

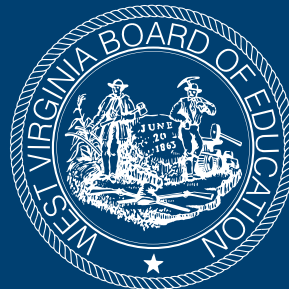
West Virginia Department of Education

2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

January 2022 Update

State Board Goal 1 | Bullet 2

*Partner with schools, communities, institutions of higher education,
state/federal, and business organizations*





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2021-2022**

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Executive Summary

As part of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) and the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE's) 2021 Strategic Plan, the WVDE committed to provide a monthly update of evidence that WVBE goals are being executed throughout the state. Each month, an update of one of the WVBE goals will be delivered by members of WVDE Cabinet to WVBE members.

The month of January 2022 addresses the current work that has been completed throughout 2021 to address:

- » **Goal 1.** Lead a Thorough, Efficient and Effective Education System, **Objective 2.** Partner with school/school districts, communities, institutions of higher education, state/federal agencies, and businesses.

As evidenced in the following update, the WVDE collaborates with many different organizations and groups with regard to establishing policies/procedures to promote, implement, and deliver general supervision/monitoring of a thorough, efficient, and effective system of free public education. This is not a comprehensive listing of every organization with which the WVDE collaborates, but a listing of those organizations that the Department most routinely collaborates with to meet WVBE goals. If you have questions, contact Jan Barth, Assistant Superintendent, at jan.barth@k12.wv.us or 304-558-2681.

This update offers the following information for the Board's review/consideration:

- » School/School Districts Partnerships/Collaboration Highlights/Impact
- » Community Partnerships/Collaboration Highlights/Impact
- » Institutions of Higher Education Partnerships/Collaboration Highlights/Impact
- » State Partnerships/Collaboration Highlights/Impact
- » Federal Partnerships/Collaboration Highlights/Impact
- » Business Partnerships/Collaboration Highlights/Impact

Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....i

School/School Districts Partnerships.....1

Community Partnerships.....3

Institutions of Higher Education Partnerships.....5

State Partnerships.....7

Federal Partnerships10

Business Partnerships.....12

WVDE Partnerships and Collaborations

Legend of Partner Roles:

- Administrative – works together with WVDE in largely administrative manner
- Advisory – provides advice and guidance to WVDE regarding WVDE, state, and federal projects
- Financial* – allocates funds to the WVDE or receives funds from the WVDE
- *Businesses are considered contractual partnerships for services and deliverables.*
- Informational – provides information or research to the WVDE
- Training – offers training to WVDE staff and/or school districts/schools

School/School Districts Partnerships

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) staff works with 57 school districts (55 school systems, WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, and WV Schools of Diversion and Transition) and schools throughout the year to offer support on policies; legal matters; to promote student health, success, and achievement; and to offer professional development and training. These collaborations are comprehensive and extensive across the West Virginia public schools and school districts.

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
Schools/School Districts (11)			
1. Chief Instructional Leaders (CIL)	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/ Financial/Informational/ Training
2. Common Ground/Purple Star Schools	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Administrative
3. Community-In-Schools	On-going	31 School Districts/170 Schools	Administrative/Training
4. Council of School Nurses (Legislative Requirement)	Bi-annually/ On-going	WV School Nurses	Advisory/Informational
5. Superintendent’s Educational Advisory Team (SEAT)	On-going	9 Superintendents/9 Principals/10 Teachers/6 Parents/Other District Educators	Advisory
6. WV school systems	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory
7. WV School Counselor Association	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational
8. WV School Psychologists Association	On-going	Professional School Psychologists	Advisory/Informational
9. WV Statewide Afterschool Network	On-going	57 School Districts/Other After-School Facilities	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational
10. West Virginia School Board Association (WVSBA)	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Training
11. WV Association of School Nurses	Quarterly	Professional School Nurses	Advisory/Informational

Highlights:

- » **Communities In Schools** is an evidence-based project that surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. The program has grown to 31 counties/171 schools/167 coordinators from 2018 to 2021. Supported by local, federal, and state funding, additional expansion is being planned with the additional funding of \$7 million from the GEER2 Funding as of December of 2021.
- » **State and federal funds** flow through the WVDE. In 2020, \$2,526,380,069.00 of state and federal funds flowed through the WVDE to local school districts. The WVDE monitors the funds and provides ongoing professional development on how to best manage and spend annual allocations within the law and the funding period. Professional development includes the following: Budget Training Webinars, School Finance Summer Conference, WV Association of School Business Officials in Spring and Fall, Winter WVEIS Finance and Budget Training, Certified List of Personnel

Training, New Treasurer Training, and others. The Office of Federal Programs and other federal programs, including low-performing schools, Title I, Special Education, Child Nutrition, and others monitor and provide training on the use of ESSERF funding.

