# MINUTES

# Committee of Practitioners Conference Call April 9, 2018

### Call to Order

Ernesto Lontoc, Chair of the Committee of Practitioners (COP) called to order a conference call for the Committee of Practitioners at 1:09 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 2018, through the following access:

From computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/368718885

From office phone. United States (Toll Free): <u>1 877 568 4106</u> United States: <u>+1 (571) 317-3129</u>

Access Code: 368-718-885

From video-conferencing room or system. Dial: 67.217.95.2##368718885 Cisco devices: 368718885@67.217.95.2

### **Officer Introductions**

Ernesto Lontoc, Chair Felita Grant, Vice Chair Mollie Chandler, Secretary

The elected COP officers shared their excitement and commitment to serving their tenure.

# Attendance/Roll Call

To meet the quorum requirement per Section VI of the Guidelines for the Committee of Practitioners, Ernesto Lontoc conducted a membership roll call. The following COP members and FDOE Bureau of Federal Educational Programs officials were present:

- Mollie Chandler
- Leslie Frazee
- Lizanne Ippolito
- Michelle Wilson
- Magaly Abrahante
- Laura Colo
- Maria Longa
- Anjani Prashad
- Dee Dee Wright
- James Herzog
- Rabbi Moshe Matz
- Curtis Peterson

- Ernesto Lontoc
- Val Williams
- Barbara Morgan
- Jeff McCullers
- Felita Grant
- Michelle Kernan
- Patricia Pasca
- Cheryl Sattler
- Sonya Morris (FDOE)
- Lindsay Douglas (FDOE)
- Daniel Ring (FDOE)
- Erika Hall (FDOE)

## Approval of Minutes from Orientation

Lindsay Douglas, FDOE Program Specialist IV-Title I Part A, introduced the December 4, 2017 COP Orientation Webinar minutes. The same minutes was sent out in advance to COP members on April 2, 2018.

- No discussion regarding minutes
- Ernesto Lontoc moved to approve the minutes as shared
- Barbara Morgan seconded to approve the minutes

#### **New Business**

- House Bill (HB) 7055 Discussion
  - Sonya Morris, FDOE Chief of Bureau Federal Educational Programs, discussed the changes specifically to s. 1011.69 of the Florida Statutes (FS). Some changes are the results of the advocacies provided by districts over the past year regarding HB 7069.
    - Equity in school level funding
      - State law was updated to reflect the exception outlined in ESSA regarding ranking and serving high schools above 50% poverty; ESSA allows, but does not require, a district to continue to serve (in rank order of poverty) high schools with poverty percentages between 50 and 75% before it either serves other schools with a poverty percentage of 75% or below or begins to rank and serve schools by grade span.
    - Reasonable and necessary amount for administration, which increased from 8% to 10% of the district's total allocation
    - Barbara Morgan asked if the 10% was for administrative costs
      - Sonya answered: Yes, administrative costs, which includes indirect costs, must not exceed 10%.
    - Sonya Morris shared that s. 1011.69, F.S. now includes a reasonable and necessary amount not to exceed 1% for eligible schools to provide educational services in accordance with Title I plan. These are district related services provided on behalf of schools and articulated in Title I, Part A funding application.
      - The educational services will need to be approved by FDOE through the Title I, Part A application process.
      - FDOE will work with districts as they determine what this means and what it looks like.

- Schools may use funds to participate in "discretionary educational services" provided by the district. Any funds provided by an eligible school for this purpose are not subject to the requirements outlined in s. 1011.69, F.S.
  - Further clarification is needed as questions arise. All other questions pertinent to this item should be directed to Sonya Morris.
- Regarding roll-forward funds, effective July 1, the law allows districts to use these dollars without being counted in the percentages outlined in s. 1011.69, F.S.
  - Use roll-forward for 2018-19 as you did during 2017-18. As you make decisions regarding roll-forward funds, keep in mind the 10% cap on administrative costs. This will be monitored. There will be a budget code used in the Title I, Part A application that will keep this separate from any of the other provisions outlined.
- Michelle Wilson asked if administrative costs funded with roll-forward funds are counted when calculating the 10% cap.
  - Sonya Morris answered: No. Roll-forward funds are excluded. Therefore, any line items funded with roll-forward need to be identified with a specific budget code in the Title I, Part A budget. (The "I" code will be used to identify these activities.)
- Barbara Morgan asked: Title I funding has been cut in Pasco County. Does this bill have to do with amount of funding districts receive as a whole?
  - Sonya Morris answered: The bill is more about how the funds a district receives are distributed to schools. This means it drives more of the funding directly to schools. Districts could see a reduction in overall funding but this has not been a huge cut in most cases. The changes in state legislation necessitate more prioritizing and repurposing of what is being funded at the district level.
- Maria Longa shared: There was a provision in HB 7069 that continued in HB 7055 that says that schools can buy back services from the district.
  - Sonya Morris responded: Yes. This section talks about discretionary educational services, which allows a district to identify discretionary educational services to be offered to its schools. These are services funded at the school level, but administered by the district; this means the district must first allocate funds to schools, and then schools may elect to use a portion of their allocation to pay for participation in a discretionary educational service offered by the district. (Some districts refer to this as pooling, but use of this term is not recommended.) There

