

New Hampshire State Plan for Equitable Access to Excellent Educators Task Force

Meeting Minutes ~ March 15, 2016

Meeting Attendees:

Bob Belmont	SAU 8 Concord
Terry Bricchi	SAU 73 Curriculum Director
Lucy Canotas	Teacher, SAU 37 Manchester
Ashley Frame	NH Department of Education, Title II-A
Ethel Gaides	SAU 48 Asst. Superintendent
Aaron Hughes	NH Department of Education, Title III
Mark Landry	Teacher, SAU 6 Claremont
Kathleen McIntyre	Librarian, Clark-Wilkins Elementary School - Amherst
Tessa McDonnell	Spark-NH
Judy McGann	SAU 68 Superintendent of Schools
Nan Parsons	Upper Valley Educators Institute
Andrea Reade	Northeast Comprehensive Center (NECC)
Irv Richardson	NEA-NH
Karen Soule	Lead for Educator Effectiveness, NH Department of Education

Meeting Purpose

To bring together a diverse group of stakeholders and internal Department staff to serve as a task force that will examine the current equity issues in New Hampshire 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.

Welcome to Stakeholder Members and Introduction of New Members

Karen Soule started the meeting with a welcome to members and introductions.

Review of Agenda and Approval of December Meeting Notes

December meeting notes were approved.

Karen Soule shared news from Mary Lane, NHDOE Special Education Bureau (who could not attend the task force meeting) that Manchester, New Hampshire is one of 15 finalists chosen for the 2016 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Prize. The Prize is an annual competition that awards \$25,000 to up to 10 communities that place a high priority on health and bring diverse partners together to achieve local change.

Review and Update Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS) – FAQS Activity

At the last meeting, task force members generated a list of FAQs relating to the Ensuring Equitable Access Plan. The NHDOE Planning Team condensed the list down to six (6) FAQs.

FAQS Activity

Task force members were asked to review thoughts each of the six (6) FAQs and write down their thoughts on the following:

- Is the question helpful in communicating the plan?
- Does the response clearly answer the question?

Members broke into small groups and shared their feedback on how to fine-tune the FAQs. The NHDOE Planning Team will finalize the FAQs document based upon the shared feedback and give the stakeholders one last opportunity to review.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Update

Handout: Overview of the Every Student Succeeds Act and NH's State Plan Development

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed by President Obama on December 10, 2015. Karen summarized the ESSA highlights, state plan requirements which include equitable access as well as federal and state timelines.

Ashley Frame, Title II-A Education Consultant stated that the Department had a conference call today with the United States Department of Education. This is the first call in a series of monitoring calls regarding the State Plan for Equitable Access. In August, another call will take place in order to provide an update on New Hampshire's progress in implementation of the NH Plan

Communication Outreach

- **January 22 Presentation to Superintendents** - Karen Soule presented at the Superintendents meeting about next steps for the Ensuring Equitable Access Plan. The presentation went well.
- **Manchester** – NHDOE representatives and Andrea Reade, NECC will be meeting with the Manchester School District tomorrow.
- **Regional Outreach to Superintendents** – Karen Soule will be attending the upcoming South Central Superintendents meeting and outreach presentations to each of the other Supts. Region in the state have been scheduled.
- **Other Outreach** - Karen Soule recently met with Amy Parece-Grogan from the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health and Refugee Affairs. At the June task force meeting, Amy will provide an overview of the New Hampshire's program and share resources that can support our work.

WRAP UP AND NEXT STEPS

ESSA resources are located on the NHDOE website at the following link:

<http://www.education.nh.gov/essa/index.htm>

- Focus Group Training opportunities will be available to stakeholders. If you are interested contact Karen Soule

- June Quarterly Meeting will be update on the implementation progress of the NH Equitable Access Plan and next steps based on progress as well as presentation by Amy Parece-Grogan.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

3:30 – 5:30 PM

**New Hampshire Department of Education
Room 15**