



National Cooperative Education Statistics System
National Forum on Education Statistics

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



Forum Officers, 2019-2020

Chairperson: Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education

Vice Chair: Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)

Past Chair: Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA)

Standing Committees

National Education Statistics Agenda Committee (NESAC)

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

Vice Chair: Gunes Kaplan, Nevada Department of Education

Policies, Programs, and Implementation Committee (PPI)

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

Vice Chair: Linda Jenkins, Arkansas Department of Education

Technology Committee (TECH)

Chair: DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education

Vice Chair: Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV)

Completed Working Groups, Publications, and Other Resources

[Forum Guide to Data Governance](#)

Purpose: The Data Governance Working Group developed this new resource to highlight how data governance programs benefit education agencies and provide timely and useful best practices, examples, and resources for agencies implementing or updating their data governance programs. This resource provides an overview of data governance; discusses effective data governance practices, structures, and essential elements; and describes how to meet privacy and security requirements while also meeting data accessibility and sharing needs. It includes detailed case studies that offer an in-depth look at the challenges, successes, and lessons learned from education agencies in their data governance efforts.

Georgia Hughes-Webb (Chair), West Virginia Department of Education

Mary Barkley, Clayton County Public Schools (GA)

Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education

Elizabeth Dabney, formerly of the Data Quality Campaign

Matthew Danzuso, Ohio Department of Education

Jennifer Esswein, Regional Educational Laboratory–Northwest

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)

Joseph Murphy, National Center for Education Statistics

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

[Forum Guide to Exit Codes](#)

Purpose: The Forum Exit Codes Working Group developed this resource to provide best practice information for tracking data about when students transferred, completed high school, dropped out, or otherwise exited an education agency. As such, this resource defines exit codes and reviews their use in an education agency; provides an updated, voluntary, common taxonomy for exit codes; discusses best practices and methods for addressing specific challenges in exit codes data collection; and features case studies that highlight different education agencies' approaches to and experiences with exit coding. This resource updates the information included in the 2006 publication [*Accounting for Every Student: A Taxonomy for Standard Student Exit Codes*](#).

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, formerly of Mountain Home School District #193 (ID)
Deborah Jonas, Regional Educational Laboratory–Appalachia
Carmen Jordan, Arkansas Department of Education
Gunes Kaplan, Nevada Department of Education
Zenaida Napa Natividad, Guam Department of Education
Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)
Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education

Consultants: Liza Achilles and Kristina Dunman, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

[Forum Guide to Cybersecurity: Safeguarding Your Data](#)

Purpose: The Cybersecurity Working Group developed this resource to help agencies proactively prepare for, appropriately mitigate, and responsibly recover from a cybersecurity incident. The document provides timely and useful best practice information to help protect agency systems and data before, during, and after a cybersecurity incident. Case studies from states and districts that have proactively planned for or experienced a cybersecurity incident are included.

Jay Pennington (Chair), Iowa Department of Education
Kristen DeSalvatore, New York State Education Department
Michael Gerszewski, Bismarck Public School District (ND)
Stephen Gervais, San Bernardino City Unified School District (CA)
Phil Grace, formerly of Heber Springs School District (AR)
Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education
Rachel Johnson, Loudoun County Public Schools (VA)
Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA)
Steve Smith, Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
Andrew Swickheimer, Noblesville Schools (IN)

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

School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED) Version 7

Purpose: 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 7 in September 2019 as a sortable, downloadable file available on the Forum SCED webpage at <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/SCED.asp>. Version 7 includes new and updated courses that were suggested by SCED users and subject matter experts in federal, state, and local education agencies.

Susan Williams (Chair), Virginia Department of Education
Brenda Dixon, Illinois State Board 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
Karen Millette, Minnesota 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
Jonathan Wiens, Oregon Department of Education

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

School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED) Version 8

Purpose: 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 8 in September 2020 as a sortable, downloadable file available on the Forum SCED webpage at <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/SCED.asp>. Version 8 includes new and updated courses that were suggested by SCED users and subject matter experts in federal, state, and local education agencies.

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
Karen Millette, Minnesota Department of Education
Demi Moon, Sioux Falls School District (SD)

Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education
Robin Utz, U.S. Department of Education
Jonathan Wiens, Oregon Department of Education

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

[SCED Resources: Master List, Finder](#)

Purpose: Following the release of SCED Version 7 and 8, the SCED Working Group also updated the SCED Master List and the SCED Finder tool. The SCED Master List is a downloadable spreadsheet that 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 7 and 8 courses.

