

## Technical Data Advisory Group

June 14 – 15, 2005

Powell, WY

### Recalibration Visits

- First round of district interviews completed, second round to begin after review by WDE staff
- Data received in August will need to be turned around by September for the recalibration vendor
- Beginning this fall new consequences for late data submissions
  - Department is now required to report the issue to the local school board effective July 1, 2005.

### WDE588 – School Technology Survey

- Part I, Questions 2 is kept in it's current form to answer a federal data request
- The large question concerning types of processors for instructional and administrative purposes has been removed.
  - Replaced with counts of high and low end computers
  - Definitions of high and low end will still need to be defined by the WDE
  - Suggestions were made to review and rework the staff development sections

### WDE584 – District Technology Survey

- Budget question has been collapsed, only the total is requested
- Professional development was moved to the WDE588 to answer a federal data request

### Center for Data Quality (C4DQ)

- Department utilizes for data quality reporting
- Currently, Department on version 2.
  - Run at the state level after most/all of the data has been submitted
  - Longer turnaround
- WDE starting to use version 3
  - Web service
  - Run at the time of submission with reporting to district personnel
  - Real-time data quality results

### National Transcript Center (NTC)

- 2002 reauthorization of the Institute for Education Sciences
  - Grant program for state longitudinal data systems
  - Never any money in the system until 2005
- Competing transcript formats
  - EDI
  - XML
- The process currently used by registrars is not being changed but parts of the process are being automated.
- The issue has not been raised with the University of Wyoming at this point.
- Biggest beneficiary is the receiving entity.
- NTC allows the exchange of transcripts between different standards.
  - Transfer process includes conversion of the sending entity format to that of the receiving entity.
- Transcripts are not stored at the NTC, only the history of document movement.
- Paper is still an option
- Does have the ability to track transient populations.
  - Could have an impact on dropout information
- SIF e-transcript object expected to be in draft by September/October 2005
- May have potential implications with the NCES Course Classification
- Not related to the WISE implementation
- It will include a translator to convert historical transcripts
  - Does not currently have the ability to track instructional standards at the time the transcript was generated.

## Name Formatting

- Historically, staffing data is in all caps
  - Problem with mailing label generation
- Staffing this year will be preplugged with mixed case and the districts will have to fix those staff with an Mc, Mac, etc.
- Student records will follow the same standard for consistency

## Wyoming Integrated Statewide Education Record ID (WISER ID)

- Assignment to occur this summer
- Initial timeline has been pushed back
- Responsibility of ESP to get the WISER ID back into district SIS
- For those students that have entered the system since the initial file was sent to TRIAND the eScholar product does contain a batch file upload mechanism
- For those districts using the same SIS, all deciding to code a particular element in the same field in each system will greatly increase turnaround of implementation. However, this is up to each individual district
- WDE is preparing the data elements needed for the Student Locator Framework
- Student Locator Framework will be a separate Oracle instance

## WISE Implementation Plan

- Two servers are needed at each aggregation 1) Zone Integration Server and 2) the State Reporting/Central Data Manager application
- Local policies governing infrastructure will be adhered to by ESP and eduStructures
- PAWS will need the WISER IDs by mid-December
- WISE user guide is in the development process
- Implementation will use a mix of remote and on-site installations
  - Districts have requested prior warning for setup purposes (e.g. firewall)
- Regional trainings are separate from the actual installations
- Lack of a SIF agent
  - Clarification still needed around who is responsible for the purchase of the agent
  - WDE is working with vendors on pricing
  - Change of reporting needs may have implications
- Primary contact list will be sent out to districts for verifications after the district interview process is complete
- ZIS boxes delivered to Powell, Rock Springs, Gillette, and Sheridan. Others to be delivered next week (6/20/2005)
- School ID and grade are not used for assignment under the Uniq ID system
- Districts have the option of sending a WDE671, just inform the Data Management Unit

## eScholar's Uniq ID Demonstration

### Site Visit Follow-up

- The type of backend database used is irrelevant
- Once the information is delivered to the subscriber application, the information is dropped from the ZIS. The ZIS does not store information.
- Park #1 is using a different ZIS than the WISE implementation
  - Differences will not be seen by the agent
  - Difference in the administration and architecture of the ZIS

### Timeline

- Checklist
  - Determine, in district, the personnel responsible for the administration of the SIS and set aside a day of their time to compare the elements needed by the WISE Implementation and those in the district system
  - Examine connectivity and firewall issues
  - Determine which ports are open
  - If district has an agent, what is the physical location of the box, IP address, etc.
  - Installation of the agent for the SIS

- ◆ Installation and configuration – ½ day to day
    - ◆ Network administrator present
    - ◆ ESP is determining who/how to install if agent is not present
    - ◆ With PowerSchool the agent will only need to be turned on.
  - After agent installation, need a day to test connectivity to the ZIS
    - ◆ Completed by the person that will be responsible for maintenance
    - ◆ StudentLocator object most likely used for testing
- SASI XP – eduStructures is the only vendor that creates their agents
- Infinite Campus has an embedded ZIS within their SIS
  - Need to treat as an agent
  - Can function as both a zone and an agent
- WDE will work on pricing due to the end of the budgets for 2004-05
- Certificates for the Security infrastructure need to be obtained
- ESP will be working in conjunction with districts regarding their security protocols and processes
- Issues with NAT exist so probably need real IP addresses and holes in Firewalls
- Individual implementation plans will be created after the district interview process is complete

### **WISE Draft Marketing Plan**

- Benefit of outlining which reports will be generated using the WISE system
- Department feels outreach is important
  - Superintendent's Day – August 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Sessions at the School Improvement Conference – September
- Draft a release for districts for education of their staff
- Possible SIF Connect-a-thon type demonstration at JEC meetings and the School Improvement conference
- Will investigate with SIF about holding one of their quarterly meetings in Cheyenne
- Suggestions were made regarding appointments to the WISE Policy Board

### **WISE Policy Board**

- Entity needs to be established to create the guideline with which the WISE system will operate
- Needs to be somewhat independent of the WDE
- Possibly have the WISE Advisory Board set the agenda and have the Policy Board respond
- Try to keep small with diverse perspectives
- Need to determine their actual authority
- Suggested possible make-up:
  - Superintendent
  - Elementary Principal
  - Secondary Principal
  - Business Manager
  - Curriculum Coordinator
  - Tech/Network Infrastructure Expert
  - 2 Data Experts
  - Special Education Director
  - WDE Data Management Deputy

### **SIF**

- Agents may or may not be a part of a product upgrade. Districts will need to contact rep to determine.
- WDE will need to determine a process if data reporting requirements are changed
- Backward compatibility will be limited in some areas
- Usually after a new version of the SIF architecture is released, vendors take about six months to write agents for the specification.
- Agents will need to be reregistered in a Zone after an upgrade because the ZIS needs to know the version of the agent.
- Misconception of certification – companies do not certify with SIF
- Certification of a particular agent/version provides that the application can publish and subscribe to an object correctly
- Vendors can have pieces of their software that are NOT certified
- SIF website contains conformance statements (<http://www.sifinfo.org>)

- If an agent is certified, it must pass the mandatory elements but is not required to pass the optional objects
- Profiles are gaining momentum in SIF
- ESP will be creating a Wyoming Profile of those elements needed for the WISE system

### **Next Meeting**

- July 18<sup>th</sup>, Casper
- More information to follow