

Meeting Notes-DLRT Steering Team

Friday, January 31st, 2020, 1:00-2:00pm

Attendees: Sam Fogleman, ISBE
Emily Fox, ISBE
Tina Dimmitt-Salinas, ISBE
Rudy Hernandez, Superintendent Cicero SD 99
Andrea Evans, Director, Carruthers Center for Inner-City Studies, NEIU
Christian Mahone, Principal, South Side Elementary School, Champaign
Wesley Williams, Westat

Notes:

Tina and Renee, because of new roles, may not be able to recommit to the responsibilities of being on the Steering Team. It is time to look for recommitments from both Steering Team members and from Network members. We may also want to investigate holding Steering Team meetings for an hour before or after Network meetings this year and moving forward and including some representatives from the Network in those discussions.

Wesley Williams, our national collaborator from Westat, joined the call to give background and context on the work of the Network on the CRTL Standards, which are currently still under ISBE agency review. There were five writing teams responsible for various sections of the document. Content was developed around eight sections in the document, including:

- Knowledge of Self and Others
- Systems of Oppression
- Holistic Knowledge of Students
- Students as Co-Creators
- Leveraging Student Activism
- CRTL Family and Community Collaboration
- Content Selections in All Curricula
- Student Representation in the Learning Environment

Another meaningful part of each section are the performance indicators and examples of successful performance. There are also glossaries to clarify for readers what certain terms used in the document mean. The content is very rich and in-depth. Members were so committed to the work and were very insightful about CRTL practices based on their own wealth of knowledge.

Next for the Standards document will be ISBE review, then a release to the field in the current iteration, then tweaking it into rule. There is also a question about how these fit into the reworking of

the IPTS Standards, which are being redesigned into competencies that aspiring teachers should be able to demonstrate. Conversations have taken place about how to keep both of these together as that work continues. Need to find a Network member to fill the DLRT role/lens in that work to be part of that committee, which is taking 2-3 years before finalizing their work. We would like to see the CRTL Standards to be part of the state teaching standards so that they don't get left behind on their own and forgotten about.

The next strands of work for the Network would be concurrent and would be developing PD for in-service teachers around culturally responsive practices and for administrators on how to support diverse teachers to retain them and how to recruit diverse teachers into the profession. Additionally, would be adoption of these standards into IHE programs and developing recruitment plans of action for diverse candidates. We have two invitations for bids out for each strand of work and are waiting for vendors to reply to that. One vendor would work on each strand. Hopefully selected and in place April 1 so work can start mid-Spring. Also asking for line item in the budget for diverse educator recruitment. Would get \$2.5 million for IHEs and district partners to continue that work. Work will continue regardless of appropriations.

The Cultural Responsiveness White Paper that has been worked on by Andrea and Renee is still in a draft form. They were thinking about we capture the purpose of this work and how do we distribute that and share it with the state, higher ed, K-12, etc. We want to show people why this is an important issue. We are still committed to finishing this up but need to add some Illinois data on teacher diversity (geographically, subject area, etc.) that was more specific to our state. The other question is what will we do with this paper? How would we use it or how would ISBE use it? It's most likely a companion document to the standards because it outlines where we were, where we're going, and why. Might be good to include to districts along with the PD offerings. Sam will help Andrea to finish up this draft version and Renee might still be involved as well. This paper provides a robust recommendation for the need and the "why" we are doing this work. It's a substantive justification for why this work needs to happen in Illinois. Andrea hopes to do more work with it over the next month.

What might be our vision for this work for the next 2-5 years? Much of it will depend on data collection to see if our efforts are worthwhile. We are still on track to accomplish a lot of the goals we've already set up. The data results will help us know what we need to adjust or tweak in the future. Incorporating these CRTL Standards into state standards will be vital as well. We are going to need some sort of roll out plan for goals and objectives that we are working on. There are large pockets of the state that don't know that this initiative is happening within ISBE. This is a talking point for everyone and for people in the field not to know about the initiative is a hole we need to fill. A communications strategy is vital for the near future to push this to the forefront. A marketing plan should be one of our next steps. We all need to be on the same page and delivering the same message. ISBE will be presenting at the ESSA Conference on 2/10 as well, which will be one way to get the message out to the field about this initiative.

Next Steps:

- Sam will send out notes and some contextual landscape data for Illinois that Rudy asked for
- Sam will attempt to schedule a spring face-to-face for Steering Team members