have been concerns voiced about the accounting process and how complicated it may be, but the law does allow for such services.

- Follow-up sharing from Maria Longa: Thinking about the application and how the districts should describe and submit this.
  - Sonya Morris shared: FDOE has not gotten to that point yet, but this is a good consideration for the future. Using a specific budget code will be the easiest way to manage it on the application. (Further instructions will be communicated in the future.) Districts will need to describe in the application narrative what activities fall into that category as well, so it will be clear how much funding is going towards the discretionary educational services.
- Magaly Abrahante, via chat, suggested: It would be useful for districts to learn how the other districts are managing provision 4.b. Can sample strategies be shared with all districts?
  - Sonya Morris agrees and would like districts to share what they are doing.
    FDOE will need to determine if any districts have managed/will manage the provision and how FDOE can best support districts through this process.
  - No districts on this call shared any suggestions.
- Magaly Abrahante, thanked Sonya Morris and FDOE for the assistance provided with the implementation of HB 7069.
  - Sonya Morris responded: She likes being a partner with the districts. HB 7055 does give more leeway than HB 7069. She thanked the districts for their partnership and engagement in the conversation around HB 7069.
- Technical Assistance Paper Feedback and Discussion
  - o FDOE requested feedback on two Technical Assistance Papers
    - Providing Services to Eligible Private School Children
      - Mollie Chandler shared the summary of feedback
      - Mostly grammatical and formatting errors
    - Parent Notifications
      - Mollie Chandler shared the summary of feedback
      - Mostly grammatical and formatting errors

- COP Travel Information
  - O May 17, Thursday 12:15-2:15 p.m. (tentative)
  - Draft agenda shared by Lindsay Douglas
    - Lindsay Douglas reviewed the FDOE reimbursements guidelines for the May 17, 2018 COP Meeting.
      - FDOE will reimburse all eligible expenses for those traveling solely for the COP meeting
      - For those attending FASFEPA, FDOE will reimburse any additional costs associated with staying for the meeting, if applicable.
        - In order to claim reimbursement, a pre travel form will need to be turned in at least 6 weeks prior to the date of the meeting
        - All other questions should be directed to Lindsay Douglas.

#### **Questions/Comments**

- Jeff McCullers asked: Has the committee agreed to forward all feedback to FDOE regarding the Technical Assistance Papers?
  - Ernesto Lontoc responded: Yes. We sent all feedback to FDOE.
- Jeff McCullers made a follow-up question: Are we going to edit or amend and does everyone agrees with the proposed changes?
  - Ernesto Lontoc answered: We submitted COP's feedback to FDOE and the latter will incorporate COP's feedback to the Technical Assistance Papers.
- Magaly Abrahante shared: They are in the process of considering participating in the CEP provision for food and nutrition. She is wondering if we could have some information on this issue. Their numbers have increased due to the increase of students for the storm and they feel that it is now worth looking at.
  - Sonya Morris responded: At the face to face meeting in May, Sonya will be prepared with CEP information. If there is anything she can do to support your district, she can provide pros and cons that she has experienced with CEP.
  - Magaly Abrahante thanked Sonya Morris for a very helpful assistance.

# Adjournment

- Ernesto Lontoc thanked the COP members and FDOE officials for their active participation and adjourned the meeting at 1:48 p.m.
- Minutes submitted by: Mollie Chandler, Secretary
- The next meeting will be held on May 17, 2018, at Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando.

These minutes were approved by the Committee on May 17, 2018.