



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN

NEVADA

Summary

During the 2011 legislative session, two key pieces of legislation were passed and signed into law. AB 229 and AB 222 will formally launch efforts to build a statewide teacher performance evaluation system in Nevada. AB 229 establishes regulations that govern teacher and administrator evaluation and retention, and AB 222 creates the Teachers and Leaders Council of Nevada, which will submit recommendations for a statewide performance evaluation system for teachers to the State Board of Education by June 1, 2012.

Effective July 2013, the new law revises the current binary system of annual performance evaluations whereby teachers are deemed either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. The Teachers and Leaders Council will determine definitions for four levels of performance: “highly effective,” “effective,” “minimally effective,” or “ineffective.” Recent statutory amendments have also paved the way for 50% of a teacher’s evaluation to be based on student achievement data. The state longitudinal data system has the capacity to link teachers and student achievement, and further work is being carried out to improve these links and the usefulness of the data.

Implementation of teacher evaluation systems has thus far been undertaken by school districts. Nevada will use its participation in the policy academy and the opportunities created by the new legislation to create and implement a statewide teacher evaluation system that will be functional by the 2013-14 school year.

Through the policy academy, the Nevada team plans to address the following objectives:

- Conduct a statewide audit of policies governing the evaluation of teachers and their effectiveness;
- Host in-state meetings of stakeholders and policymakers who can provide input and direction to state team leaders and the Teachers and Leaders Council as they begin developing recommendations for a statewide teacher evaluation system; and
- Engage other stakeholders (e.g., teachers, parents, administrators, and business leaders) by conducting in-state forums and/or focus groups to provide information and solicit feedback on state plan recommendations.

EXHIBIT D-1 - EDUCATION
Document consists of 2 pages.
Entire document provided.
Meeting Date 05-09-12

Proposed Technical Assistance

Staff from the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices will assist the state leadership team by providing technical assistance in the following areas:

- Meet with the state team to review plans, discuss state context and history, and refine the technical assistance plan;
- Connect the leadership team with experts on various aspects of education evaluation and colleagues from other states;
- Provide assistance analyzing the results of the audit of state policy;
- Review the duties assigned to the Teachers and Leaders Council and provide resources to support their work;
- Provide technical assistance and resources to the state leadership team on training for school principals to conduct evaluations;
- Connect the leadership team to staff at the National Conference of State Legislatures for assistance working with legislators;
- Review Teacher and Leaders Council meeting materials and provide feedback;
- Review recommendations from the Teacher and Leaders Council and provide feedback on the multiple measures under review for inclusion in the state's "other 50 percent" of an educator's evaluation;
- Assist with the development of and review agendas for the Teacher and Leaders Council meetings;
- Secure a consultant to assist the state leadership team with developing a comprehensive communications plan that includes strategies to engage the community in disseminating information about the new educator evaluation system. The consultant will help the state leadership team develop the messages for the communications plan and assist them with developing a strategy to implement the plan statewide;
- Review the legislation that governs the new educator evaluation plan and make recommendations for changes and technical corrections as needed; and
- Appear before the legislative committee on education as necessary to discuss impressions of the legislation and make recommendation for changes and technical corrections as needed.