SLDS GRANT

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NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Agenda

- What is an SLDS?
- Where is Nebraska?
- Why did we Apply for the Grant?
- Goals
- Stakeholders
- Questions
- Contact

What is an SLDS Grant?

The Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Grant Program, as authorized by the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, Title II of the statute that created the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), is designed to aid state education agencies in developing and implementing longitudinal data systems. These systems are intended to enhance the ability of States to efficiently and accurately manage, analyze, and use education data, including individual student records. The data systems developed with funds from these grants should help States, districts, schools, and teachers make data-driven decisions to improve student learning, as well as facilitate research to increase student achievement and close achievement gaps.

Why did we Apply for the Grant?

<u>Issues we have identified</u>
- Burden on schools and districts
- Errors (SIS vs NSSRS)

<u>Needs we have identified</u>
- Provide Dashboards
- Conduct Research and Evaluation

Project Staff

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- Matthew Heusman
- Rachael La Bounty
- Russ Masco
- Jill Aurand
- Pam Tagart
- Eva Shepherd
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Project Description

This project seeks to:

- refine and expand the K-12 portion of the state longitudinal data system,

- develop and provide tools and training to support the goals of the Governor's P-16 Initiative and the State's new accountability system,

- collaborate with agencies and stakeholders who have access to quality data

- increase transparency, and

- enable the use of data to make informed decisions from the classroom to the board room to the legislative chambers.

How much was awarded?

$4.4 million

Timeline

- Length of grant :
  - July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015
- Decision to Build or Buy a system:
  - July 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

Goals

Goal 1

Provide a data analysis tool for districts that uses multiple local and state data sources to produce reports for local decision makers. Data Use Tools that provide districts flexibility to upload data from different sources on different schedules to produce dashboards and support local data analysis and research.

Goal 1 Breakdown

- Provide Data Tools
  - Flexibility to upload
  - Support data analysis and research
  - Using multiple state data sources

Goal 2

Provide a statewide system of professional development training for data analysis that reaches every district. Professional Development Training, including a partnership with the Professional Development Affiliate of the ESUs to create a statewide system of professional development training using data analysis training materials developed by a Data Analysis Cadre. A four-tiered strategy for delivery would ensure consistent training is received by every school district.

Goal 2 Breakdown

- Statewide Professional Development on Data Analysis "Data Academies"
- Collaborate with ESU PDO groups

Goal 3

Build a research and evaluation operation in NDE collaboratively with the research community. Research and Evaluation Support for new collaborative work with the research community and NDE's newly created research function, including a research and evaluation specialist who would assist NDE program directors and staff, coordinate the research community's involvement in the Data Analysis Cadre, conduct NDE research, and disseminate research and findings.

Goal 3 Breakdown

- Build a research and evaluation team at NDE.
- Collaborate with the research community (UNO, UNL, Buros, Districts, Gallup, Education Quest etc).
- Conduct and disseminate research.

Goal 4

Expand and enhance the SLDS for sustainability. SLDS Support, including a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tool for use by NDE's Helpdesk and Data Trainers, development of a formal data governance plan, a revision of the data dictionary to include the Common Education Data Standards (CEDS), an interstate student locator tool to find students who have moved to other states, and a staff person dedicated to ensuring high quality student enrollment data resides in NSSRS. These integrated initiatives will enable Nebraska to meet increasing demands for timely, accessible and actionable data that can be connected to research and analysis findings for decision makers at all levels.

Goal 4 Breakdown

- Expand and enhance SLDS for sustainability.
- Implement a Customer Relationship.
- Management system (CRM).
- Develop a formal data governance plan.
- Revise Data Dictionary to include CEDS.
- Incorporate an Interstate Locator.

Stakeholders

Who are Stakeholders?

- Identify Stakeholders
  - Who are Stakeholders?
    - Parents
    - Legislators
    - Politician
    - Schools
    - Teachers
    - Students
    - Districts
    - Other Community Partners

Community Partners

- Schools and Districts
- UNL and UNO
- Buros
- Education Quest
- NCSA
- Governors Office
- Kansas Department of Education
- NASB
- ESUCC

How will we Communicate with Stakeholders

- Stakeholder Engagement
  - Surveys
  - Interviews
  - Town Halls
  - Webinars
  - In-person Visits
  - Focus Groups
  - Data Advisory Groups

When will Stakeholder Engagement Begin?

- We have already identified the stake holders and the methods in which we will communicate with them.

- We are currently working on a sampling plan to determine an equitable way to communicate with groups of individuals that are representative of the state (district size, demographics, funding etc.)

- We next have to develop instruments and hopefully begin obtaining feedback before August 30th.

What ideas do you have?

- If you have ideas about your wants and needs please take 5 minutes to jot them down and turn them in at the end of the session.
  - Currently we're considering trying to develop a push/pull system that would alleviate the need for uploading data to match templates in NSSRS.
  - Let us know what you think?

Questions

Contact

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