Texas Education Agency
Information Task Force (ITF)
January 16, 2024
Zoom
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Call Meeting to Order   David McKamie, ITF Vice Chair

Joel Garcia, ITF Chair, was unable to attend the meeting. ITF Vice Chair, David McKamie, called the ITF meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call of the ITF members was taken by Lynne Smith.

ITF Members Present:

Catherine Bray, Jennifer Carver, Joe Herrera, Keitha Ivey, Georgia Kalligeris, David Marx, David McKamie, John Newcom, Traci Pesina, Lauren Price, Linda Roska, David Taylor, Brittany Wright

ITF Alternate Members Present:

Melinda Arguello, Christine Barnes, Justin Jons, Sandra Kratz, Shawna Ohnesorge, Linda Raney, Nina Taylor

TEA Staff Present:

Customer Relationship Management and Data Standards Department:

Kathy Adaky, Connor Briggs, David Butler, Deborah DeBerry, Terri Hanson, Jeanine Helms, Scott Johnson, Ed Linden, Rebecca McCully, Shabana Momin, Jamie Muffoletto, Leticia Ollervidez, John Reese, Alfredo Salinas, Leanne Simons, Lynne Smith, Melissa Witcher

District Innovation and School Models Division:

Christopher DeWitt, Tracie Ezell

Early Childhood Education Division:

Rebecca Matz

Approve Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2023, ITF, and November 28, 2023, joint ITF and PCPEI, Meetings Action Item

ITF Vice Chair David McKamie called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the October 17, 2023, ITF and November 28, 2023, joint ITF and PCPEI meetings.

David Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes.
Traci Pesina seconded the motion.
Vote: Passed

1. Early Childhood Data System – PK Teacher Requirement Descriptor Table Change Action Item

Background:

During the August 8, 2023, ITF Meeting, the committee passed a proposal titled "HB 2729 PK Teacher Requirement Code Table Changes," based on changes made to Section 29.167, Education Code, in the 88th legislative session. Upon further review, the program area has determined the need for an additional change to the table.

Currently, if a teacher of record for a prekindergarten program class does not satisfy one of the additional qualifications, the local education agency (LEA) does not report the data element PKTeacherRequirement (E1581) for that teacher. The Early Childhood Education (ECE) staff contacts each LEA that does not report the data element to determine if the omission was an oversight or if the teacher does not satisfy one of the additional qualifications. In order to minimize these additional check-ins with the LEA, the program area has requested two additional descriptors in order for an LEA to report the data element for all prekindergarten teachers even when the teacher does not satisfy one of the additional qualifications.

Overview:

Texas Education Data Standards Changes:

TEA proposes adding two new descriptors to the PKTeacherRequirement (C207) table for use when the teacher of record does not meet one of the PK teacher requirements. Reports will be updated to reflect the changes in this proposal. Finally, TEA will update two validation rules to reflect the changes in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange (TREx) Changes:

None

Presentation:

Leticia Ollervidez presented the proposal, which includes:

In the Texas Education Data Standards:

1. Add the following new descriptors to the PKTeacherRequirement (C207) descriptor table:
   a. 98 –
      Short Description: PK teacher in a school district no additional HQPK Qualification.
      Long Description: Be employed as a prekindergarten teacher in a school district with no additional high-quality prekindergarten qualification.
   b. 99-
      Short Description: Emp PK teacher in LEA no additional HQPK Qualification.
      Long Description: Contract Entity – employed as a prekindergarten teacher in a school district with no additional high-quality prekindergarten qualifications.
2. Revise the following TSDS reports to reflect the changes in this proposal:

      a. ECD0-000-006 TSDS Early Childhood PK Data Submission
      b. ECD0-000-010 TSDS Early Childhood HIGH QUALITY PK COMPONENTS Completion
3. Revise associated data validation rules to reflect the changes in this proposal.

In the Texas Records Exchange Data Standards:
None

ITF Discussion:
Leticia Ollervidez introduced Rebecca Matz, Early Childhood Program and Enrollment Specialist, to address any questions.

Lauren Price asked if there would be an opportunity to use these new descriptors to capture data for co-teachers. She expressed the challenge of tracking specific data related to co-teachers. In response, Rebecca clarified that the purpose for the new descriptors is not related to tracking co-teachers.

