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| **State Title I Committee of Practitioners Agenda**Thursday, August 17, 20174–6:30 p.m.4th Floor – Room 4002 |
| **Time** | **Topic of Discussion** | **Facilitator** |
| **4:00 - 4:10pm** | **Opening*** Call to Order
* Review of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 by Adjoa. Members in attendance included:Adjoa Asamoah, Alexa Bernard, Brian Radziwill, Ina Slaughter, Justin Good, Karen Dresden, Kimyana Johnson, Kortni Stafford, Linda Garoute, Robin Chait, Shakira Hemphill, and Winston Cox.The committee reviewed the agenda and it was accepted as written. | **Adjoa Asamoah Chair** |
| **4:10 – 4:20pm** | **Committee Business:*** Approval of Minutes from May 18, 2017

The committee reviewed minutes from the 05/18/17 meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and the minutes were accepted as written. | **Adjoa Asamoah****Chair** |
| **4:20 – 4:50pm** | **Next Steps for ESSA*** Update: ED’s feedback on DC’s state plan
* ESSA Guidance Update

State Superintendent Hanseul Kang joined the meeting and shared feedback ED provided regarding the DC state plan for ESSA. The feedback is available to the public via the ESSA section of the OSSE website, at [www.osse.dc.gov/essa](http://www.osse.dc.gov/essa). The most significant piece of feedback related to the way in which the alternative graduation rate was calculated in the accountability model. OSSE has revised the plan in accordance with this feedback, moving the alternative graduation rate to the School Environment section of the accountability model, and the plan will be resubmitted for approval.Additional feedback from ED including adding back the Equitable Access to effective teachers data from an earlier draft, and providing more detail on how the plan will serve special populations of students. Jonathan shared that guidance documents for ESSA components are currently in development and will be available to the public on the OSSE website throughout August and September. These can be viewed [here](https://osse.dc.gov/node/1253976).Apart from the state plan, members of the committee voiced concerns around reductions in ESEA Title II funding in Fiscal Year 2017, which will affect LEAs in school year 2017-18. Jonathan shared that LEAs may transfer funding from Title IV to Title II to partly offset the cuts, if they wish. In addition, based on the FY18 spending bill the U.S. House passed in spring, additional cuts could come to Title II funding in future years, and that LEAs should plan accordingly. \*\*Update: OSSE updated LEAs with additional information from the U.S. Department of Education, that this year’s preliminary allocation for Title II included only part of the total FY17 funding approved by Congress. An additional allocation letter should be sent to each LEA, listing the full expected amount. | **Jonathan Elkin****Special Assistant** |
| **4:50– 5:00pm** | **Update: Title I Monitoring Tool**Jodi shared updates to the Title I Monitoring tool based upon feedback that was provided by the CoP at the previous meeting. The tool was updated to combine elements of the on-site and pre-site visit documents. The revised tool now lists what information needs to be submitted to OSSE in advance, and what needs to be available during a review visit. The entire process will need to be revised to align to ESSA expectations in SY 18-19, but the current tool will remain in place for SY 17-18 since this is a transition year to the new plan.Committee members raised questions regarding the selection of schools for monitoring. Sharon Gaskins said that the selection of schools for monitoring was influenced by the amount of grant dollars received, and grants that have been flagged as having higher risk factors in relation to other grants. The information regarding grant risk factors is communicated to LEAs as a part of the application process. | **Jody O’Banner****Title I and Title II Project Manager** |
| **5:00-5:15pm** | **Break and Dinner Buffet** |  |
| **5:15 – 6:15pm** | **Update: 1003 School Improvement Grant Administration**  Sharon presented and shared updates regarding school improvement grants under ESSA. For this school year, no changes to the school improvement grants will occur, as SY 17-18 remains a transition year. Information discussed will apply to the SIG process in SY 18-19.Key highlights from Sharon’s presentation included:* Under ESSA, a 7% set aside is included, and SEAs are required to award 95% of the funds to schools identified as comprehensive or targeted support schools.
* However, the existing funding streams of 1003a and 1003g will combine. SEAs will have the option to determine if funds will be awarded competitively or in formula fashion. OSSE is leaning towards competitive grants, with priority given to schools in comprehensive support status.
* LEAs may apply as a consortium under ESSA regulations.
* The law allows for grants to support multi-year implementation, up to 4 years.
* If external partners are identified in grant applications, they are to undergo “rigorous” review.
* SEA role is to establish a funding mechanism (competitive vs. non-competitive), monitor implementation, and ensure that grants are of sufficient size for impact.

The following were pieces of key feedback the CoP provided regarding the proposal:* If OSSE is considering a move towards 100% competitive grants, grant guidance and the respective application should be available ASAP so that LEAs have the opportunity to create strong applications.
* Committee members raised concerns around 100% of the school improvement funds being competitively awarded. A recommendation was provided that perhaps a floor could be awarded so long as all components of the application were addressed, and that should LEAs desire additional funding above the floor, the funds could be awarded competitively.
* OSSE should support technical components of grants, including root cause analysis, a rubric, exemplars, or coaching. This is especially important for formula grants.
* Committee members were interested in historical rejection rates of competitive grants and how much unused funding has been rolled over to others.
* In competitive grants, there must be independent reviewers. Committee members expressed that LEAs would be interested in receiving the feedback from reviewers on their grant applications.
* For multi-year grants, LEA should be able to revise if something isn’t working.
 | **Sharon Gaskins Deputy Assistant Superintendent** |
| **6:15 – 6:30pm** | **Closing**A motion was made and accepted to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm. | **Adjoa Asamoah** |

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