



Building State Capacity
and Productivity Center



November 2017

Greetings Colleagues,

The important news this month is that the BSCP Center has been asked by the US Department of Education to develop a Comprehensive Center Network portal (CCN Portal) for the 22 Comprehensive Centers. This portal will make the extensive resources of the Comprehensive Center system easily accessible to all educational stakeholders. It will map the CC Network resources into one robust searchable index, and provide access to the CC Network expertise, services, resources, and events.

We are all aware of the greater decision-making authority for States and districts in designing and implementing federal programs as a result of Every Student Succeed Act. Comprehensive Centers will have a critical role in supporting access to evidence-based practices and providing direct services to educators in improving outcomes for all students. We want the CCN Portal to increase awareness of the evidence-based resources, and ensure sustained access to the them, thus providing greater opportunities for students.

The CCN portal will be developed for two major audiences: A site to engage and provide resource access to a wide range of public stakeholders and an online environment for Centers to support cross-Center collaboration and resource sharing.

To ensure the CCN portal serves the needs of educational stakeholders, we are soliciting information from State Chiefs and key professional organizations from throughout the country. Also, we are working with all of the Comprehensive Centers gathering their ideas for the CCN portal.

The BSCP Center, in conjunction with the Westat development team, meet frequently with ED's center leadership, to ensure the progress of the portal meets project goals and to periodically review portal development. If you have suggestions for us to consider for the portal, I would sincerely appreciate hearing from you.

What approach does your state use to assign costs to school level expenditures? This month the BSCP Center in partnership with Edunomics Lab added

another hands-on resource for SEAs working to meet ESSA's financial transparency



requirement. “Four Approaches to Assigning Costs to Central Levels vs. School Levels When Calculating Per-Pupil Expenditures” outlines the ways states can tackle the task of reporting dollars spent on behalf of two or more schools, known as central or shared expenditures. The publication can help states make critical decisions on how to accurately capture central costs in school-level reporting as they draft their required financial transparency reporting plans. Other vital BSCP Center financial-transparency resources include a step by step data inventory guide, steps to acquiring necessary data, and the [SLFS Converter](#) (a tool states can use to combine data from two federal surveys to meet the reporting requirement) as well as ongoing group and one-on-one technical assistance. For questions on any of these online resources or to participate in technical assistance, please contact Katie Hagan at her email address - Katie.Hagan@georgetown.edu.

All tools can be found at <http://bit.ly/2rpwTYF> or by selecting the individual resource below:

Watch Data
Inventory Intro



View the Data
Inventory Report



Moving From Data
Inventory to Action



The Productivity
Opportunity



Four Approaches
to Assigning Costs



As we approach the upcoming holiday seasons I wish you the best as you celebrate with families and friends. Happy Holidays everyone.

Sincerely,

Dean H. Nafziger, Ph.D.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

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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