Steering Committee
Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Welcome and Review of Monday's and Tuesday's Events

Forum Chair Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education, welcomed the Steering Committee to the meeting and invited members to share their thoughts and comments on Monday's and Tuesday's events.

- The Steering Committee discussed the strong turnout at the New Member Meeting and noted that attendees were engaged, pleased to meet in person, and eager to become involved in Forum work. A number of members who have joined since the last in-person summer Forum meeting in 2019 already are active in working groups and on committees. The Forum team will share the orientation presentation slides with the newest members who were appointed after the virtual New Member Orientation was held on July 10, 2023, to help them learn more about the Forum process and standing committees.
- Steering Committee members appreciated hearing how working groups are progressing during the opening session panel discussion and shared that the panel presentations generated robust follow-up discussions in standing committee meetings.
- The joint session presentation by Steven Hernadez about cybersecurity in state and local education agencies (SEAs and LEAs) was well received, and the Steering Committee felt that the presentation slides and links to online resources would be useful for Forum members to share with their agencies. Committee members appreciate that each year, Steven's presentation includes new and updated content.
- The committee agreed that the joint session presentation by the Student Privacy Policy office's Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), titled "The Anatomy of Hack," complemented Steven Hernandez's presentation, providing a detailed example of how cybersecurity incidents can happen. PTAC is available to provide online or on-site technical assistance and presentations on privacy-related topics free of charge to requesting organizations. More information about requesting training and technical assistance is available at https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/request-ptac-training-or-technical-assistance.
- The Technology (TECH) committee room size and layout helped encourage discussion, which was well balanced among new and experienced Forum members. On Monday, topics discussed included, but were not limited to, digital citizenship, equity and inclusion, artificial intelligence (AI), and data science. On Tuesday, they held breakout discussions about legacy systems and managing vendors and received a presentation on Ed*Facts* modernization. The leaders thought TECH's discussion on AI was so robust that it may become the topic of a new Forum product.
- The Policies, Programs, and Implementation Committee (PPI) discussed data literacy at length on Monday. Committee members and new member attendees participated in engaging discussions throughout Monday afternoon. On Tuesday, they discussed topics including, but not limited to, Census data, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, and student and teacher mobility. Committee leaders felt that mobility could become a new working group topic.
- In the National Education Statistics Agenda Committee (NESAC) meetings, as in the other committees, there was extensive discussion around data literacy. The leaders

adopted a meeting facilitation approach that worked well for the group, holding small group discussions at tables, with members reporting out key takeaways to the full committee, while the chairs moved throughout the room and used timers to stay on task. NESAC appreciated the live demonstration of the School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED) Finder tool. The committee also discussed topics including, but not limited to, cybersecurity, educator workforce data, personalized learning plans, and effects of the pandemic. AI was discussed at length, and Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education, presented on preschool data. The committee also compiled topic ideas for next year's meeting.

Forum Elections

Standing committee chairs reported the results of their elections. Nominated chairs and vice chairs for the 2023-24 year were as follows:

- NESAC Chair: Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education
- NESAC Vice Chair: Will Goodman, Boise School District (ID)
- PPI Chair: Jon Wiens, Oregon Department of Education
- PPI Vice Chair: Peggy Jones, Pasco County Schools (FL)
- TECH Chair: Andrew Swickheimer, Noblesville Schools (IN)
- TECH Vice Chair: Scott Gausland, Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

The Steering Committee nominated Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO), as the Forum Chair and DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education, as the Forum Vice Chair for 2023-24.

Ghedam Bairu thanked Forum Chair Georgia Hughes-Webb, Virginia Department of Education, NESAC Acting Chair Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO), PPI Chair Stephen Gervais, San Bernardino City Unified School District (CA), and TECH Chair Chandra Haislet, Maryland State Department of Education, for their service.

Other Issues

- Committee members suggested that Steven Hernandez and PTAC could be invited to co-present a webinar to the full Forum on table-top exercises: Steven could provide a high-level overview, then PTAC could provide hands-on training.
- Committee members noted that disseminating certificates of completion to one or two working groups at each joint session, instead of all at once during the Closing Session, helped generate enthusiasm for the completed working group resources.
- The committee felt the Bethesda, MD location worked well for the summer Forum meeting. The Rooftop Room provided a nice view, but the Ballroom on the lower level could have provided a more conducive seating arrangement.
- The Steering Committee discussed potentially holding webinars before the summer 2024 Forum meeting to build on the discussions and momentum from the summer 2023 meeting.
- The standing committees will discuss various ways to improve the dissemination of Forum resources to members, as well as the broader education data community.

Wednesday, August 9, 2023

Welcome to New Steering Committee Chairs

Newly elected Chair Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO), welcomed new Steering Committee members to the meeting.

Future Forum Planning

- To sustain the momentum from the summer 2023 Forum meeting, the Steering Committee would like to plan for full Forum webinars every other month in the 2023-24 year. Gail M. Mulligan, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), expressed interest in Forum members meeting with NCES and PTAC to discuss strategies to increase SEA and LEA participation in NCES surveys and understand Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) expectations. The Steering Committee will explore this opportunity further at its first meeting in September. The committee also discussed other potential webinar topics, including
    - a review of the Forum Outreach Toolkit and how to disseminate Forum resources;
    - an overview of the forthcoming Forum publications following their release; and
    - a webinar with Stephen Cornman (NCES) on the School-Level Finance Survey.
- The Steering Committee discussed the process for identifying potential working group topics based on the comments and suggestions of the Forum members.

Steering Committee meetings will resume in September 2023. They will be scheduled for the third Friday of each month at 12:00 p.m. (Eastern).