NOTES

ATTENDING:

Virginia Barry, Ph.D., Commissioner of Education, NH DOE
 Jerome Frew, Superintendent, Kearsarge Regional School District
 Scott Marion, National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment, Dover
 Judith Fillion, Director, Division of Program Support, NH Department of Education
 Edward Murdough, Bureau of School Approval, NH DOE
 Kathleen Murphy, Director, Division of Instruction, NH DOE
 Deborah Wiswell, Bureau of Accountability, Curriculum and School Improvement, Division of
 Instruction, NH Department of Education

Accountability (AYP) Task Force (in addition to those on the Commissioner's Task Force)

District Representatives: Donna Crook (MSD); Lisa Witt (MSD); Kathy Stavenger (SNHU); Steve Zdravec (Portsmouth); Heather Cummings (Gov. Wentworth); Tom Southworth (Rye)

NH DOE: Merry Fortier, Tim Kurtz, Ginny Clifford, Ken Relihan

NH DOE Consultants: Mike Schwartz, Lauren Heiter

Meeting Objectives:

- ◆ Share information about legislative actions related to the work of the Task Force
- ◆ Update on the status of the "input" system
- ◆ Learn about the recommendation of the English learners subcommittee
- ◆ Examine performance reports using latest data
- ◆ Preview student growth percentile "bubble charts" information being developed for posting
- ◆ Review materials prepared for dissemination to the field, offer recommendations

Notes:

1. Welcome and Review of the Agenda

Deb opened the meeting by having everyone identify themselves so that the new recorder of the minutes (me – Cindy Rosborough) could know who is who. Thanks, Deb!

She briefly went through all that she wanted to include in the meeting and hoped that it would fit in the time allotted.

2. **Legislative Report: SB 172**

Merry described what has been happening with this bill. Bullying was added as an amendment in the House, but was taken out. The House and Senate have ended up with two different versions so it has to go back to the Senate where they can decide either to agree with House language, disagree, or table it. She noted that section VII has language regarding flexibility that is as DOE wanted, but the section IV(b) regarding Common Core is problematic. The exact same statement regarding Common Core is in HB 164 but that was tabled by the Senate. We will wait for the end of the session to know the status of the bill. If it does not pass, the Senate will re-introduce the bill next fall.

*****Since this meeting, the Senate “non-concurred” with the House version and so the bill is dead. We will have to wait for the next session to get approval of the Performance-Based component of the NH Accountability System/**

3. **“Input” system update**

Deb reported that the surveys have been reviewed and are being added compiled in a database. By September letters will be going out to the schools stating one of three options: met adequacy, conditionally met, did not submit. In all three cases, schools will need to resubmit for the 11-12 school year by December. Ed Murdough is overseeing this component and we are working with Ryan Stevens to add the rest of the School Approval Standards to the Survey in the ESS System.

4. **English Learners subgroup**

Donna, Tim and Deb led a discussion about the decisions made by the EL Task Force. This was the last section needed to be finalized before we could produce reports.

5. **Sample Reports**

Actual reports from a selection of elementary, middle and high schools were looked at in depth. Many questions were asked, i.e., will there be an appeal process, what date was used for determination of each area score. Much discussion about the excessive absence score, which was based on those enrolled for at least 60 days. A general determination was made that it should be expanded to 90 days, which would be a fairer picture. Scott asked the group if everyone agreed on 2.0 as adequate. It seems to be, but we will probably need a review by the AG's office. Scott summarized the performance of all 364 schools. He pointed out that using a different score greatly changed the percentage of inadequate schools. For now, the reports are for information purposes only and we will need to wait for legislative approval before making them public. We can, however, get more feedback and review to the process so far.

6. **Commissioner Barry's thank you**

Because the meeting was running long and Commissioner Barry had to leave early to speak at a graduation, she broke into the agenda to say a special thank you to Deb for leading

this task force so well, and a general thank you to all members. She indicated that such hard work was performed that everyone should be getting 30 credits for it! With the task force taking the summer off, we'll begin in September and make adjustments to the membership. An especially hard replacement to come up with will be Deb as the task force head.

A question was asked about the schedule for next year. Face to face sessions are needed and the regional superintendents' meetings make sense. Principals and CIA folks should be included. When asked who should be contacted regarding a fall meeting and any edits to the documentation, Ed Murdough stepped up. He will try to be a go-between for scheduling and reporting.

7. Student Growth Percentile

Deb quickly went over the "bubble charts" and showed screen shots of deeper levels (beyond the bubble). A web page for the NH Growth Model will be developed by Lori Temple and the new SGP "app" should be available in July.

8. Dissemination Plans

Deb handed out some draft pages of the Handbook (the General FAQs and the Glossary). She encouraged members to look these over and think about how to go forward next year. Edits should go to Ed.

9. Thank You to all for a great year

The meeting went until 3:30 when it was wrapped up. Deb thanked everyone for both being patient with this long meeting, and being such dedicated workers all year.