The meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM in the Northside Conference Room at the offices of the New Hampshire School Administrators Association in Concord, NH.


Data representatives participated in a Roundtable sharing of data and policy issues in the respective states. Highlights included: Connecticut’s continued work on a comprehensive set of accountability indicators including district level data, sub-group comparisons, and college readiness measures; Vermont’s data analysis on the effects on student performance with the expansion of dual enrollment opportunities and the implementation of personal learning plans; Rhode Island’s focus on connecting K-12 data work with higher education partners, expansion of dual enrollment, and the administration of this year’s PARC exams; New Hampshire’s efforts to make its data more transparent including use of Smarter Balanced results and now SAT, developing MOUs with colleges to share GPA, graduation data, and college success – all the while dealing with strict privacy guidelines. Regarding the state of Maine, it was noted that the new Maine Education Assessment is replacing the Smarter Balanced tests at 4th and 8th grade with the SAT returning as the high school performance measure.

J.P. Beaudoin led the group in a final review of the Procedural Guidebook for 2016 reflecting refinements made in business rules and computational procedures at the December, 2015 meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued. It was agreed that the Data Element: Percentage of Students Enrolling Early in College be changed to capture dual enrollment, commencing as early as next year with the 2017 NESSC Data Report. It was noted that Sallie Fellows of the NH DOE and Sarah Linet of GSP would work on preparing a map of policy, practice, and data collection regarding dual enrollment across the region with the results shared at the fall meeting of the NESSC Data Team.

The Procedural Guidebook was reviewed further and a discussion followed regarding 2.3 Procedural Steps. It was decided that JP Beaudoin would simplify some of the language and move the Procedural Steps to an Appendix. The discussion then turned to the NESSC Data Template.

The group reviewed the Data Template, ensuring it provided the past data and direction for compiling and submitting this year’s information leading to the 2016 NESSC Data Report.
The schedule for submissions of data and refinement of the 2016 NESSC Data Report was reviewed and discussed. The group confirmed the submission dates, and the document was adopted as printed. (See attached.)

The meeting turned to the Annual Data Report framework and layout for the 2016 version. It was agreed that the 2016 report add an extended high school graduation rate, profiling 4,5,6 year rates, including sub-group data charts. Members offered suggestions.

Lunch – 12:16 --- 1:00 PM.

Discussion resumed on the format of the 2016 NESSC Data Report. The group reviewed the notion of adding a comparison of 4 and 6-year high school graduation rates and approved a chart and table. The Data Team advocated for and agreed that Gender be added as a subgroup to the various measures.

The conversation moved to college enrollment, persistence, and completion measures. It was confirmed that this year -- the first year of reporting -- the college completion rate will be reported as a combined 2 and 4-year college completion measure. This combined approach applies to college persistence and college enrollment. The Data Team will revisit the college metrics in the fall to determine if any changes are warranted.

The slate of business turned to the matter of college and university data submissions to the National Student Clearinghouse. The NH DOE data analysts and Duke Albanese shared very briefly the background and efforts in NH to maximize the accuracy of post-secondary data. A discussion ensued. This blended into a general conversation about possible issues to raise in the pending conversation with staff from the National Student Clearinghouse.

At 2:00 PM, the Data Team welcomed four staff (Tonya Page, Samantha Dowd, Colin Hutchinson, and Jason DeWitt) from the National Student Clearinghouse who joined the meeting via phone and availed themselves to NESSC data representatives in a Question & Answer segment aimed at improving the accuracy of NESSC post-secondary measures of college completion, college persistence, and college completion. NESSC data representatives posed a series of questions and NSC staff responded. A lengthy and rich exchange followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Duke Albanese