- » **Federal Nutrition** flow-through monies are monitored by the WVDE. These funds utilized during School Year 2020-21 to ensure that 34.6 Million meals were served to West Virginia school children in a year disrupted by COVID-19. The 2021-2022 meal counts are in progress. Additionally, a new Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) was established in relation to the federal response to COVID-19. What was once believed to be a one-time benefit in the spring of 2020, has grown and expanded with new federal instructions. In the 2020-21 school year, Congress authorized additional funding to support students who attended schools participating in the National School Lunch Program to enable them to access school meals that were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, this past year saw the expansion of this benefit to children under the age of six in households that receive SNAP. P-EBT could be used by any retailer that accepted EBT – including farmers’ markets and other vendors.
- » **Under the WVDE Office of Data Management and Information Systems, the West Virginia Education Information System** (WVEIS) is a comprehensive data management system for all 648 public PK-12 schools including the Schools for the Deaf and Blind and Schools for Diversion and Transition. WVEIS houses all student records, employee records/payroll, human resource, and financial accounting for all districts. WVEIS is the data source for ZOOMWV, federal, and state reporting. This comprehensive system was funded by the Legislature to ensure that each county board of education would use the statewide electronic information system established by the WVBE for data collection and reporting (WV state Code § 18-2E-5 (f)). The WVDE annually compiles the information required by §18-2C.(b) (11) into a report to Legislative Oversight Committee of Education Accountability (LOCEA). WVEIS creates the opportunity for local school districts to make data-driven decisions to improve their school districts/schools and student learning. WVDE staff members assist counties with WVEIS training as well as data validation for all required reporting. Regular meetings with various county contact groups take place throughout the year and a full help desk operation is available. Beginning in the 2022 - 2023 school year, the new 2.0 version of WVEIS will be implemented. WVEIS 2.0 has several enhancements including an online personalized education plan section accessible by students and parents.

Community Partnerships

The WVDE staff collaborates with different community organizations to enhance the relationship between the West Virginia educational system and communities as these partnerships relate to our school systems.

<i>Name of Organization</i>	<i>2021 Interactions</i>	<i>Level of Involvement/Impact</i>	<i>Role of Partners</i>
Communities (8)			
1. Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN)	On-going	School-Based Health Centers for Local Communities	Advisory/Informational
2. Dolly Parton Blue Ribbon Book Club	On-going	57 School Districts/56,000 Children and Teachers	Advisory/Financial/Informational
3. Dolly Parton Imagination Library	On-going	57 School Districts/48,100 Children	Advisory/Financial/Informational
4. Epilepsy Foundation Advisory Board	Quarterly	National/State Groups	Advisory/Informational
5. Lawyer in the School	On-going	8 School Districts	Administrative/Training
6. Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board	Quarterly	State Groups through J.W. Ruby Memorial	Advisory/Informational
7. WV Advisory Council for the Education of Exceptional Children (WVACEEC) (Federal Requirement)	Quarterly/On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Informational
8. WV Primary Care Association	On-going	School-Based Health Centers	Advisory/Informational

Highlights:

- » **The Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN)** was instituted in 2012 by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). CoIIN seeks to reduce infant mortality and improve birth outcomes utilizing multiple strategies by leveraging expert knowledge to create health-based community initiatives that are based on sound science and innovative policy. This monumental call to action includes a partnership with state officials and local communities “to find out what works to reduce infant mortality and scale up the best interventions to the national level.”
- » **Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library** is a program available to all children in West Virginia from birth to five whose families enroll them in the program. West Virginia is one of only 11 states with a statewide program. Imagination Library provides more than 48,000 books to these children monthly and has distributed well over one million books to all children from birth to five in WV since its inception in 2007.
- » **The Dolly Parton Blue Ribbon Book Club** provided more than 258,000 high-quality children’s books to all rising public school first, second, and third graders, their classroom teachers, and summer learning programs in the summer of 2021. Overall, 455,000 books have been distributed as part of this initiative, which was launched in the summer of 2021.

