**Conference Call Notes – September 30, 2013**

**Fiscal Update:  SPED Excess Cost/FFR –**Shane Rhian and Greg Prochazka,  NDE Financial Services

       See attachment

* Shane Rhian – director of financial services
* Look at document to clear up questions/concerns regarding how reimbursed on sped
* Reimbursed 2 pots
  + Federal IDEA
  + State Funds
    - School age
    - Transportation
  + Federal dollars are reimbursed dollar for dollar that you claim through that process
  + Large chuck left unreimbursed
    - Complete school age final financial – all costs
    - State reduces by IDEA
    - Remainder reimbursed by state
      * Add all together and then divide up pot through the state
      * Around 50-52%
      * For every dollar you spend, it is reimbursed on a prorated basis
      * At no point in time, will you not be reimbursed based on the list
      * You will still be reimbursed excess costs
* Example calculation on 2nd page
* Below age 5 – only reimbursed through IDEA funds – no other funds are used other than district local funds
* You can look at prior years or current years after you submitted it
* Directions will be on-line soon
* You cannot access individual sections
* View summary of data submitted will give you an entire report, so you can look at that
* When you want to look at the prior year, you need to navigate between years on the left side of the screen (where the years are), then you can look at prior years.
* When submitting FFR, should we include the amount which has not been received yet? Yes, you should include costs as well as expected reimbursement. The two systems should reconcile with each other. It will need to be on the reduction line as well as in the expenditures.

**SPED Funding Updates  --** Gary Sherman and Pete Biaggio

       SPED IDEA Consolidated Grant – Gary

* App for 2012-13 – get payment requests submitted as soon as possible
  + Will have a log jam, because of end of year
* 2013-14 year app is in the process of being set up
  + Time schedule will be similar
  + MOE will be discussed shortly
  + Reduction – IDEA – Sequestration – resulted in a reduction of about 5%
  + Used state set aside dollars so the reduction would remain at 5% instead of being a hirer.
  + October 1st – government shutdown may occur – we do not know if it will have an impact on IDEA funds – at this point, we hear that there may not be an impact at this time.
  + October 17th – debt ceiling date – this may have an impact as well on federal funds

       2014 SPED Collaborative/ SE-CIP Grants  --  Pete

* Due September 30th
* Final narrative due October 15th
* Collaborative facilitator grant – October 17th – meeting to further refine the activities for next year for RDA concepts

       Maintenance of Effort (MOE) calculations – Pete

* OSEP – introduced a few new terms
  + Maintenance of effort eligibility standard – calculation of MOE based on budgeted costs
  + MOE Compliance Costs – on actual costs
* Worksheet to determine MOE is now online on the portal (as of today)
* MOE is used to determine eligibility
* Must use equal or greater local funds from one year to the next
* Cannot supplant must supplement
* Expenditures less receipts will be on line Q
* Must be completed by October 30th
* Estimated expenditures must be as accurate as possible
* Some exemptions are available
  + An announcement letter will be sent out with the appropriate federal language associated with the exemptions
  + If did not meet planned target – if in needs assistance or lower as far as performance plan target – you are not eligible for the exemptions
  + Will assist school districts in meeting MOE

**State Updates** --  Beth Wierda and Carol McClain

       NDE Rule 51 and Rule 52

* Nothing new on Rule 51
* Based on last legal review, we have made changes. Will be sent to legal again.
* Will be up for hearing in December
* Cannot have a hearing on 51 until 52’s because of the removal of information and the addition of other info
* Rule 52 is based on federal register’s materials

**RDA Updates  --**  Beth Wierda

* In August we talked about RDA and have created 4 teams (financial – Pete,, Improvement – Lindy, Data – Sara, & Monitoring – Jeanne)

       Program Improvement Team – Lindy Foley

* ILCD/Impact Areas
  + Want to be able to look at program improvement at the district level
  + Continuing to get information from the OSEP
  + Looking at ILCD workbooks
  + How fit in additional information
  + Have a great mechanism in place to have districts talk about improvement
  + Focus on impact areas
  + Collapsing indicators
  + During 13-14 year – still business as usual
  + Working on improvement plans
  + Will roll out new workbook in 14-15
* State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report
  + State is required to submit in February
  + Both Part B & C
  + 30 indicators of data (which NDE gets from districts)
    - Compliance and performance

