



**Texas Education Agency
Information Task Force (ITF)**

April 9, 2024

Zoom

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Joel Garcia, ITF Chair

Joel Garcia called the ITF meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call of the ITF members was taken by Lynne Smith.

ITF Members Present:

Catherine Bray, Joel Garcia, Keitha Ivey, D'Lynne Johnson, Georgia Kalligeris, David Marx, David McKamie, John Newcom, Chris Pace, Traci Pesina, Lauren Price, Linda Roska, Brittany Wright

ITF Alternate Members Present:

Melinda Arguello, Christine Barnes, Isabel Hovey, Justin Jons, Tamara Kavanaugh, Sandra Kratz, Shawna Ohnesorge, Linda Raney, Elisa Sanchez, Nina Taylor, Debby Wilburn

TEA Staff Present:

Customer Relationship Management and Data Standards Department:

Kathy Adaky, Connor Briggs, Naomi Davis, Monica Harwig, Jeanine Helms, Terri Hanson, Scott Johnson, Ed Linden, Becky McCully, Jamie Muffoletto, Leticia Ollervidez, Alfredo Salinas, Leanne Simons, Lynne Smith, Melissa Witcher

Division of Authorizing Department:

Marian Schutte, Ann Rajan

Special Education Technical Assistance Department:

Emily Robinson, Steve Miller (ASL Interpreter), Ariel Baseman (ASL Interpreter)

Approve Meeting Minutes from January 16, 2024, ITF Meeting **Action Item**

Joel Garcia called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the January 16, 2024, ITF meeting.

Catherine Bray made a motion to approve the minutes.

Traci Pesina seconded the motion.

Vote: Passed

1. Dropout Recovery Education Program New Data Element and Descriptors Action Item

Background:

SB 1647, passed during the 88th Legislative Regular Session, amended Texas Education Code Section 29.081 for dropout recovery education programs. A school district or open-enrollment charter school may use a private or public community-based dropout recovery education program or education management organization to provide alternative education programs for students at risk of dropping out of school. The program may be offered in person at a campus, remotely, or through a hybrid of in-person and remote instruction. A student who successfully completes a course offered through a dropout recovery program will be included in the district's or school's average daily attendance for funding purposes. Students participating in the dropout recovery program can be reported with regular attendance or optional flexible school day program attendance, depending on the program offered by the district or open-enrollment charter school.

Overview:

Texas Education Data Standards Changes:

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) will add one new data element, DropoutRecoveryCourseCompletion (E3XXX) and a corresponding descriptor table to the CourseTranscript entity to show if the student completed the course in person or remotely. Additionally, TEA will add one new descriptor to the StudentCharacteristic (C344) descriptor table. The new descriptor would be used in the PEIMS Summer Submission to report a student was in a dropout recovery program under TEC §29.081 at any point in the school year. Reports will be revised and added to display students participating in the program and their course completion information. Finally, data validations will be reviewed to determine changes needed based on the impact in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange (TREx) Changes:

None

Presentation:

Jamie Muffoletto presented the proposal, which includes:

Texas Education Data Standards:

1. Add the new data element DropoutRecoveryCourseCompletion (E3XXX) and associated guidance to the CourseTranscript entity in the Student Academic Record Domain to be reported as optional in the PEIMS Summer Submission
2. Add a new descriptor table DropoutRecoveryCourseCompletion (C3XX):
 - a. 01 –
Short Description – In Person Dropout Recovery Course Completion
Long Description – Student completed an in-person course through a dropout recovery education program under TEC §29.081.
 - b. 02 –

Short Description – Remote Dropout Recovery Course Completion

Long Description – Student completed a remote course through a dropout recovery education program under TEC §29.081.

3. Add the following new descriptor to the StudentCharacteristic (C344) descriptor table:

- a. 23 –

Short Description – Dropout Recovery Program

Long Description – Student participated in a dropout recovery program under TEC §29.081 at any point in the school year.

4. Add and revise reports in the PEIMS Summer Submission to reflect changes in this proposal.
5. Add and revise data validation rules in the PEIMS Summer Submission to reflect changes in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange Data Standards:

None

ITF Discussion:

Jamie Muffoletto introduced Marian Schutte from the Division of Authorizing to address any questions.

Traci Pesina asked how TEA would communicate this change to LEAs. Marian stated that communication would include updates to the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH) and the Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP) website. Traci asked Marian to consider also sending a To the Administrator Addressed (TAA) correspondence. Marian said she would consider sending a TAA.

Traci asked about using StudentCharacteristic (C344) '20' (Additional Days Program Participation). Jamie said the descriptor is used to report students participating in the Additional Days School Year (ADSY) program.

