



INTERACTIVE INSTITUTES **2020**

BUILDING AND SUSTAINING A CULTURE OF HIGH-QUALITY DATA

What All SEAs Should Know About Working on Data Quality With LEAs



IDEA DATA
CENTER

Collect, Report, Analyze, and
Use High-Quality Part B Data



Presenters



Fort Worth, TX – March 3-4, 2020

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Nashville, TN – Cancelled Due to COVID-19

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Objectives

- Participants will reflect on the benefits of SEAs working with LEAs to ensure high-quality data at the local level
- Participants will be familiar with principles of engagement for working with LEAs to improve the quality of their data

SEA Benefits of Working With LEAs to Ensure High-Data Quality

- Improving data quality at the LEA level leads to improved data quality at the SEA level
- Working with LEAs improves relationships, communication, and credibility
- Collaborating with the LEAs creates transparency

LEA Benefits of Working With the SEA to Improve Data Quality

- Processes for data collection, validation, analysis, and use will be standardized, reliable, valid, and available from year to year or for new staff
- Educators directly involved in making decisions about children can be confident the data they use are of high quality
- LEAs working with the SEA will have the support to affect change

Areas of Consideration for Engaging With LEAs

- Planning
- Communicating
- Collaborating
- Reflecting
- Celebrating

If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail

- Defining the work
- Assessing readiness
- Selecting LEAs



Planning (cont.)



Data You Can Use for Planning

- LEA data
- Longitudinal data
- Personnel data
- Reported data that captures strengths and weaknesses

How You Can Use the Data

- Assess need or readiness
- Ascertain long-standing issues or history of good performance
- Assess staff turnover and staff needs
- Analyze student outcomes



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Communicating

Qualities of effective communication include transparency, clarity, timeliness, and personalization.



When communicating initially with LEAs, make sure to share

- the benefits of doing this work
- the importance of the LEA input
- what investments the LEA needs to make
- the timelines for completing the work

Communicating (cont.)



Data You Can Use for Communicating

- LEA, SEA, SPP/APR data
- Longitudinal data
- Personnel data
- Previous LEA Determinations
- Other publicly reported data

Ways You Can Use the Data

- Show data comparisons between the LEA and the SEA
- Show performance over time
- Discuss staff turnover and its implications
- Discuss overall LEA performance
- Determine how other programs could be affecting students with disabilities



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ii20 Communicating – Identifying Champions

- State special education director
- SEA Part B data manager
- LEA special education director
- LEA special education data manager
- State superintendent
- Other relevant SEA and LEA staff



Collaborating

When you give people a voice in the work, you give them ownership

- Involve the LEA
- Build relationships
- Build capacity



Collaborating (cont.)



Data You Can Use for Collaborating

- Data from parent surveys
- Exiting data (e.g., graduation rates, dropout rates, job placement)
- Assessment data
- Discipline data

Ways You Can Use the Data

- Determine parent or other stakeholder perceptions of services at the district
- Find out where students are going after they leave your school district
- Find out how students are performing on assessments
- See if there are any issues regarding discipline that you need to review



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Reflecting

Reflecting on the work reinforces success and provides direction for improvement

- What did the LEA think of the process
- What worked
- What needs to be changed
- What can you do to provide ongoing support

Reflecting (cont.)



Data You Can Use for Reflecting

- Data collection and reporting processes
- Personnel data
- LEA Determinations data
- Uncovered data quality issues

Ways You Can Use the Data

- Identify gaps and processes that need to be updated
- Identify trends and potential areas on which to focus for improvement
- Identify LEA strengths and weaknesses for compliance and student outcomes
- Identify any issues with data



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Celebrating

Celebrations are a powerful motivator and add value to the work.



Celebrating (cont.)



Data You Can Use for Celebrating

- LEA, SEA, SPP/APR data that show improvement
- Data that met/exceeded preestablished targets
- Personal stories of individual success
- Tools and resources created as a result of collaboration

Ways You Can Use the Data

- Sharing at meetings with all who have been involved
- Sharing with others in LEAs who have not been involved as a way to encourage involvement
- Sharing with the State Board of Education
- Sharing at national conferences



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Applying These Principles to the Work

Partnering for Progress: Engaging Local Education Agencies to Improve the Quality of Their Data

- IDC's [Data Meeting Toolkit](#)
- IDC's [Part B Indicator Data Display Wizard](#)

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This presentation was supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, #H373Y190001. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the federal government.

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