       Monitoring Team – Jeanne Heaston

* Update on monitoring
  + Looking at monitoring for Part B, C & service agencies
  + Amy from HHS is working on Part C
  + Part B – looking at differentiated monitoring – looking at process for that
  + Continuing to do a file review and then what it looks like at the district level – focused monitoring – roots for concerns for monitoring – what kind of data to collect to have for impact areas that impact improvement for kids
  + Indicator 11 – letter sent to districts that had file review in 12/13 school year – due October 31st – upload on ILCD website
  + Indicator 12 – collect annually – sending letter tomorrow – have a glitch on the website – there used to be a table to gather data, but it is not accurate at this point, so working on fixing that soon – will have October 31st due date as well
* Parent surveys
  + Information sent to NDE. Have list of districts that need to report for Indicator 8 – hope to have it up soon as well.

       Data Team – John Marcucci (attachment)

* NSSRS submissions **due by October 14**
  + October 1st snapshop
  + Once passes, not anything we can do to correct mistakes
  + If problems with portal – call help desk
* Audit window will be open **until October 31**
* December 2nd – NSSRS Data Extract for Assessment Labels for Writing
* January 31 – NSSRS Data Extract for Assessment Labels for Reading & Writing

o   Questions/issues?  Contact the NDE Helpdesk:

  Submit a “Helpdesk Request” from your portal account.  After logging in, go to the upper right corner of the Collection Announcement page.  This is the fastest way to get your request to the Helpdesk.

  Email:  [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](https://exchange.sbps.net/owa/redir.aspx?C=e73136838c304db8b46ff49e43a9adee&URL=mailto%3ande.helpdesk%40nebraska.gov)

  Call toll free:  888-285-0556

**NeSA Alternate Assessment Criteria/Checklist –** Sharon Heater  (attachment)

* Link on website
* Use checklist/criteria – on website, also use decision making guidelines

**Accessible Instructional Materials** – Teresa Coonts

       OSEP Braille Letter re NIMAS- NIMAC  (attachment)

* out ill, so will do in our next call

**Heads Up and Announcements**

       Welcome new SPED Directors!  Sept 26 in Lincoln

* NDE joined with NASES to assist new sped directors on the 26th
* From the department’s standpoint – this was a very successful day

       Amended 2013-14 SPED call schedule (attachment)

* Sara is leaving the office. Pam Duncan is retiring.

**Questions**

* Do districts need to provide parents with Rule 55, copy of Rule 51 (portion), and Parental Rights
  + Part B
    - Must give copies of parental rights annually
    - Initial consideration for sped – must give actual procedures Rule 51 009.11 & Rule 55 (only on initial consideration, then just parental rights)
  + Part C
    - Same information as Part B
* When is the ILCD Facilitator Grant due
  + 12/13 Final report due October 1st
  + 13/14 Application is due October 25th
* Results Matter Document
  + ECERS will move to an alternating schedule
  + Alternating schedule with the CLASS
  + No changes this year
  + ECERS and CLASS training scheduled in Results Matter TA Document (will mail multiple copies)
  + Go to results matter on the NDE webpage

**Calendar Ahead**

Click on the NDE SPED link for SPED conference/training registration:

[http://www.education.ne.gov/sped/index.html](https://exchange.sbps.net/owa/redir.aspx?C=e73136838c304db8b46ff49e43a9adee&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.education.ne.gov%2fsped%2findex.html" \t "_blank)

Oct 8-9                2013 Nebraska Transition Summit: Connecting the Dots, College Park, Grand Island

Oct 10                  NDE/NASES Liaison Committee, Lincoln

Oct-April              GOLD Trainings statewide.  Click on NDE SPED link above for registration and details.

Nov 7-8               Tri-State SPED Law Conference, Old Market Embassy Suites, Omaha

               Nov 15Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council, Lincoln

               Nov 21                 State Special Ed Advisory Council,  Lincoln

               Apr 3-4, 2014      ASD Network State Conference, Embassy Suites LaVista (flyer in October)

**NEXT CALL!  THURS. OCT 31**