FATA Region 4 Meeting Minutes
3/4/19 9:00-3:00
Brevard County

In Attendance: Volusia, Orange, Seminole, FLVS, Hernando, Okeechobee, Highlands, St. Lucie, Brevard, Flagler

- TestHound Introduction and Presentation
    - Software will inventory materials, schedule testing, track accommodations and provide reports. Data is updated nightly with your district's SIS. It tracks new students, students who transfer, it rolls up each year, etc. Web-based so you can access it at any time from anywhere. They run on Amazon web services which runs all over so if one place goes out then it is backed up somewhere else, so it is a stable platform. District people can download reports from the schools and reports are archived for 5 years. There are reports for attendance, rosters, seating charts, security logs, etc. Reports can be PDF, Word or Excel. Reports can be copied so it is replicated for the different subjects without having to rebuild them. It will allow you to add any new students who came in between administrations. They have a helpdesk to assist with school-based questions and the rep will also support the district person. There is also online help/support and you can submit a ticket. Pricing is based on district enrollment. $1,500.00 for training and $1,200.00 for Technical setup and then there is a price per pupil.
    - Hernando, Highlands and St. Lucie are working with them this year.
        - Highlands (Skyward)—just starting with it, the schools are loving it. It isn't just for FSA, schools are using it for FSAA, PSAT, ACCESS for ELLs, etc. The integration is easy, TestHound has been very supportive, up and running in a month and they trained one day from 8:30-2:30 and teachers were able to "play" with it and start setting things up. For secondary you can make a class list in TestHound and upload it to TIDE to make rosters and print test tickets.
        - Hernando (TERMS)—piloting it at a few schools at all levels. It does interact with the IEP system (PEER) and the student system. It alerts the testing coordinator when there is a new student and the accommodations show on the report. 504s had to be done manually. They did not buy scanners, they use the scanners that they already have at the schools, however TestHound does sell scanners if you need them.
        - St. Lucie—just using at high schools to assist with the scheduling piece. They also found it very helpful for accommodations.
- Paper-Based Testing
    - Not enough help at the schools.
        - Hire subs to go into Grades K-2 classrooms and have those teachers help administer. Seminole provides schools with sub funding for this.
        - District Assistance
            - Seminole—district administrators must do 2 days per year at a school, so they usually save it for testing time.
            - Volusia—district administrators sign up on an Office 365 calendar to fill school requests, however there are so many requests it is hard to fill them and this year with elementary math it will be impossible to fill the requests.

- We have seen a spike in the number of students and the accommodations they are being given on their EIP or 504 and this is troubling for paper-based testing because there isn't enough help to provide these accommodations.
  - The short turn-around time to return materials is putting districts in a very tough position.
  - Hospital Homebound concern for test security. Hernando has drop boxes at the schools and when the teacher is done testing, they have to drop it in the box if it is after hours. Other districts only allow them to test during the day.
- FATA Memo to DOE
  - Most items need a legislative change to make happen.
    - College and Career points for military path
    - Not including students in ACCESS courses in denominator for acceleration
    - Request for repository for state testing scores
  - Neyda would like assistance from DOE on how to make/request these legislative changes. She would like to speak at FOIL with Jacob Oliva to see how we can proceed.
  - Brevard's superintendent is pushing for the college and career readiness issues.
  - Other issues to bring forward:
    - Late score release
    - How districts calculate 30% for the EOCs, too varied, state should mandate how this is done for all districts.
    - FSA EOCs should be able to be administered in one day, like the NGSSS EOCs.
    - We feel that there will be more schools not meeting the 95% tested because of the May window going so late into the school year. Some districts get out of school before the testing window ends.
- New Testing Coordinator Training
  - Orange County has modules on Canvas to orient them with some of the important things they need to know to get started.
  - Brevard does roundtables and bring in different groups for Q and A sessions.
  - Volusia holds some face to face trainings and Skype meetings throughout the year specifically for new Testing Coordinators.
  - Hernando does a Jeopardy game with small prizes at the end of their meetings.
  - The materials provided by DOE (manuals, guides, PowerPoints, etc.) are overwhelming, they need to streamline the materials, there is no way we can use all of it to train.
- Appendix L/NGSSS Tests/Content Codes Reporting Categories Removed
  - Changed NGSSS test codes from EAH, ECS EB1, etc. to NGS the code of 27 is no longer valid so it is messing with Pre-ID files, transcripts, etc. Highlands county uses Skyward and they are having a hard time.
- ACT NCR
  - College Board sends transcripts to colleges so there aren't any issues with colleges thinking that a score is college reportable if it mistakenly ends up on a transcript.
- FOIL
  - Neyda spoke to Gina Tovine about having the spring meeting in June, after testing, and she seemed receptive, but it remains May 15th and 16th.
  - Not sure if we will have a FATA meeting because they announced they were starting earlier on the first day. Neyda has reached out to see what time they plan to start on the first day and will make a decision.

- Subgroup Data Usage
  - Reduce subgroup achievement gaps by 1/3. Hernando has started looking at this and came up with a subgroup committee. They found that more than academics it would be the relationships formed with these kids to help get achievement up. They mentor the lowest quartile students with staff members and also with higher level students. They won't know the academic impact until this year's scores come in, but they found it was very impactful for the staff and students. They call it the PIT (Peer Inclusion Team) crew.
  - There is concern with the ESSA subgroups because they aren't sure who counts and who doesn't. There was some discrepancy with the INDV file and the baseline data with some of the districts for the percentage in the subgroups.
- Concordant Score for FCAT Reading 2.0 is FSA ELA 349
- FLE ID
  - Volusia checks the score file to ensure the FLE IDs are correct and there have been discrepancies. They then have to do a score inquiry to get it corrected.
  - Hernando loads a file to TIDE and PAN every Friday with the changes for that week to avoid issues with schools entering students.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:45. Our next meeting will be in Flagler county over the summer.