[Forum Strategic Plan](#)

Purpose: The Steering Committee updated the *Forum Strategic Plan*, which was last updated in 2006. The updated plan includes three goals that support current Forum work and will help focus the Forum's future endeavors. The *Forum Strategic Plan* is available on the Forum Member Resources webpage at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/memb_res.asp.

[Forum Video: School Courses for the Exchange of Data \(SCED\): Using SCED Resources](#)

Purpose: The SCED Working Group developed this video to introduce six resources developed by the Forum to communicate information about SCED and assist SCED users. The video highlights the SCED Finder tool, the Forum Guide to SCED, the Frequently Asked Questions document, the SCED Master List, the SCED case studies, and the current version of SCED. The video is the third in a series; the first video provided an introduction to SCED, the second provided an overview of SCED coding, and the fourth will provide a more in-depth tutorial on using SCED Finder. The video and the resources it discusses are all available on the Forum SCED webpage at <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/SCED.asp>.

Current Working Groups and Projects

Staff Records Working Group

Purpose: The Staff Records Working Group is developing a new resource that will update information from the 2000 Forum resource, [*Privacy Issues in Education Staff Records: Guidelines for Education Agencies*](#). The new resource will provide an overview of the many types of information that may be classified as staff records; effective practices for collecting, maintaining, and protecting the privacy of these records; and information on managing access to the records, including open records requests.

Dawn Gessel (Chair), Putnam County Schools (WV)
Shuwan Chiu, Illinois State Board of Education
DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education
Larry Fruth II, Access 4 Learning
Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
John Lindner, South Washington County Schools (MN)
Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education
Zenaida Napa Natividad, Guam Department of Education
Lee Rabbitt, Pawtucket School Department (RI)
Annette Severson, Colorado Department of Education
Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)

Consultants: Andrew Scott Pyle and Kristina Dunman, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Strategies for Education Data Collection and Reporting (SEDCAR) Working Group

Purpose: The SEDCAR Working Group is developing a new resource that will update the 1991 Forum resource, [*Standards for Education Data Collection and Reporting*](#). The new resource will expand upon the Forum's previous work and address the specific needs of federal, state, and local education agencies related to creating and implementing a data strategy and effectively aligning that strategy with the needs of the agency.

Georgia Hughes-Webb (Chair), West Virginia Department of Education
Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education
DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education
Brenda Dixon, Illinois State Board of Education
Kathi Grossenbacher, Kansas State Department of Education
Laura Hansen, Metro Nashville Public Schools (TN)
Rachel Johnson, Loudoun County Public Schools (VA)
Peggy Jones, Pasco County Schools (FL)
Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education
Emily Rang, Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Andre Smith, Florida Department of Education

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

Attendance, Participation, and Engagement Working Group

The Attendance, Participation, and Engagement Working Group is developing a companion resource that draws upon the information included in the 2018 [Forum Guide to Collecting and Using Attendance Data](#) and incorporates lessons learned by state and local education agencies (SEAs and LEAs) during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The companion document will provide an overview of best practices that will help education agencies collect, report, and use attendance, participation, and engagement data in different learning formats.

Jan Petro (Co-chair), Colorado Department of Education
Cheryl L. VanNoy (Co-chair), Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)
Ruth Calvo, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School System
Dena Dossett, Jefferson County Public Schools (KY)
Charlotte Ellis, Maine Department of Education
Jan Fukada, Hawaii State Department of Education
Laura Hansen, Metro Nashville Public Schools (TN)
Carmen Jordan, Arkansas Department of Education
Rachel Kruse, Iowa Department of Education
Anita Larson, Minnesota Department of Education
Zenaida Napa Natividad, Guam Department of Education
Ellis Ott, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (AK)
Linda Rocks, Bossier Parish Schools (LA)

Consultant: Bridget Thomas, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Adam Todd, National Center for Education Statistics

Metadata Working Group

The Metadata Working Group will update and expand the 2009 publication [Forum Guide to Metadata: The Meaning Behind Education Data](#) to incorporate the recent experiences SEAs and LEAs have had with data anomalies, and reflect changes in metadata best practices and data technologies over the past decade. The document will aim to focus on metadata use, including how metadata can help manage data complications, improve data quality, and resolve data anomalies.

