

**National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities
Monthly Report – March 2013
Project Activities**

Overall Technical Assistance Summary

	March 2013	Year to Date Unduplicated (Jan. 13 – Dec. 13)
Number of SEAs (<i>LEAs</i>) requesting information/materials	0 (0)	0 (0)
Number of SEAs (<i>LEAs</i>) represented in Teleconferences/Webinars	1 (0)	1 (0)
Number of SEAs (<i>LEAs</i>) represented in NDPC-SD conference presentations	9 (9)	9 (9)
Number of SEAs (<i>LEAs</i>) receiving individual phone, electronic or written consultations	8 (0)	11 (0)
Number of SEAs (<i>LEAs</i>) receiving on-site technical assistance and other consultation	2 (12)	2 (12)
Total number of instances SEAs (<i>LEAs</i>) received some type of technical assistance from NDPC-SD	20 (21)	(Total States Engaging in Some Type of TA) 20

States receiving some type of technical assistance from NDPC-SD this month:

Type of Technical Assistance Provided:

- Request for Information/Materials/TA: 0
- Teleconferences and Webinars : WV
- Conferences/Institutes/Summits: AK, AZ, BIE, MO, ND, OR, PA, UT, WI
- Individual phone, electronic or written consultations: AR, BIE, FL, LA, NC, NE, UT, WA
- On-site training/consultation : MO, WV

States engaging in some type of interaction with NDPC-SD this year: AK, AR, AZ, BIE FL, KY, LA, MI, MO, NC, ND, NE, NM, OR, PA, SD, UT, WA, WI, WV

Goal 1: Knowledge Development

- NDPC-SD staff downloaded the remaining states' 2013 Part B APRs. Spoke with Perry Williams about what the analyses will look like this year and about the upcoming call on the Indicators.
- The NDPC-SD staff updated Big IDEAs with current news story links and upcoming events in preparation for release in April.

Goal 2: Technical Assistance

Tier Two

Florida

- Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) completed and submitted their proposal to the Capacity Building Institute in Charlotte. Ms. Robin Morrison and two school team members will present during a plenary panel. M-DCPS is presently continuing to move forward with their district-wide dropout prevention initiative through capacity building and scale-up via the training of newly promoted Charter Schools Director, newly hired Curriculum Support Specialists and Data Specialists, and Two Assistant Team Leaders who support and assist Ms. Robin Morrison, the District Dropout Prevention Team Leader.
- The District is preparing for a one day District Wide Dropout Prevention Campaign during the month of May via guidance from the Mayor, Superintendent, and Ms. Morrison and Staff. Professional Advocates, Celebrities, Political Leaders, and National Community Organizers will be in attendance. Dr. Smith is presently assisting Ms. Morrison and her staff with planning that outlines the M-DCPS Dropout Prevention Initiative over the past 7 years, to include, but not limited to improved outcomes; barriers, challenges, and successes; and the past, present, and future strategies that have and will allow M-DCPS to continue a collaborative and diverse initiative.

Nebraska

- NDPC-SD staff held a call on March 4th with the Goodrich Middle School staff to discuss the risk calculator data and cut scores for the Risk Calculator, and to begin planning for an April technical assistance visit. The staff also reviewed the Goodrich Middle School data and adjusted the cut score points for the Risk Calculator.
- On March 18th the staff held a call with the Nebraska project staff to discuss the agenda for the upcoming April visit and the presentations to the Goodrich faculty, Lincoln principals, and faculty at the University of Nebraska Lincoln.
- The staff reviewed and commented on the scoring rubric for Nebraska's Reengagement RFA.

Tier Three (Intensive TA)

Arkansas

- NDPC-SD staff held a conference call with the LEA and SEA teams from Arkansas regarding data collection and submission of attendance, discipline, academic, dropout, and graduation data, which teams will be submitting by May 24th. The staff has maintained on-going communications with team members regarding their data collection throughout the month. The staff has also communicated with SEA team members regarding supports needed for individual district teams.
- The staff spoke with Jodie Fields (IDEA data person in Arkansas) on March 7th regarding Arkansas' data and their using NDPC-SD's dropout data tool. The staff was invited to present at the June data conference in Little Rock.

BIE

- The Leadership continues to plan for next steps and upcoming events to support Cohort I including data collection and action plan submission. Dates were established and finalized in December for the training of Cohort II and booster training of Cohort I; however, considering new directives at the federal level, next steps have been placed on hold, but discussions continue with the SEA Team, as well as communication with NDPC-SD.
- Considering these recent events at the Federal level which have impacted BIE at the SEA level and BIE schools at the LEA level, they are presenting undergoing reassignments and discussions regarding guidance with their next steps, specifically related to travel and training for SEA and LEA personnel.
- On Thursday, May 28th, Drs. Susan Faircloth and Marilyn Johnson were invited to be on Native American Call-In Radio Program to discuss dropout prevention in Indian Country. Dr. Johnson discussed the BIE Dropout Prevention Initiative and Collaboration with NDPC-SD via the Cooperative Agreement as defined by the Solicitor General..

