



Building State Capacity
and Productivity Center



Greetings Colleagues,

This month my letter will focus on two of the BSCP Center's strategic areas; the collaborative efforts with other organizations in the financial transparency work, and state work in Strategic Performance Management.

The BSCP Center partners with other stakeholders in the Financial Transparency work

Our work helping states meet the ESSA financial transparency requirement is ongoing. Since the end of 2017, our partner Edunomics Lab has engaged in individual TA and virtual communications with thirteen states, regarding state-issued rules related to financial transparency, data analyses and displays, and communicating with various stakeholders. We hosted a webinar on December 19, 2017, attended by 19 states and two school districts. We continue to learn from these state interactions and are working on additional resources that will be shared in future newsletters

Additionally, the BSCP Center has interacted with other stakeholder groups to help all audiences realize the potential in this financial data to drive improvements for students. Other group interactions include panel sessions at the following: CCSSO convenings (Annual Policy Forum and Legislative Conference), NASBE and NCSL meetings, a national audience via an EdWeek webinar, and the recent National Association of State Title I Directors meeting in Philadelphia. If you are interested in learning more about this work do not hesitate to reach out to Katie via email at Katie.hagan@georgetown.edu.

The BSCP Center customizes the Strategic Performance Management process based on state needs

When the BSCP Center released *Strategic Performance Management: Organizing People and Their Work in the SEA of the Future* in 2015, it fused strategic planning with an ongoing performance management system appropriate for a state education agency. Soon the Center got an opportunity to test the concept with the Arkansas Department of Education and the Virgin Islands Department of Education, supported by their regional centers—South Central CC and Florida & Islands CC—to re-vision their education systems. A year later the Kansas State Department of Education followed suit, supported by the Central CC. Not long after, the Bureau of Indian Education, first supported by the South-Central CC and later by the West CC, began a multi-year engagement with the BSCP Center.



Then came requests for variations on the theme of SPM for state education agencies. One request was for a process to implement SPM in a department of the SEA rather than the whole SEA. Another request was to move SPM into districts and schools as part of the state's system of support. So, the BSCP Center went to work and published *SPM for Your Branch* and *Casting a Statewide Strategic Performance Net*. No sooner were these publications posted on the BSCP website than Missouri's Office of College and Career Readiness engaged the BSCP Center and the Central CC with the branch approach, and the Oregon Department of Education District and School Effectiveness Office began integrating SPM into the Oregon system of support.

Strategic Performance Management moves an organization from vision to clear direction to the organized participation of every member of the staff in designing, implementing, tracking, and reporting progress on strategies aimed at student-focused goals with performance measures. SPM has proved to be an adaptable model, finding its way into various organization types and for a variety of purposes. The BSCP Center looks forward to more ways to serve education with systematic approaches to making work meaningful, rewarding, and productive.

As always, I appreciate hearing from you on any of your thoughts, comments, or questions.

Sincerely,

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Building State Capacity and Productivity Center

The Building State Capacity and Productivity Center (BSCP Center) focuses work on helping state education agencies (SEAs) throughout the country, as they adapt to constrained fiscal resources and increased demands for greater productivity. As State Departments of Education are facing a daunting challenge of improving student performance with diminishing financial resources, the BSCP Center provides technical assistance to SEAs that builds their capacity to support local educational agencies (LEAs or districts) and schools, and to the other 21 regional comprehensive centers and national content centers that serve them, by providing high quality information, tools, and implementation support. The partners in the BSCP Center are Westat, the Academic Development Institute, and the Edunomics Lab (Georgetown University).

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