



National Cooperative Education Statistics System
National Forum on Education Statistics

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019



Forum Officers, 2018-2019

Chairperson: Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA)

Vice Chair: Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education

Past Chair: Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education

Standing Committees

National Education Statistics Agenda Committee (NESAC)

Chair: Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education

Vice Chair: Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)

Policies, Programs, and Implementation Committee (PPI)

Chair: Charlotte Ellis, Maine Department of Education

Vice Chair: Bradley McMillen, Wake County Public School System (NC)

Technology Committee (TECH)

Chair: Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE)

Vice Chair: DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education

Completed Working Groups, Publications, and Other Resources

[Forum Guide to Early Warning Systems](#)

Purpose: The Early Warning Systems Data Working Group developed this resource to help education agency staff plan, develop, implement, and use an early warning system in their agency to inform interventions that improve student outcomes. The resource includes a review of early warning systems and their use in education agencies; explains the role of indicators, data, and analytics in early warning systems; describes how to adopt an effective system planning process; and recommends best practices for system development, implementation, and use. It also highlights seven case studies from state and local education agencies (SEAs and LEAs) that have implemented, or are in the process of implementing, an early warning system.

Marilyn King (Chair), Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education
Carl Frederick, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Edward Goddard, Clark County School District (NV)
Laura Hansen, Metro Nashville Public Schools (TN)
Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE)
Whitcomb Johnstone, Irving Independent School District (TX)
Ellis Ott, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (AK)
Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education
Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)

Consultant: Elizabeth Lieutenant, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

[Forum Guide to Technology Management in Education](#)

Purpose: The Education Technology Working Group developed this new resource to assist education agency staff with understanding and applying best practices for selecting and implementing technology to support teaching and learning in the classroom. It addresses the widespread use and integration of technology in modern education systems, including, but not limited to, administration (such as human resources and finances), reporting, infrastructure, student information systems, classroom software, and apps. The resource focuses on technology governance and planning, including needs assessments, as well as technology implementation, integration, maintenance, support, training, privacy, security, and evaluation.

Steve Smith (Chair), Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
Mary Barkley, Clayton County Public Schools (GA)
DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education
Kristen DeSalvatore, New York State Education Department
Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV)
Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education
Rachel Johnson, Loudoun County Public Schools (VA)
Jay Pennington, Iowa Department of Education
Peter D. Tamayo, formerly of the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Consultant: Kristina Dunman, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Forum Guide to Personalized Learning Data

Purpose: The Personalized Learning Data Working Group developed this new resource to help education agencies as they consider whether and how to use personalized learning. The resource includes an overview of the topic and best practices on collecting and using data for personalized learning. It also includes case studies from districts and states that have implemented personalized learning to illustrate how data are used in different locations depending on their approach to personalized learning.

Dean Folkers (Chair), Nebraska Department of Education
Sheri Ballman, Mason City School District (OH)
Aaron Brough, Utah State Board of Education
Elizabeth Dabney, Data Quality Campaign
Sonya Edwards, formerly of the California Department of Education
Wendy Geller, Vermont Agency of Education
William Goodman, Mountain Home School District #193 (ID)
Phil Grace, Heber Springs School District (AR)
Michael Hopkins, formerly of the Rochester School Department (NH)
Alvin Larson, Meriden Board of Education (CT)
Lee Rabbitt, Pawtucket School Department (RI)

Consultant: Bridget Thomas, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Forum Guide to Planning for, Collecting, and Managing Data About Students Displaced by a Crisis

Purpose: The Crisis Data Management Working Group developed this new resource to provide timely and useful best practice information for collecting and managing data about students who have temporarily or permanently enrolled in another educational setting because of a crisis. This resource updates the information included in the 2010 publication [Crisis Data Management: A Forum Guide to Collecting and Managing Data about Displaced Students](#); highlights best practices that education agencies can adopt before, during, and after a crisis; and features case studies and real-world examples from agencies that have either experienced a crisis or received students who were displaced by a crisis.