David McKamie asked about potential punitive repercussions if a local education agency (LEA) reported having a non-qualified teacher in the classroom. Additionally, he asked about the intent behind this change. Rebecca replied that these new descriptors allow the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide additional support to LEAs lacking qualified teachers in certain positions, such as those employing long-term substitute teachers.

ITF Vice Chair, David McKamie called for additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion.

ITF Action:
Traci Pesina made a motion to approve the proposal.
Lauren Price seconded the motion.
Vote: Passed

2. Dropout Recovery Education Program Student Indicator   Action Item

The proposal for the Dropout Recovery Education Program Student Indicator was withdrawn by TEA prior to presenting the proposal. Jamie Muffoletto informed the committee that an additional meeting may need to be called on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, to discuss the Dropout Recovery Education Program Student Indicator proposal. If the meeting is needed, Jamie will communicate the information to committee members.

ITF Action:
No vote was called for this action item.

3. Distinguished Level of Achievement   Action Item

Background:
During the 87th legislative session, SB 1888 was passed, which amends TEC§ 28.0253. As a result, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), in coordination with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), established the Texas First Early High School Completion Program. A student who graduates early through the program is considered to have earned a diploma with a distinguished level of

achievement under TEC §28.025. The school district must provide each student who earns a program diploma with a designation of distinguished level of achievement on the student's diploma.

After passing SB 1888 during the 87th legislative session, students now have two paths to earn a diploma with the distinguished level of achievement designation. **Before SB 1888**, a student only earned a distinguished level of achievement under the **foundation high school program** by successfully completing the requirements as outlined in TEC 28.025 (b-15). **After SB 1888**, when a student earns a diploma under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program (TEC 28.0253), they automatically receive the distinguished level of achievement designation.

During the upgrade project, TEA separated the data element FHSP-DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVE-INDICATOR-CODE (E1542) into two data elements. In the upgrade, TEA uses the data element FHSPDistingLevel**Graduate** (E1542) to indicate a student has earned a designation of distinguished level of achievement and FHSPDistingLevel**Participan**t (E3029) to indicate the student is pursuing the distinguished level of achievement under FHSP. The program area has requested replacing the data element FHSPDistingLevelGraduate (E1542) with a more generic data element to indicate the distinguished level of achievement has been earned since it can be awarded through the Foundation High School Program or the Texas First Early High School Completion Program.

Overview:
Texas Education Data Standards Changes:
TEA proposes adding one new data element, DistingLevelAchievementGraduate (E3XX1), to the StudentAcademicRecord.Diploma entity in the Student Academic Record domain and the PriorYearLeaver.GraduationSet in the Prior Year Leaver domain. The new data element would be reported in the PEIMS Fall Submission. Additionally, TEA proposes removing one data element FHSPDistingLevelGraduate (E1542). Reports will be updated to reflect the changes in this proposal. Finally, TEA will update data validation rules to reflect the changes in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange (TREx) Changes:
TEA will add two new data elements, DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVEMENT-GRADUATE (TEXX1), and FHSP-DISTING-LEVEL-PARTICIPANT (TEXX2). Additionally, TEA will no longer use the data element FHSP-DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVE-INDICATOR-CODE (TE104).

Presentation:
Lynne Smith presented the proposal, which includes:
In the Texas Education Data Standards:
1. Add the new data element DistingLevelAchievementGraduate (E3XX1) as optional in the PEIMS Fall Submission to the following common types:
    a. StudentAcademicRecord.Diploma in the Student Academic Record domain.
    b. PriorYearLeaver.GraduationSet in the Prior Year Leaver domain.
2. Remove the data element FHSPDistingLevelGraduate (E1542) reported in the PEIMS Fall Submission from the following common types:
    a. StudentAcademicRecord.Diploma in the Student Academic Record domain.
    b. PriorYearLeaver.GraduationSet in the Prior Year Leaver domain.
3. Revise the following PEIMS Fall Submission report to reflect changes in this proposal:

        a. PDM1-124-007 Graduate Roster by Graduation Type
4. Add and revise data validation rules in the PEIMS Fall Submission to reflect changes in this proposal.

In the Texas Records Exchange Data Standards:
1. Add the new data element DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVEMENT-GRADUATE (TEXX1) for Academic Achievement Record - Transcript.
2. Add the new data element FHSP-DISTING-LEVEL-PARTICIPANT (TEXX2) for the Student Record.
3. No longer use the data element FHSP-DISTING-LEVEL-ACHIEVE-INDICATOR-CODE (TE104).