Georgia Hughes-Webb (Chair), West Virginia Department of Education
Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education
Matthew Danzuso, Ohio Department of Education
Brenda Dixon, Illinois State Board of Education
Stephen Gervais, San Bernardino City Unified School District (CA)
Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV)
Ryan Kuykendall, DeSoto County Schools (MS)
Rose LeRoy, New York State Education Department
Rich Nye, Ogden School District (UT)
Melanie Stewart, Milwaukee Public Schools (WI)
Debbie Yedlin, Arizona Department of Education

Consultant: Andrew Scott Pyle, Quality Information Partners
Project Officer: Ghedam Bairu, National Center for Education Statistics

Virtual Education Working Group

The Virtual Education Working Group will update and expand upon the 2016 [Forum Guide to Elementary/Secondary Virtual Education Data](#) to reflect lessons learned during the rapid and widespread adoption of virtual education. The document will detail the impact of virtual education on established data elements and methods of data collection, and provide best practices to address emerging challenges in virtual education, such as ensuring technology equity and virtual education accessibility.

Jay Pennington (Chair), Iowa Department of Education
Aaron Brough, Utah State Board of Education
Dan Brungardt, Bonner Springs/Edwardsville Unified School District 204 (KS)
Kristen DeSalvatore, New York State Education Department
Ken Hutchins, Brandywine School District (DE)
Peggy Jones, Pasco County Schools (FL)
Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education
Kris Williams, Blytheville School District (AR)
William Witkowsky, Illinois State Board of Education
Consultant: Elizabeth Lieutenant, 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 9.

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
Karen Millette, Minnesota Department of Education
Demi Moon, Sioux Falls School District (SD)
Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education
Robin Utz, U.S. Department of Education
Jonathan Wiens, Oregon Department of Education

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

Data Visualization Online Course Project Group

Purpose: The Data Visualization Online Course Project Group is developing a second data visualization online course module. This module will build upon the concepts presented in [Module 1: Introduction to Data Visualization](#) and demonstrate the effective application of data visualization to common education topics through scenarios that highlight recommended best practices.

Georgia Hughes-Webb (Chair), West Virginia Department of Education
Ellis Ott, Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (AK)
Stephen Gervais, San Bernardino City Unified School District (CA)
Rachel Johnson, Loudoun County Public Schools (VA)
Peggy Jones, Pasco County Schools (FL)
Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education
Melanie Stewart, Milwaukee Public Schools (WI)

Consultant: Denise Lawson, Quality Information Partners
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 how 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 recently developed a welcome packet for new Forum members and updated several Forum member resources, including the Forum website and Forum presentation materials ([About the Forum](#) and [Forum Resources](#)).

Marilyn King (Chair), Bozeman School District #7 (MT)
Mary Barkley, Clayton County Public Schools (GA)
Laura Boudreaux, Louisiana Department of Education
Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV)
Phil Grace, formerly of Heber Springs School District (AR)
Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education
Raymond Martin, Connecticut State Department of Education
Lynn Mellor, Regional Educational Laboratory–Southwest
Andrew Swickheimer, Noblesville Schools (IN)
Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO)

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

Forum Activities to Support Members During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic

Forum Resources to Assist with Current Challenges

The Forum created a handout that provides information on several Forum resources that may, in part, be helpful during the challenging circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. This handout is intended to identify resources that can help SEAs and LEAs address some of the new situations and issues that have emerged during the pandemic. The handout will be available on the Forum homepage at <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/>.

School Reopening Plans

The Forum has compiled and maintained a list of SEA guidance documents and information on school reopening plans. The list is regularly updated as states develop and disseminate new guidance in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The list is available on the NCES website at <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coronavirus/reopen.asp>.

Responding to SEA and LEA Needs for Virtual Learning Solutions

The Forum and the SLDS Grant Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on April 9, 2020. Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA), Jay Pennington, Iowa Department of Education, Adrian L. Peoples, Delaware Department of Education, and Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV), shared their agencies' experiences transitioning to remote and virtual learning in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The presentation also provided information on the *Forum Guide to Elementary/Secondary Virtual Education Data*. The webinar recording and presentation slides are available on the Forum website at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/pub_2016095.asp and the SLDS website at <https://slds.ed.gov/#communities/pdc/documents/18909>.

