

Home Base External Stakeholder Committee Notes
Date and Time: Friday, July 26, 2013
Location: NCDPI, Raleigh NC

In-person Attendees: Tommy Macon, Tom Williams, Blaire Yarborough, Aaron Fleming, Marlo Gaddis, Pam Leaman, Angela Quick, Kathy Newbern, Mike Martin, Dan Gwaltney, Cynthia Crowdus, Adam Levinson, Kayla Siler, Vernon Brown, LaVerne Weldon, Brenda Barker, Nick Goettsch

Attending via webinar: Darrin Hartness, Karin Beckett (Durham), Sarah McManus, Jan Richardson, Elic Senter, Mark Wiles

Welcome & Review agenda (A. Quick)

- Main objectives: hear from LEAs attending this meeting today

Introductions

Instructional Content Availability (McManus, via telephone)

- State-vetted bank of resources available day 1
 - Many familiar sources (all aligned to NC standards)
- Licensed & non-licensed content
- Bringing in DPI resources- AIG, STEM, academic services, NCVPS
 - Users still have access outside of Home Base
- Purchased- Pearson (Digital Library)- still working on getting several more
- Working to have the following available this fall: SAS Curr. Pathways, TenMarks, Britannica, NCVPS Learning Objects, EverFi
- **QUESTIONS:**
 - Concern from C&I recognized
 - Need to constantly refresh site & bring in new content
 - McManus sent a document this morning about this issue
 - Mark Wiles (CFNC)- Asked whether there is content aligned to Essential Standards for school counseling.
 - Answer: Let Home Base team know about resources for this area
 - Send to LaVerne Weldon
 - Aaron Fleming (Lee): Asked about continuing Discovery Ed. Recommended NBC News? (clips -not free- NBC Learn)
 - Marlo Gaddis (Wake): contract w/CommonSense Media- digital curriculum (free)
 - GRAPHITE- apps & free resources- aligns to standards- (free)→Great for parents/parent portal

- Parent Access to resources- (McManus)- Currently parents do not have access to resources. Working on putting EBSCO search on the parent portal
- Tom Williams- Have worked w/NC Sci. & Math to expand free digital resources into STEM schools (over 3,000)
 - McManus- they have sent NCDPI their resources
 - Tagged their resources & included them in vetted state bank
- Way to evaluate resources?
 - Weldon- rubric training session for LEAs to evaluate resources
 - Rubric approved by OER (access to website & resources)
 - Samples on Home Base website
- Advantages of Common Core really shows through this:
 - Martin- advantage of open sources- not just aligning to NC, but other states
 - Quick- allows NC to carry torch for high rigorous standards (different than just traditional item bank) - team has worked very hard to make sure it aligns to content & can be tracked through the Student Profile
 - McManus- sharing resources with other states
 - Quick- Is there a way to show it's a state-sharing resource?
 - Good for teachers to see using content from other state agencies; will help LEAs be more willing to share if others are sharing
- **Action Items:**
 - Determine a way to show a state-sharing resource more explicitly
 - Promote loading process to help teachers upload resources
 - LEA input about content
 - Quick- need a list from research consortium- topics to add to content- what districts are currently using (evaluate)
 - McManus- need a list of resources to put on Parent Portal

Assessments (Siler)

- Review purchased assessment items
 - NWEA- Science and Social Studies items at Classroom level (8,600 items from system)
 - Pearson will refresh this bank at least 2x/yr.- way to report issues
- Next set- purchasing from Pearson
 - Next Generation K-12 item bank (Math & ELA)- Florida a big part

- Will start receiving items this fall (close to 30,000 added)
 - Receive in batches (1st = Sep./Oct.)
 - Focused on key components- rigor, technologically, etc.- new standards, making sure items are aligned to standards- developed brand new aligned to Common Core
- Classroom & Benchmark items- loaded in system now- all Benchmark made available to district testing coordinators this week
 - Classroom items- finished w/edit review
 - push out to teachers next couple of days- (add 14,000 items) level
 - teachers to see 1st day
- Martin- teachers can build combined assessment in digital platform
 - Siler- can combine items from purchased content & own items
 - Benchmarks- if used ClassScape before- take items, find exact same items from past and use in HB
 - Williams- timeline (purchasing)- moving quickly enough to save money on funding?
 - Wake went forward for contract; Case21 for assessments- will use PerformanceMatters for now
 - Sampson- using ClassScape & Castle Learning
 - Quick- should collect survey information from small districts who discontinued contracts with current benchmark system
 - George Batton- need to get him information
 - Martin- Wake planning to do a pilot with Schoolnet??
 - “year of exploration”- most are pleased
- Shared LEA assessment items
 - Working on sharing items
 - Guilford (500), Hoke (1,000) → seeing format, getting read, uploading them
 - Collecting items at state level

*Hartness (phone)- Suggested use of the term “Standard Course of Study” instead of “Common Core”- negative connotation with “Common Core” in some communities

- Quick- utilizing “Standard Course of Study”, then calling out Common Core & Essential Standards –
- Newbern- Communications document- Vanessa has posted about 13 “myth-busters” about Common Core, Standard Course of Study, etc.)