ITF Discussion:
ITF Vice Chair, David McKamie called for questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion.

ITF Action:
Traci Pesina made a motion to approve the proposal.
David Taylor seconded the motion.
Vote: Passed

4. Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership Participation Hours Data Element Action Item

Background:
During the October 17, 2023, ITF meeting, the committee approved a student level-indicator to indicate the students who participate in a Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program as outlined by HB 2209, passed during the 88th Legislative Regular Session. Since then, the program area has requested an additional data element be added to track the hours a student participates in the R-PEP program.

Overview:
Texas Education Data Standards Changes:
The Texas Education Agency (TEA) will add one new data element, NumberOfHoursInRPEP (E3XXX), to the BasicReportingPeriodAttendance(TX) entity in the Student Attendance domain to be reported in the PEIMS Summer Submission. Reports will be updated to reflect the changes in this proposal. Finally, data validations will be reviewed to determine changes needed based on the impact in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange (TREx) Changes:
None

Presentation:
Lynne Smith presented the proposal, which includes:
Texas Education Data Standards:
1. Add the new data element NumberOfHoursInRPEP (E3XXX) to the BasicReportingPeriodAttendance(TX) entity in the Student Attendance domain to be reported as optional in the PEIMS Summer Submission.

2. Add and revise reports in the PEIMS Summer Submission to reflect changes in this proposal.
3. Add data validation rules in the PEIMS Summer Submission to reflect changes in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange Data Standards:
None

ITF Discussion:
ITF Vice Chair, David McKamie called for questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion.

ITF Action:
Traci Pesina made a motion to approve the proposal.
Lauren Price seconded the motion.
Vote: Passed

Other Business   Discussion Item

Program Of Study Descriptor Table Changes
Jamie Muffoletto presented the Program of Study Descriptor Table Changes Discussion Item to committee members. On March 1, 2024, the Texas Education Data Standards Final Publication will include an update to the ProgramOfStudy (C220) descriptor table.

ITF Discussion
Traci Pesina asked how these changes would be communicated to LEAs. Jamie replied that TEA would communicate these changes to LEA CTE staff through regular TEA CTE communications.

Lauren Price requested that any communication sent for the ProgramOfStudy (C220) descriptor table changes be shared with committee members. Jamie stated that the information would be shared with members as it becomes available.

Open Forum
Catherine Bray asked if adding new data elements would add complexity to data submissions for vendors going into the first year of the Ed-Fi upgrade. She also added that she is struggling to get staff data through the API in the Ed-Fi upgrade. Catherine expressed her desire for a plan B in case vendors are not ready so that LEAs will still receive funding.

Leanne Simons stated that TEA understands that adding new data elements not used in parallel may be difficult for some vendors. However, program areas are cautioned that the data collected in the first year may necessitate changes to the collection in the second year.

Scott Johnson stated that TEA meets with the vendors and ESCs twice a month to discuss the TSDS Upgrade Project and provide guidance. Additionally, Scott said TEA has added more testing, more resources, and more data points to review that would be used to address readiness. Scott added that TEA would provide additional project status information in future months.

David McKamie asked if TEA is communicating with vendors who may not be transitioning to Ed-Fi and would need to continue to use XML for data submissions. David expressed that if an LEA needs to change vendors, the LEA was getting close to the time they would need to make the change to be ready for next year.

Scott stated that LEAs should notify TEA if they are aware of vendors not making changes to send data through the API. Scott added that TEA is sending communications informing vendors they must be Ed-Fi certified and obtain the TEA-certified designation.

Terri Hanson stated that Commissioner Morath communicated with superintendents during a superintendent call about the need for the TSDS vendors to be ready for the Ed-Fi upgrade (highlighting the TAA that was published on this topic on November 9, 2023). LEAs are responsible for knowing their vendor is ready. Terri reiterated that TEA continues to perform outreach to vendors and ESCs.

Upcoming meetings:
March 5, 2024
April 9, 2024

David reminded the committee that TEA may need to add an ITF meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, to present the Dropout Recovery Education Program Student Indicator proposal to committee members. Jamie Muffoletto would communicate any further information through email.

Adjournment:
ITF Vice Chair, David McKamie called for additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion to adjourn.

David Taylor made a motion to adjourn.
Cathrine Bray seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.