Cybersecurity and Remote Learning/Working

The Forum and the SLDS Grant Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on April 28, 2020. Steven Hernandez, the chief information security officer at the U.S. Department of Education (ED), discussed cybersecurity and remote working and learning. He shared an overview of the current cybersecurity threats, best practices for securely using teleconferencing services, and federal resources that can help SEAs and LEAs. The webinar recording and presentation slides are available on the Forum website at <https://nces.ed.gov/forum/index.asp> and the SLDS website at <https://slds.ed.gov/#communities/pdc/documents/18939>.

Planning for, Collecting, and Managing Data About Displaced Students

The Forum and the SLDS Grant Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on May 20, 2020. Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education, Terri Hanson, Texas Education Agency, Frank Cernik, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education, Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT), Laura Hansen, Metro Nashville Public Schools (TN), and Julie Riordan, Regional Educational Laboratory–Northeast and Islands, shared their agencies' experiences with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and other recent

crises. The presentation also included an overview of the [Forum Guide to Planning for, Collecting, and Managing Data About Students Displaced by a Crisis](#). The webinar recording and presentation slides are available on the Forum website at https://nces.ed.gov/forum/pub_2019163.asp and the SLDS website at <https://slds.ed.gov/#communities/pdc/documents/18977>.

Forum Virtual Activities

Steering Committee and New Members' Virtual Meeting

The Steering Committee hosted a virtual meeting for new Forum members on September 6, 2019. Meeting attendees reviewed the summer 2019 Forum meeting, shared feedback on the Forum mentoring program, and discussed how to encourage new member engagement in Forum activities.

NCES Education Demographic and Geographic Estimates (EDGE) Program Webinar

Douglas Gevertz, NCES, delivered a virtual presentation to the Forum on September 25, 2019. Douglas provided information on the EDGE program and showed a live demonstration of the EDGE website and tools.

Data Privacy Virtual Training

The Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) led a virtual training session for the Forum on October 24, 2019. PTAC addressed several timely data privacy topics, including data deletion and destruction, data back-ups, third-party data use, and research requests.

Building Capacity for Local and State Education Agencies (LEAs and SEAs) to Support Personalized Learning Webinar

The Forum and the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Grant Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on December 4, 2019. Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education, Wendy Geller, Vermont Agency of Education, and Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT), were joined by their agency colleagues to share their agencies' experiences with personalized learning. The presentation highlighted the [Forum Guide to Personalized Learning Data](#) and provided helpful information for SEAs and LEAs that are considering implementing or have already implemented personalized learning within their agency. The webinar recording and presentation slides are available on the SLDS website at <https://slds.ed.gov/#communities/pdc/documents/18416>.

Forum Website and Forum360 Webinar

Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education, and Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT), delivered a virtual presentation to the Forum on January 15, 2020. Dean and Marilyn provided an overview of the many resources available on the Forum website and provided information on Forum360.

Regional Educational Laboratories (REL) Program Webinar

Chris Boccanfuso, Erin Pollard, and Janelle Sands, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, delivered a virtual presentation to the Forum on March 4, 2020. They provided an overview of the REL Program and an update on major projects and current activities of the RELs.

Strategies for Leveraging SCED to Support SEA and LEA Goals Webinar

The Forum and the SLDS Grant Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on April 8, 2020. SCED Working Group Chair Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education, and SCED Working Group member Rachel Kruse, Iowa Department of Education, shared their agencies' experiences with SCED. The presentation also provided an overview of SCED, including recent SCED Version 7 updates, and demonstrated how to use the SCED Finder tool. The webinar recording and presentation slides are available on the SLDS website at <https://slids.ed.gov/#communities/pdc/documents/17590>.

NESAC Virtual Meeting

NESAC held a virtual meeting on June 24, 2020. NESAC Chair Cheryl L. VanNoy, Saint Louis Public Schools (MO), and NESAC Vice Chair, Gunes Kaplan, Nevada Department of Education, facilitated a discussion on timely topics of interest, including data-related issues during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. NESAC members focused on identifying types of data and data management practices.

