

Ensuring Equitable Access to Excellent Educators Initial Stakeholders Task Force

Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2015

Attendance:

Ashley Frame	NH Dept. of Education, Title II
Bob Belmont	Concord School District
Lucy Canotas	Teacher, Manchester
Irv Richardson	NEA-NH
Kim Demers	St. Anselm's
Ethel Gaides	Asst. Supt. SAU 48
Barrett Christina	NH School Boards Association
Bonnie Dunham	Parent Information Center
Nan Parsons	Upper Valley Education Institute
William G. Ross	NH Dept. of Education, Professional Development
Helen Anzalone	NH Dept. of Education, Bureau of Special Education
Joanne Malloy	Institute of Disabilities - UNH
Deborah Fleurant	NH Dept. of Education, Title I
Michelle Munson	Supt of Schools SAU 71
Joey Nichol	NH Dept. of Education, Title I
Judy McGann	Supt of Schools SAU 68
Mark Landry	Teacher, Claremont
Tessa MacDonnell	SPARK-NH
Irene Koffink	NH Dept. of Education, Bureau of Data Management
Karen Soule	Lead Educator Effectiveness NH Dept. of Education
Sue Frankel	Northeast Comprehensive Center

Invited but unable to attend:

Cindy Chagnon	State Board of Education
Audrey Rogers	Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)
Amy Parece-Grogan	OMARA
Chris Blackstone	Asst. Principal, Northumberland
Mary Ford	Granite State
Tina Greco	State Section 504 coordinator
Mary Heath	State Legislator
Alysse Coffey	Bright Horizons

Meeting Purpose: To bring together a diverse group of stakeholders and internal DoE staff to serve as a task force that will examine the current equity issues in NH schools as part of the process to develop an Equitable Access to Excellent Educators plan by June 1, 2015 and to serve in an ongoing capacity to periodically review the implementation and levels of success of strategies within the plan.

1. Welcome to Stakeholder Members and Introduction of New Members

The meeting began with a welcome to members and introduction of new members.

2. Update on New Hampshire Ensuring Equitable Access Plan

To acquaint new members with the plan, Karen Soule presented a PowerPoint that reviewed the components of the initial NH plan submitted to the USED (US Dept. of Education). This was followed by sharing the USED request for changes in the plan and the revisions themselves. (The PowerPoint is attached for all stakeholders.) It was emphasized that this is just the very beginning stages of this work and it will support and improve the education of our NH students.

Due to the fact that the Manchester data was included in the NH Equity Plan, the data demonstrated that there were more beginning educators in high poverty schools and more beginning educators in high minority schools. Initial communication took place with Dr. Livingston, Manchester Superintendent of Schools to inform her.

In addition, based on the initial data, Nashua did not have equity gaps around beginning educators in high minority schools. Mark Conrad, Nashua Superintendent of Schools was also informed.

3. Update on Manchester

An initial meeting was held with Dr. Livingston to share the data within the NH plan in more detail and to answer any questions. A follow-up meeting took place to determine next steps for Manchester. As a result, three Focus Group meetings were scheduled. Ginny Clifford, Bill Ross and Karen Soule, from the NHDOE, attended the initial Focus Group meeting. Bill Ross gave a summary of the Focus Group meeting that took place on September 16, 2015. Two future meetings are scheduled for October 14th and October 28th.

4. Getting to Know Potential Strategies Included in the NH Plan

To help stakeholders develop foundational knowledge of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) included in the NH Plan key experts were invited to present.

Each expert presented an overview of the research-based strategies. Below is the contact information for each presenter. Please feel free to reach out to the presenters.

- **Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)**

Joanne Malloy Institute on Disabilities - UNH

Email: Joanne.malloy@unh.edu

Website: www.pbis.org

- **Universal Design for Learning (UDL)**

NH Department of Education UDL website:

http://education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/universal_design_learning.htm

- **School Wide Integrated Framework for Transformation (SWIFT)**

The SWIFT presentation was done by Kathryn “Joey” Nichol.

The primary SWIFT contacts at the Department are Maura Hart and Cynthia Proulx.

Email for Maura Hart: Maura.hart@unh.edu

Email for Cynthia Proulx: Cynthia.proulx@doe.nh.gov

Email for Joey Nichol: Kathryn.nichol@doe.nh.gov

SWIFT website: <http://www.swiftschools.org/>

SWIFT Introduction Guide: <http://guide.swiftschools.org/how-to-use-swift-fig>

- **New Hampshire Networks**

Ashley Frame, NHDOE Education Consultant

Email: Ashley.frame@doe.nh.gov

New Hampshire Networks: <http://www.education.nh.gov/networks/>

- **Networks for Transforming Educator Preparation (NTEP)**

The NTEP presentation was done by Irv Richardson, NEA-NH. The primary contact at the Department is Nicole Heimarck.

Email for Nicole Heimarck: Nicole.heimarck@doe.nh.gov

- **Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability and Reform (CEEDAR)**

Karen Soule

Email: Karen.soule@doe.nh.gov

CEEDAR link: <http://cedar.education.ufl.edu>

Promises to Keep link: <http://cedar.education.ufl.edu/portfolio/promises-to-keep/>

5. Wrap up and Next steps

A suggestion was given to develop a brief equity screening survey for school districts to complete. Nan Parsons has a survey that she will send Karen Soule. Bob Belmont offered his assistance.

6. Final Comments and Next steps

It was shared that there is a statewide system of care and support with multi-disciplinary training and this should not be forgotten.

Communication elevator speeches are available for stakeholder groups. If interested, please contact Karen Soule.

Stakeholders will be updated with any further developments as they become available.

The Internal Planning Team will meet on Wednesday September 23, 2015 to determine next steps in the process.

Our next meeting is Tuesday December 15th from 3:30-5:30 PM at the NH Department of Education