Linda Raney asked if additional funding was available for students participating in a dropout recovery education program. Marian stated there are two ways an LEA can be funded for a student's participation in a dropout recovery program. Programs developed under SB 1647 are funded based on a student completing a course while attending the dropout recovery program. Students can still participate in OFSDP, and LEAs are funded based on that participation.

Keith Ivey inquired if the dropout recovery education program is always offered through an OFSDP. Marian stated that dropout recovery and OFSDP are typically connected for funding purposes, depending on the type of program the LEA provides. Under SB 1647, an LEA can establish a dropout recovery program outside OFSDP. Additionally, Keitha asked if LEAs need to apply and be approved to establish a dropout recovery program. Marian stated that, the LEA must submit an annual application notifying TEA that it plans to offer the OFSDP. There is no current application to offer a dropout recovery program outside OFSDP. Marian concluded that TEA was trying to determine how many LEAs may choose to establish a dropout recovery education program without offering in OFSDP.

Joel Garcia asked if students participating in the dropout recovery education program must be reported with basic attendance. Marian stated that basic attendance reporting is required for students participating in the dropout recovery education program. Marian added that an LEA reports flexible attendance for students participating in OFSDP.

Traci requested that the TAA contain focused communication for dropout recovery program changes, including reporting regular attendance for those students participating in the program. Marian stated said TEA would send a TAA explaining attendance requirements and other program-specific information.

ITF Chair, Joel Garcia called for additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion.

ITF Action:

Traci Pesina made a motion to approve the proposal.

David McKamie seconded the motion.

Vote: Passed

2. SELA Assessment Tool Updates

Action Item

Background:

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is required to ensure that the language acquisition of each deaf or hard-of-hearing child eight years of age or younger is regularly assessed using a tool or assessment. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) use the descriptor table ToolOrAssessmentUsed (C320) to report the tool or assessment used to assess the student's language acquisition.

Effective April 2024, the American Sign Language Assessment (ASLA) (Diagnostic) vendor will no longer support the tool used for reporting a child's language acquisition assessment. The Special Populations Department has requested that the ASLA assessment be removed, and two new assessments be added to the ToolOrAssessmentUsed (C320) descriptor table.

Overview:

Texas Education Data Standards Changes:

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) will remove one and add two new descriptors to the ToolOrAssessmentUsed (C320) descriptor table in the StudentSpecialEducationProgramAssociation.Assessment entity in the Alternative and Supplemental Services domain. There are no rule impacts as a result of this change. Reports will be updated to reflect the changes in this proposal.

Texas Records Exchange (TREx) Changes:

None

Presentation:

Leticia Ollervidez presented the proposal, which includes:

In the Texas Education Data Standards:

1. Revise the ToolOrAssessmentUsed (C320) descriptor table:

- a. Remove descriptor AS – ASLA (Diagnostic) – American Sign Language Assessment (Diagnostic)
- b. Add descriptors RS and ES
 - i. RS – ASL-RST (Diagnostic) – American Sign Language Receptive Skills Test (Diagnostic)
 - ii. ES – ASL -EST (Diagnostic) – American Sign Language Expressive Skills Test (Diagnostic)
- 2. Revise the following TSDS reports to reflect the changes in this proposal:
 - a. SEL0-100-001, TSDS Special Education Language Acquisition Roster
 - b. SEL0-100-003, TSDS Language Acquisition Assessment Summary By Age

In the Texas Records Exchange Data Standards:

None

ITF Discussion:

Leticia Ollervidez introduced Emily Robinson from the Special Education Technical Assistance Department to address any questions through the American Sign Language Interpreter, Steve Miller.

Traci asked how the proposed change would be communicated to LEAs and program areas. Emily said she would communicate the change through the Special Education Language Acquisition (SELA) newsletter and share the information with the Regional Day School Program for the Deaf.

Traci said she would talk with her SELA program area and tell TEA if additional communication is needed.

ITF Chair, Joel Garcia called for additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion.

ITF Action:

Traci Pesina made a motion to approve the proposal.

Keitha Ivey seconded the motion.

Vote: Passed

Other Business

Discussion Item

Retirement of ITF Member

Jamie Muffoletto announced the retirement of ITF Member David Taylor at the end of August 2024. Jamie added that pending approval from the PCPEI committee, Melinda Arguello will replace David Taylor, and Jaylea Wallace will serve as the alternate for Education Service Center 18.

Upcoming Meetings

Joel Garcia asked about any upcoming ITF meeting dates. Jamie said this was the last scheduled ITF meeting, and these proposals would be published in the July 1, 2024, TEDS Addendum. Additionally, the 2024-2025 ITF meeting dates will be sent to the committee early in the summer.

Adjournment:

ITF Chair, Joel Garcia, called for questions or comments. Hearing none, he requested a motion to adjourn.

Traci Pesina made a motion to adjourn.
Keitha Ivey seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.