PPI Committee Virtual Meetings

The PPI Committee held a virtual meeting on July 13, 2020. PPI Chair Bradley McMillen, Wake County Public School System (NC), and PPI Vice Chair Linda Jenkins, Arkansas Department of Education, facilitated a discussion on timely topics of interest, including data-related issues during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. PPI members focused on the policy, procedures, and implementation aspects of these topics.

TECH Committee Virtual Meetings

The TECH Committee held a virtual meeting on July 14, 2020. TECH Chair DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education, and TECH Vice Chair Dawn Gessel, Putnam County Schools (WV), facilitated a discussion on timely topics of interest, including data-related issues during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. TECH members focused on the technical aspects of these topics.

New Members' Meeting

The Forum hosted a virtual meeting for new Forum members on September 29, 2020. The new members learned more about how the Forum works and discussed Forum activities with members of the Forum Steering Committee.

Effective Practices for Establishing and Sustaining SEA and LEA Data Governance

The Forum and the SLDS Grant Program joined efforts to deliver a virtual presentation on November 4, 2020. Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education, and Laura Hansen, Metro Nashville Public Schools (TN), shared their agencies' experiences with

data governance. The presentation also highlighted the [Forum Guide to Data Governance](#) and provided helpful information for SEAs and LEAs that are implementing or updating their data governance programs.

Meetings

Summer 2019 Forum Meeting and STATS-DC Data Conference

The 2019 Summer Forum Meeting took place July 22 - July 24 in Washington, DC. Past Forum Chair Allen Miedema, Northshore School District (WA), welcomed Forum members to the meeting and introduced NCES Commissioner James “Lynn” Woodworth, who provided an update on NCES work that focused on useful information for SEAs and LEAs and presented certificates to members of completed working groups. 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: Patrick Rooney, ED, DeDe Conner, Kentucky Department of Education, Lee Rabbitt, Pawtucket School Department (RI), and Linda Roska, Texas Education Agency, participated in a panel presentation on state, district, and school report cards; Frank E. Miller, Jr., and Tracy Koumare, ED, provided an update on federal student privacy; and Steven Hernandez, the chief information security officer at ED, discussed cybersecurity in SEAs and LEAs. Standing committees met to discuss topics of interest to committee members, including report cards, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), cybersecurity, student data privacy, data use, communication and reporting, ED Facts, social-emotional learning, and more.

The meeting concluded with a panel presentation on the Forum’s new and forthcoming resources by Georgia Hughes-Webb, West Virginia Department of Education; Marilyn King, Bozeman School District #7 (MT); Jan Petro, Colorado Department of Education; Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education; Steve Smith, Cambridge Public Schools (MA); and Susan Williams, Virginia Department of Education. The Forum recognized the 2018-19 Officers for their service and elected a new slate of officers led by Forum Chair Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education. 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 the *Forum Guide to Exit Codes*; the *Forum Guide to Personalized Learning Data*; the *Forum Guide to Planning for, Collecting, and Managing Data About Students Displaced by a Crisis*; the *Forum Guide to Technology Management in Education*; the *Forum Guide to Data Governance*; and SCED.

2020 Full Forum Webinars During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic

Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Forum was unable to hold an in-person Summer 2020 meeting in Washington, DC. Based on members' feedback, the Forum organized three virtual meetings on topics of interest to Forum members.

Cybersecurity Webinar

Steven Hernandez, the chief information security officer at ED, delivered a virtual presentation to the Forum on August 25, 2020. Steven addressed several timely cybersecurity topics, including technology equity and cybersecurity, cybersecurity in a telework environment, and securing personal information.

Technology Equity Panel Discussion

Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education; Don Benton, Linda Jenkins, and Carmen Jordan, Arkansas Department of Education; Bradley McMillen, Wake County Public School System (NC); and Rachel Johnson and Aaron Smith, Loudoun County Public Schools (VA); participated in a virtual panel discussion on September 21, 2020. The panelists shared their agencies' experiences supporting technology equity, including collecting data on technology equity.

Education Equity Indicators Webinar

Natalie Nielsen, Stuart Elliott, and Judith Koenig (National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine) delivered a virtual presentation to the Forum on October 19, 2020. The presentation reviewed the work of the National Academies' Committee on Developing Indicators of Educational Equity and provided information on two reports: *Monitoring Educational Equity* and *Building Educational Equity Indicator Systems: A Guidebook for States and School Districts*.

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 Dean Folkers, Nebraska Department of Education, 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>.