Jan Petro (Chair), Colorado Department of Education
Jon Bridges, Beaverton School District (OR)
Frank Cernik, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Stephen Gervais, San Bernardino City Unified School District (CA)
Terri Hanson, Texas Education Agency
Whitcomb Johnstone, Irving Independent School District (TX)
Ryan Kuykendall, DeSoto County Schools (MS)
Bradley McMillen, Wake County Public School System (NC)
Zenaida Napa Natividad, Guam Department of Education

James Richardson, Virgin Islands Department of Education
Julie Riordan, Regional Educational Laboratory—Northeast and Islands
Andre Smith, Florida Department of Education
Steve Smith, Cambridge Public Schools (MA)

Consultant: Elizabeth Lieutenant, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED v.6)

Purpose: School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED) is a voluntary, common classification system for prior-to-secondary and secondary school courses. It can be used to compare course information, maintain longitudinal data about student coursework, and efficiently exchange coursetaking records. The SCED Working Group published SCED Version 6 in October 2018 as a sortable, downloadable file available on the Forum SCED web page at <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/SCED.asp>. Version 6 included updates to Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses as well as the addition of a new cybersecurity course.

Susan Williams (Chair), Virginia Department of Education
Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE)
Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Rachel Kruse, Iowa Department of Education
Kristina Martin, Macomb Intermediate School District (MI)
Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education
Demi Moon, Sioux Falls School District (SD)
Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education
Steve Smith, Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
Robin Utz, U.S. Department of Education
Ryan Wilson, Kettle Moraine School District (WI)

Consultants: Kristina Dunman, Quality Information Partners
Colleen Spagnardi, RTI International
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

SCED Resources: Master List, Finder

Following the release of SCED Version 6, the SCED Working Group also updated the SCED Master List and the SCED Finder tool. The SCED Master List is a downloadable file available on the Forum SCED web page at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/sced_resources.asp. This spreadsheet contains a list of every SCED code published in every SCED version. It is designed to help users implement SCED or update their implementation. [SCED Finder](#) is an online tool that helps users quickly and efficiently identify SCED codes, add elements, and save downloadable lists of courses. This tool was originally released with SCED Version 3 and has since been revised to reflect new and updated SCED Version 6 courses. In addition, the working group added new search options to SCED Finder to improve search results.

SCED Case Studies

The SCED Working Group has begun documenting case studies that demonstrate different uses of SCED. The first two case studies focus on Iowa's and Virginia's use of SCED course codes:

- *Iowa's SCED Regional Course Coding Workshops*: The Iowa Department of Education (IDOE) implemented SCED Version 1 and, over the years, has transitioned to updated secondary school codes as new versions of SCED are released. This case study focuses on IDOE's process for implementing new high school course codes through the use of in-person, regional course coding workshops.
- *Virginia's Use of SCED State-Specific Course Codes*: The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) uses SCED, but found that several courses in the state do not align well with any of the existing SCED codes. This case study focuses on VDOE's development and use of state-specific course codes.

The case studies are available on the Forum SCED case studies web page at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/sced_case_studies.asp.

Data Visualization Online Course

Purpose: The Data Visualization Online Course Project Group developed this new resource to introduce the concept of data visualization. The online course describes how to apply key data visualization principles and practices to education data and explain how the data visualization process can be implemented to support effective data analysis and communication throughout an education agency. It builds upon the [Forum Guide to Data Visualization: A Resource for Education Agencies](#), published in 2016. The course will be available on the Forum Online Courses web page at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/online_courses.asp.

Michael Hopkins (Chair), formerly of the Rochester School Department (NH)
Heather Boughton, Ohio Department of Education
Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education
Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA)
Ellis Ott, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (AK)
Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education
Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education

Consultant: Denise Lawson, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Forum Member Handbook

Purpose: The Communications Subcommittee updated the *Forum Member Handbook* as part of its effort to improve resources for Forum members. The handbook describes the Forum's purpose, organization, membership, responsibilities, and resources. This newest version of the handbook updates and refreshes the content and design of the 2014 version of the [Forum Member Handbook](#). It also features revised and expanded Forum member responsibilities statements and a new appendix of Forum member frequently asked questions. The handbook will be available on the Forum Member Resources web page at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/memb_res.asp.

