Advisory Team: Accountability Task Force

MINUTES

JUNE 10, 2016
9:00AM-12:00PM
NH DOE Room 15

ADVISORY TEAM LEADS
Scott Mantie, Paul Leather, and Saundra MacDonald, NH DOE

CONSULTANTS
Scott Marion and Susan Lyons, Center for Assessment

NOTE TAKER
Susan Lyons, Nancy Duchesneau, and Rebecca Ellis, Center for Assessment

ATTENDEES
OBSERVERS
PRE-READ MATERIALS
65x25-Final-Recs_June-2016_reduced.pptx; ESSA Accountability_5th Indicator_063016.docx

DISCUSSION

OBJECTIVES FOR MEETING:
1. Sharing and discussing elaborated potential ESSA accountability framework.
2. Determining how to translate the NH Coalition for Business and Education goal of having 65% of 25-64 year olds with a high-quality postsecondary credential by 2025 into ESSA accountability goals and intermediate targets.
3. Continue conceptualizing and nominating potential “additional indicators of school quality.”

1:00 Welcome and policy updates
✓ Paul Leather, NH DOE

Discussion: Deputy Commissioner Paul Leather opened the meeting by reflecting on the last meeting and the goals for the task force moving forward. The Deputy Commissioner commented on a lecture he had been to by Michael Horn and his work around the “Culture of Innovation”. Additionally, Mr. Leather announced the release of the ESSA draft regulations and encouraged the accountability task force members to review those documents.

1:15 Framing a potential NH Accountability System Design
✓ The slide deck presented at the last meeting has been converted to a brief document to summarize the discussion of the slides and to add more detail than could be presented in the slides. Our discussion this afternoon is designed to solicit input on the direction of the model and to shape subsequent model decisions.

Discussion: Scott Marion opened the discussion for the day by returning to the 65 x 25 goal discussed at the previous meeting and commented on its attractiveness for anchoring our accountability goals to existing policy goals. The goal provides a strong rationale for the connectedness of the school accountability system to New Hampshire’s economic future, the goal has critical political and industry support, and is also ambitious but reasonably attainable.

2:15 65% x 2025
✓ At the last meeting the Task Force recommended capitalizing on the political and stakeholder buy-in to a long term goal established by the NH Coalition for Business and Education as part of a strategy to ensure the sustainability of NH’s workforce. This goal is to have 65% of 25-64 year olds possess a high-quality postsecondary credential by 2025. Our challenge will be to “walk this back” so that we can translate this first to a K-12 goal in 2025 and then an accountability target in 2018 through 2025.

Discussion: Dr. Marion demonstrated the process by which the 65 x 25 goal will need to be back -tracked in order to establish goals on the indicators in our accountability system. Since we do not know every students’ status at 25, we will need to measure proxies that are likely to translate into meaningful postsecondary credentials or degrees. Paul Leather commented on the large proportion of the current 47-52% of 25-64 year olds with meaningful credentials are not from New Hampshire, but have migrated into the state from elsewhere. This will mean that we will need to make our goals for New Hampshire graduates more ambitious.

3:00 Other indicators of school quality
✓ We started discussing the other measures of school quality (aka 5th indicator) at our last meeting. We offered several ways to conceptualize these measures that are explained in more detail in the “5th Indicator Brief” provided with this agenda.
Discussion: The remainder of the meeting was spent in pairs and small groups brainstorming how to operationalize indicators of college and career readiness that we can use to model and shed light on the 53% of 25-64 year olds currently meeting the goal. Scott Marion provided a list of indicators for college and career readiness and asked groups to discuss:

- What else needs to be on the list?
- What should be off the list?
- How would you use these indicators as part of a high school accountability system?

College Readiness Suggestions:
- Create a cross between GPA and % reaching competency. Create an external verification system for performance standards associated with different district competencies.
- Use the College Board cuts on the ACT
- Give credit for AP or dual enrollment
- At the middle school level, consider algebra readiness. Some schools use 240 on NWEA MAP for this.

Career Readiness Suggestions:
- National Career Readiness Certificate
- Data from WorkKeys
- 2-3 Perkins courses
- Work-study position or internship experience
- Actionable post-secondary plan, acceptance into a post-secondary program or employment

At the close of the discussion, one idea that seemed to particularly resonate with the task force was removing the modifiers “college” and “career” from the readiness discussion. Instead, some task force members felt it may be worthwhile to think of just “readiness” as an ability to meaningfully engage in the students’ post-secondary plans. Readiness can be demonstrated with a number of indicators (e.g., acceptance into college, employment, certificates, etc.) but there is no need to distinguish college from career as there is a desire from the task force members to equally value students’ differing post-secondary plans.

3:30 Next steps and next meetings
- August 16 9:00-Noon
- September 9 9:00-Noon
- October 4 9:00-Noon
- November 2 1:00-4:00
- December 8 9:00-Noon

3:45 Adjourn

CONCLUSIONS
Thank you for the valuable participation and input from the task force members. We will work to synthesize the discussion of last three meetings to present the task force with a draft paper and outline at the next meeting. As with this meeting, any relevant pre-reading materials will be sent in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION ITEMS</th>
<th>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>DEADLINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper synthesizing results of last three meetings</td>
<td>Center for Assessment</td>
<td>August 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-reading</td>
<td>Task Force</td>
<td>August 16</td>
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</tbody>
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