

Northeast Education Services Cooperative

Strategic Plan

2014 - 2020



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NESC MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE NESC IS TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ITS MEMBER SCHOOLS.

NESC VISION STATEMENT

THE NESC INSPIRES EDUCATORS, LEADS FOR CONTINUOUS SUCCESS, AND MODELS EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE.

NESC STRATEGIC PLAN COMPONENTS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (LEARNING)

DATA SYSTEMS

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

NESC STRATEGIC GOAL 1: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (LEARNING)

NESC EXTERNAL:

NESC will demonstrate the capacity to be leaders and will model coordination, facilitation, and marketing of high quality professional development (learning) opportunities for schools.

NESC INTERNAL:

NESC will model self-development. NESC staff will regularly engage in focused professional development (learning) activities designed to develop or enrich NESC's leadership and management abilities. Such development leads to: 1) improved utilization of networking opportunities, 2) greater capitalization of new ideas, 3) improved awareness of new trends, best practices, and researched practices, and 4) enhanced abilities to exercise leadership to plan and implement high quality programs and services within each REA school and statewide.

APPROACH:

Professional Development (Learning) is defined as the means by which educators develop new knowledge and skills, and implement practices necessary to build teacher, school, and district system capacity. NESC prioritizes, facilitates, and delivers high quality professional development (learning) opportunities for individuals, schools, and districts. The professional development (learning) is customized based upon research, data, needs assessments, trends, and current issues to build and improve capacity of administrators, teachers, counselors, schools, and districts. NESC staff assists educators and schools in becoming leaders of educational excellence, often working in partnership with organizations such as DPI, ESPB, ND University System, ND LEAD Center, Teacher Learning Centers, and other REAs.

ACTION STEPS:

- 1) NESC collaborates with NDREA to identify and establish clear standards of quality for professional development (learning) including standards for measuring quality outcomes and quality processes.
- 2) NESC evaluates its existing professional development (learning) programs against the standards of quality and establishes a baseline.
- 3) NESC identifies gaps and priorities to achieve the professional development (learning) goal.
- 4) NESC identifies common needs, strategies and potential partnerships to plan for professional development (learning) implementation.
- 5) NESC develops and implements a process whereby schools communicate collaborative efforts throughout the REA.
- 6) NESC evaluates, continuously reviews, and makes adjustments in professional development (learning) offerings to promote continuous improvement and to tailor the sessions to specific school and district needs.

- 7) NESC shares and disseminates best practice and professional development (learning) opportunities within the NESC, amongst REAs and across other educational entities.
- 8) NESC seeks additional financial supports within the REA and across REAs for sustaining quality professional development (learning).
- 9) NESC fosters and promotes leadership opportunities for NESC staff and members.

NESC STRATEGIC GOAL 2: DATA SYSTEMS

NESC EXTERNAL:

NESC will demonstrate the capacity to effectively collect, analyze, and interpret student achievement data. NESC will support schools in their data analysis efforts towards improved and purposeful instruction.

NESC INTERNAL:

NESC will create and use a comprehensive system to document regional program implementation, student achievement, and progress data. The internal data system will allow for meaningful and useful reporting to individual school, district, REA, and state stakeholders.

APPROACH:

A comprehensive system would include longitudinal data to support the programmatic and regional professional development (learning) opportunities within the NESC. Information collected could include internal evaluation data and various student academic data points. Data analysis strategies could include research-based methods for disseminating data, determining appropriate strategies, and planning for purposeful and timely responses.

ACTION STEPS:

- 1) NESC develops a database that will be meaningful and useful for reporting to individual schools or districts, NESC boards, or other state stakeholders.
- 2) NESC creates content for educator professional development (learning) opportunities through comprehensive data analysis.
- 3) NESC empowers schools to develop data analysis routines and evidence-based instruction.
- 4) NESC compiles, shares, and disseminates quantitative and qualitative data in a meaningful and useful manner to highlight the work of the NESC.

NESC STRATEGIC GOAL 3: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

NESC EXTERNAL:

NESC will implement a comprehensive support system to assist schools in evaluating system effectiveness and organizing continuous improvement.

NESC INTERNAL:

NESC will design a comprehensive support system to assist schools in evaluating system effectiveness and organizing continuous improvement.