Current Working Groups and Projects

Data Governance Working Group

Purpose: The Data Governance Working Group is developing a new resource that will identify best practices for developing, implementing, and maintaining an effective data governance plan. This resource will highlight examples from education agencies that have implemented effective data governance programs, discuss common challenges and solutions in data governance, and provide links to existing data governance resources.

Georgia Hughes-Webb (Chair), West Virginia Department of Education
Mary Barkley, Clayton County Public Schools (GA)
Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education
Elizabeth Dabney, Data Quality Campaign
Matthew Danzuso, Ohio Department of Education
Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education
Laura Hansen, Metro Nashville Public Schools (TN)
Linda Jenkins, Arkansas Department of Education
Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA)
Matthew Strom, Queen Creek Unified School District (AZ)
Jonathan Wiens, Oregon Department of Education
Debbie Yedlin, Arizona Department of Education

Consultant: Bridget Thomas, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Exit Codes Working Group

Purpose: The Exit Codes Working Group is developing a new resource that will document best practices for tracking students who transfer, complete high school, drop out of school, or otherwise exit from an education agency. This resource will update the information included in the 2006 publication [Accounting for Every Student: A Taxonomy for Standard Student Exit Codes](#) and include a revised taxonomy, case studies from education agencies, and best practices for collecting and maintaining exit code data.

Marilyn King (Co-chair), Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Jan Petro (Co-chair), Colorado Department of Education
Jonathon Attridge, Tennessee Department of Education
Aaron Brough, Utah State Board of Education
Christopher Campbell, Idaho State Department of Education
DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education
Charlotte Ellis, Maine Department of Education
Jan Fukada, Hawaii State Department of Education
William Goodman, Mountain Home School District #193 (ID)
Deborah Jonas, Regional Educational Laboratory—Appalachia
Carmen Jordan, Arkansas Department of Education

Gunes Kaplan, Nevada Department of Education
Zenaída Napa Natividad, Guam Department of Education
Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)
Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education

Consultant: Liza Achilles, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

SCED Working Group

Purpose: SCED provides voluntary, common course codes for prior-to-secondary and secondary school courses that can be used to compare course information, maintain longitudinal data about student coursework, and efficiently exchange coursetaking records. The SCED Working Group is tasked with reviewing and revising SCED to ensure that it is up to date and accurate, while also maintaining the established structure and integrity of the course codes. The working group is collaborating with subject matter experts and SCED users to review and update existing courses and identify new courses for SCED Version 7.

Susan Williams (Chair), Virginia Department of Education
Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE)
Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Rachel Kruse, Iowa Department of Education
Kristina Martin, Macomb Intermediate School District (MI)
Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education
Demi Moon, Sioux Falls School District (SD)
Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education
Steve Smith, Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
Robin Utz, U.S. Department of Education
Ryan Wilson, Kettle Moraine School District (WI)

Consultants: Kristina Dunman, Quality Information Partners
Colleen Spagnardi, RTI International
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Communications Subcommittee

Purpose: The Communications Subcommittee meets on an ad hoc basis to identify and develop methods for advancing Forum communications by addressing the Forum's evolving communications needs; considering the ways in which the Forum communicates with its members, potential partner organizations, and other audiences; and working to promote the dissemination of information about the Forum and Forum publications. The Subcommittee has recently updated several Forum member resources, including Forum presentation materials ([About the Forum](#) and [Forum Resources](#)) and the *Forum Member Handbook*.