Louisiana

- NDPC-SD staff conducted the monthly contact call with Dr. Keita Wilson, SEA Contact. During the call, discussions and plans were made to follow up with Dr. Shayla Guidry, Director of Special Education, regarding requested TA for a dropout prevention initiative at the St. Helena Parish School in Greensburg, LA.

Missouri

- Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recently sponsored planning meetings, booster session, and “data days” for Cohorts 1 and 2 and the Train-the-Trainer. Planning continues for trainings, boosters, recruitment, and statewide roll out for a Tiered Level of Capacity Building, Sustainability, and Scale-Up in the area of Dropout Prevention. Training sessions, site visits, data retreats, share fairs, webinars, monthly calls, ask the expert sessions, a community of practice, and the Second Annual Dropout Prevention Summit are all in the planning stages, to include implementation through December 2013 with Cohort 3.
- The next professional development days and events will be held on site in Cape Girardeau, Poplar Bluff and St. Louis on April 3rd and 4th.

North Carolina

- The North Carolina team continues to work on aligning TA efforts across Secondary Transition indicators to improve graduation rates. Progress has been delayed due to changes/retirements in the SEA team. We continue monthly calls with the SEA contact.

Utah

- NDPC-SD staff continue to plan for the completion of Cohort 2 intensive training on April 11-12, 2013 and for a booster session and year one progress/data sharing for the Cohort 1 schools.
- The staff and the Alliance Core Team submitted a proposal and it was accepted to present the work of its collaborative partnership at the 2013 Secondary Transition Combined Institute in Charlotte, NC during the week of May 6, 2013.

Washington

- Discussions continue in order to plan for targeted booster sessions as requested by the LEA Teams/Cohort I. The established dates proposed by the SEA Team for these sessions are April 30th and May 1st.
- Specifically, the SEA Leadership Team is presently awaiting NDPC-SD approval for this Targeted Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) Event and will proceed with logistics and content planning at that time.

West Virginia

- NDPC-SD staff held a webinar with the West Virginia schools/state staff on March 4th to demonstrate how to use the NDPC-SD dropout data tool and to answer questions about its use.
- On March 19-20, 2013 the staff attended a booster session in Charleston, West Virginia attended by 12 LEA teams and the SEA team. The teams presented on their baseline data, interventions, and three year attendance, graduation, and dropout rates. The teams discussed publishing success stories of districts regarding dropout prevention for students with disabilities.

Goal 3: Collaborative Activities

Collaboration

- NDPC-SD staff responded to Dawn Rowe at NPSO, answering questions about dropout/graduation data and rates.
- NDPC-SD staff made two additional rounds of edits and corrections to the STEPSS Powerpoint presentation for NPSO.
- NDPC-SD staff issued the formal invitation letters to our participants in the 2013 Capacity Building Institute to be held in Charlotte, NC from May 6-9, 2013.
- NDPC-SD staff participated in STEPPS combined data tool rollout with 9 states and 9 district representatives.
- NDPC-SD staff assisted in the planning of and attended the 2013 Leveraging Resources Meeting in Washington, DC.

Management

- NDPC-SD staff planned and conducted the Advisory Committee meeting held in Baltimore, Maryland on March 26-27, 2013. Key discussions centered around activities/accomplishments in year 4 and plans for the next 20 months in light of a 10mmmonth extension of funding.
- NDPC-SD staff worked with TAC to resolve issues around obtaining a license for Adobe Connect and this issue was resolved.
- NDPC-SD staff worked with web designer to advance completion of the updated website. Launch is scheduled for late April after Project Officer Approval.
- NDPC-SD Project Director began preparing the 2013 Performance Report for Continued Funding. The report is due April 18, 2013.

Evaluation

- NDPC-SD staff made additional edits and comments on the CIPP analysis report and sent them to Tom Munk for inclusion in CIPP's report.
- NDPC-SD staff downloaded all NDPC-SD survey data from Survey Monkey. We incorporated these into the presentation for the Advisory Committee meeting and the Continuation Report.
- NDPC-SD staff continued to follow up with EDC about the survey of Big IDEAs and website users.
- We received the data on March 22nd (95 responses). We cleaned the data and then incorporated it into the presentation for the Advisory Committee meeting.
- NDPC-SD staff sent out a brief survey to members of the TA&D listserv to solicit feedback on NDPC-SD's technical assistance and collaborative activities with other OSEP TA providers and received 24 responses.

Upcoming Training/ TA Activities

- Bost and Smith to complete Utah Capacity Building training for cohort 2 schools and Booster for Cohort 1 schools on April 11-12, 2013 in Salt Lake City.
- Klare to Lincoln, NE on April 8-10, 2013 for discussions on the presentations to the Goodrich faculty, Lincoln principals, and faculty at the University of Nebraska Lincoln.
- All staff will be attending and/or presenting at the 2013 Capacity Building Institute being held in Charlotte, North Carolina from May 6-9, 2013.