APPROACH:

Continuous improvement is defined by the indicators outlined in the state accreditation model. A comprehensive support system could include school consultation, data collection, data analysis, professional development (learning) services, program evaluation, state accreditation assistance, technology support, curriculum enrichment or expansion, and school collaboration opportunities.

ACTION STEPS:

- 1) NESC establishes and maintains a clearly defined and comprehensive evaluation system.
- 2) NESC continuously collects, analyzes, and uses a range of data sources, including comparison and trend data related to program effectiveness.
- 3) NESC monitors and communicates to schools comprehensive information about student and staff learning and achievement.
- 4) NESC assists schools in applying learning from a range of data sources, including comparison and trend data about student and staff learning, instruction, program evaluation, and organizational conditions.
- 5) NESC participates in training for evaluation, interpretation, and use of data.
- 6) NESC engages in a continuous process to determine verifiable continuous improvement by schools.

NESC STRATEGIC GOAL 4: CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

NESC EXTERNAL:

NESC will expand and enrich curriculum in schools through direct facilitation and district assistance.

NESC INTERNAL:

NESC will research, implement and evaluate curriculum expansion and enrichment opportunities to enhance students' educational experiences and to effectively respond to regional curriculum needs.

APPROACH:

Curriculum Expansion is enhancement of curriculum or course offerings such as Career and Technical Education, Technology Learning Cooperative, AP courses, dual credit courses, or ITV. Curriculum Enrichment is the process of selectively modifying a curriculum by adding educational content or new learning opportunities (e.g., Young Writers Conference, SCRUBS Camp, Summer School, Marketplace for Kids, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, STEM Camps, Roads to Success). Quality education systems are built upon college- and career-ready standards, rich and engaging curricula based on the standards, and high-quality, aligned assessments to measure student learning. REAs should take steps to promote rigorous standards, effective assessment systems, and proven, viable curricula.

ACTION STEPS:

- 1) NESC aligns curriculum expansion and enrichment endeavors to clear standards of quality.
- 2) NESC evaluates current curriculum opportunities against the standards of quality.
- 3) NESC identifies gaps and priorities to achieve the curriculum expansion and enrichment goal.
- 4) NESC identifies common needs, strategies and potential partnerships to plan for implementation.
- 5) NESC promotes curriculum expansion and enrichment opportunities among member schools, and provides a support structure for collaborative implementation.
- 6) NESC develops and implements a process whereby REAs and other educational partners strategically plan and communicate collaborative efforts to conduct long-range planning and to maximize the efficiency of human, material, and financial resources available.

NESC STRATEGIC GOAL 5: GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

NESC EXTERNAL:

NESC will operate under governance and leadership that promote and support school performance and effectiveness.

NESC INTERNAL:

NESC will operate under governance and leadership that promote and support staff performance and effectiveness.

APPROACH:

School and staff performance and effectiveness are monitored and supported by the NESC governance and leadership roles, including the Administrative Board, Joint Board, Executive Board and NESC Executive Director. Regular board meetings are held, and meeting agendas and minutes are maintained and distributed. Protocols for establishing and monitoring REA activities and governing documents are in place and could include bylaws, the joint powers agreement, the staff policy manual, and committee roles and purposes.

ACTION STEPS:

- 1) NESC governing body establishes policies and supports practices that ensure effective administration of the REA.
- 2) NESC governing body operates responsibly and functions effectively.
- 3) NESC governing body ensures that agency leadership has the autonomy to meet established goals and to manage day-to-day operations effectively.
- 4) NESC governing body conducts a systematic review of bylaws, protocols, committees, policy manuals, and any other relevant documents.
- 5) NESC leadership and staff foster a culture consistent with the REA's purpose and direction.
- 6) NESC leadership engages stakeholders effectively in support of the agency's purpose and direction.
- 7) NESC leadership maintains supervision and evaluation processes that result in improved professional practice.
- 8) NESC leadership and staff foster a culture consistent with the member schools' purpose and direction.
- 9) NESC leadership engages stakeholders effectively in support of the REA's purpose and direction.
- 10) NESC leadership and staff supervision and evaluation processes result in improved professional practice and REA success.
- 11) NESC governing body and leadership pursue funding sources to sustain staff and services beyond grant awards and to explore opportunities beyond current REA means.