Marilyn King (Chair), Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Carl Frederick, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV)

Phil Grace, Heber Springs School District (AR)
Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education
Rachel Johnson, Loudoun County Public Schools (VA)
Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education
Steve Smith, Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education

Consultant: Elizabeth Lieutenant, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Forum Virtual Activities

Strategies for Leveraging SCED to Support SEA and LEA Goals Webinar

The Forum and the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on December 10, 2018. SCED Working Group Chair Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education, and SCED Working Group members Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT), and Rachel Kruse, Iowa Department of Education, represented the Forum. The presentation provided helpful information for SEAs and LEAs interested in implementing SCED, as well as those with existing SCED implementations that wanted to hear more about innovative uses and efficiencies. Joint webinars help expand the reach of the Forum by encouraging collaboration and product dissemination. The joint webinar summary, presentation slides, and recording are available on the SLDS website at <https://slds.grads360.org/#communities/pdc/documents/17590>.

NESAC Virtual Meeting

The National Education Statistics Agenda Committee (NESAC) held a virtual meeting on December 13, 2018. NESAC Chair Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education, facilitated a discussion on how to verify student transfers. NESAC developed a short summary resource on the discussion topic, which has been shared with the Exit Codes Working Group.

TECH Committee Virtual Meetings

The Technology (TECH) Committee held two virtual meetings on December 14, 2018, and May 2, 2019. TECH Chair Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE), facilitated discussions on the intersection of cybersecurity and the broader security context. TECH is developing a short 1-2-page summary resource on the discussion topic.

PPI Committee Virtual Meetings

The Policies, Programs, and Implementation (PPI) Committee held two virtual meetings on January 16, 2019, and February 13, 2019. PPI Chair Charlotte Ellis, Maine Department of Education, facilitated discussions on the topic of data governance. PPI developed a short summary resource on the discussion topic, which has been shared with the Data Governance Working Group.

Meetings

Summer 2018 Forum Meeting and STATS-DC Data Conference

The 2018 Summer Forum Meeting took place July 23-25 in Washington, DC. Past Forum Chair Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education, welcomed Forum members to the meeting and introduced NCES Commissioner James “Lynn” Woodworth, who provided an update on NCES work that focused on future NCES plans and activities. Members discussed new and ongoing topics in the field of education data in joint sessions, committee meetings, and working groups.

Joint sessions presentations addressed several timely topics in education data: Steven Hernandez, the chief information security officer at the U.S. Department of Education (ED), discussed cybersecurity in SEAs and LEAs and Michael Hopkins, formerly of the Rochester School Department (NH), led an interactive session on data visualization. Standing committees met to discuss topics of interest to committee members, including cybersecurity, data privacy, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), federal data policy and collections, Forum products and practices, SEA-LEA collaboration, and more.

The meeting concluded with a presentation from Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE), and Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education, who discussed their work establishing and co-chairing the Delaware Education Data Forum. The Forum presented certificates to members of completed working groups, recognized the 2017-18 Officers for their service, and elected a new slate of officers led by Forum Chair Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA). Meeting notes are available at http://nces.ed.gov/forum/meeting_notes.asp.

The STATS-DC Data Conference followed the Forum meeting. Forum members delivered presentations on SCED, the *Forum Guide to Technology Management in Education*, the *Forum Guide to Early Warning Systems*, the *Forum Guide to Personalized Learning Data*, and the *Forum Guide to Facility Information Management: A Resource for State and Local Education Agencies*. The SCED Working Group also staffed a demonstration table to answer attendee questions about SCED and showcase the numerous resources available to assist SEAs and LEAs with SCED implementation and use.

Summer 2019 Meeting: The Summer 2019 Forum Meeting is scheduled for July 22-24 at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.

Other Activities

Forum Steering Committee

The Steering Committee oversees and coordinates all Forum activities. Members conducted monthly conference calls to discuss Forum events and to review the status of Forum projects. Facilitated and led by Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA), the conference calls allowed Steering Committee members to discuss, plan, and review Forum projects and meetings.

For more information about the Forum, please go to <https://nces.ed.gov/forum>.