Training (McManus)

- 30 DPI staff trained, will train districts
- Working on training plan (face to face, webinars)- a lot offered to support districts

- Training site for Schoolnet not yet available but will be soon; demo site is available in the interim
- Gaddis (Wake)- Praise for demo site. Very helpful– training in learning objects- LEAs don't have to create anything new
- **Action Items:**
 - Survey districts- Who has discontinued contracts with benchmark system to use Home Base?
 - Put out a communication piece survey results
 - Get information to George Batten

BREAK

District Sharing

WAKE (Marlo Gaddis)

- Had to consider contract renewals in the spring
- Are currently in “exploration mode”
- Goal: Teachers progressively trained (recently implemented Case21 two years ago)
- CMAPP: have been creating new plans for Common core (implemented & in use)
 - Schoolnet → hiring full-time data entry people to make conversion (migrating CMAPP into Home Base)
 - Phase-in training later in the year
 - Content employees are creating new drafts with Home base structure in mind
- Goal: Full switch with phasing in for classroom teacher
- District Office has accounts (not everyone has signed in yet)
 - Education at district level
 - Roll out like PowerSchool (advisory at district, then push out as they need)
- Truenorthlogic- not hearing anything on that piece yet (in beginning stages)
- Log-in issues, but nothing major

QUESTIONS:

- Martin- How are you approaching Gradebook in PowerSchool?
- Gaddis- WCPSS has suggested everyone uses it
 - Parent Portal- rolling out to high schools and middle schools; elementary schools will have later

Action Items:

- Invite HR representative to next meeting

- Reach out to Tom Tomberlin - ask to be at meetings & recommend HR directors

SAMPSON (Tommy Macon)

- Has hand-outs for timeline for roll-out (aligned w/DPI's timeline)
- Focused on PowerSchool first
 - No issues with PowerSchool yet
- Rolling out Home Base slowly
- Gradebook will be used
- Link at end of PowerSchool → training modules, website for roles
- Organized training by roles
 - Aug. 7 – principal, Aug. 19- teacher training starts (break down middle/high and elem./intermediate)
 - Issue: can only log-in 4 at a time for training
 - Brenda- training site will be up as soon as all of data is loaded into PowerSchool
 - Intention: when teachers train- train in live production site (in order to keep lesson plans, etc.)
 - Demo vs. Live site- timing issue to use live production site (depends on how merge from NCWISE to PowerSchool has gone)
 - Multiple people can log in with the same ID into the demo site
- Brenda- district data managers have instruction on how to change rolls
- Trainers have been trained on Truenorthlogic
- Difficulty: assessment piece. Needs to know how to recreate ClassScape assessments in Home Base

Action Items:

- Weldon & McManus → highlight LEAs and what they have done for planning
- Communicate that multiple people can log in with same ID for the Home Base demo site
- Each district needs to have process for each person to get information

LEE (Aaron Fleming)

- Did not renew data warehouse contract
- Lead teachers trained this Tuesday; will start to slowly train all teachers
- Goal: almost full implementation by August 26, at least by mid-September
- Truenorthlogic- HR- conference call approaching
- PowerSchool- only log-ins currently are data managers (to ensure correct data)
 - Training through accountability & data

- Just in time training through data managers and accountability people plus PowerSource
- Parent Portal
 - Proactive approach. Policy and teacher training first, then open up.
 - Concern → what do you do if a teacher does not enter their grades into the gradebook in a timely manner? Something to consider
 - Will use Gradebook & have a timeline to enter grades
 - Quick → Parent Portal: crucial to have procedures in place at district, high school level, etc.
 - Opening it up to all parents
 - Newbern → public information officers received documents about Parent Portal
- Using Career Cruising – course planner, starts in middle school
 - about \$1,500 per school
- Home Base is a significant cost saving

QUESTIONS:

Mark Wiles- Is course registration included in Home Base? Is there a cost to LEAs?

Barker- Course registration is a standard part of PowerSchool and is available at no additional cost

Quick- CFNC: many questions about integrating into Home Base

Action Items:

- Work on integrating CFNC into Home Base and report out at next meeting
- Report back to Mark Wiles about his question regarding course scheduler.

PARENT PORTAL

- Working with PTA
- Working to get resources
- Weldon & McManus presented at PTA conference June 1

Action Items:

- Keep LEAs informed with training
 - LEAs → inform this group on how Truenorthlogic is going

Adding PD component in March*

- High demand for high quality video modules
- Leverage capacity building at districts to put own videos together
- More information forthcoming

Senter (NCAE)

- Main issue: people don't understand how all pieces connect (Truenorthlogic, etc.)
- Mostly Truenorthlogic piece: people think it's separate and not integrated

Access Issues

- Have resolved majority of them
- Most issues: data (not every teacher had UID stored in record)
 - District data managers need to help w/this
 - Affecting about 13% of teachers
- If no UID in PowerSchool → cannot continue to IIS component
- Putting out publication today regarding UIDs
- Roster verification process- many teachers don't have students assigned (NCEES)- maybe some number are not teachers- but still have to be in system
- Publication went out to service desk about 1 month ago

Next date: September 12th at Friday Institute. Time needs to be confirmed.

Next Steps and Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Updates from LEAs
- Opting In
 - Opt in process
 - Payment due and payment process
- Content
 - One-pager to show resources and items
- IAM
 - Update on identity access management (IAM)