- » **The WVDE special education staff worked in an advisory capacity with the West Virginia Advisory Council for the Education of Exceptional Children** (WVACEEC), which is mandated by WV state Code §18-20-6 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) §300.136. The Council is charged with advising decision-makers regarding the needs of exceptional children, including students with disabilities and those students identified as gifted. The council's mission is to influence the WVBE, public policymakers, and West Virginia citizens in ways that continuously improve educational outcomes for children with exceptionalities. By the first day of July of each year, the advisory council is required to submit an annual report of its activities and suggestions to the WVBE and the state superintendent and is to be made available to the public.

Institutions of Higher Education Partnerships

The WVDE staff partners with the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC), the Council for Community and Technical Education (CCTCE), all 19 colleges/universities, and 18 technical/community colleges to transition students from pre-K-12 to post-secondary education educational opportunities. These organizations focus resources on improving the programs/services offered from HEPC and WVDE. The partnerships between the WVDE, Institutions of Higher Education, and HEPC include many focused projects. Examples of collaborative initiatives include:

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
Institutions of Higher Education (12)			
1. Early and Elementary Learning Technical Assistance Center (TAC) at Marshall University	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Financial/Informational/Training
2. Marshall University Center of Excellence Recovery	On-going	6 School Districts/18 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Informational/Training
3. Marshall University June Harless Center for Rural Education Research and Development	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Informational
4. Marshall University – WV Autism Training Center	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Financial/Informational/Training
5. States Educational Technology Directors (SETA)	Monthly	50 States	Advisory/Informational
6. STEAM Technical Assistance Center (TAC) at West Virginia University	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Financial/Informational/Training
7. WC Content Area Program Approval (CAPA)	Three	HEPC and Teacher Prep Institutions	Informational/Planning
8. WV Colleges and Universities and WV Community and Technical Colleges	On-going	19 Colleges and Universities/18 Community and Technical Colleges	Administrative/Advisory
9. WV Council for Community and Technical College Education	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Informational
10. West Virginia University Health/Project Search	Monthly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Financial/Training
11. WVDE Institutional Review Board	Monthly	Participant	Advisory/Informational
12. WV Higher Education Policy Commission	On-going	State Agencies/19 WV Colleges and Universities/18 Community and Technical Colleges	Administrative/Advisory/Informational

Highlights:

- » **The WVDE/WVHEPC Educator Preparation Taskforce** was convened in November 2020 by Chancellor Sarah Armstrong Tucker and Superintendent W. Clayton Burch with the charge to clearly define and address the multifaceted challenges that face teacher recruitment, preparation, and retention in West Virginia. Members worked to identify the root causes of these challenges and to develop recommendations to increase the teacher workforce across West Virginia. The Steering Committee met in November of 2020 with the full task force and subcommittees convening regularly throughout 2021. Subcommittee topics included recruitment, effectiveness of educator preparation programs, certifications, and innovation in educator preparation. Members of the task force included teachers, county superintendents and communications staff, College of Education deans and faculty, WVHEPC, WV Public Education Collaborative, WVDE leadership and staff, Milken Educators, WV Teacher of the Year, Region 5 Comprehensive Center, Southern Regional Education Board, and human resources staff. The policy brief was presented to the West Virginia Board of Education in December and made available to the Legislature on January 10, 2022.
- » **The West Virginia STEAM Technical Assistance Center at WVU** was developed in collaboration with the WVDE and was recently unveiled by West Virginia University. This TAC provides hands-on STEAM activities to middle school students across the state and professional learning to West Virginia teachers who teach in STEAM-related areas. Along with WVU and HEPC, the STEAM TAC will partner with all 57 school districts. Four STEAM Lab buses are being prepared to deliver STEAM activities to all middle schoolers throughout the state beginning in early 2022.
- » **The Career Pathways initiative** has been developed by the WVDE and community and technical colleges, public 4-year institutions, career technical education centers, and county boards of education. These partnerships provides seamless career pathways from secondary to post-secondary institutions enabling students to attain advanced career education and valuable workforce skills within high-demand career clusters. The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Perkins V Act is divided between the WVDE and the CCTCE to implement and expand career education in accordance with federal requirements.
- » **HEPC and West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education** (CCTCE) are led by Chancellor Sara Armstrong Tucker who oversees West Virginia's four-year public higher education system and the Community and Technical College System.
 - The HEPC develops and oversees a public policy agenda for West Virginia's four-year colleges and universities. Chancellor Tucker, an Ex-Officio member of the WVBE, and Commission staff members work with the WVDE leadership and staff members to improve the transition of our pre-K-12 students into our higher education system.
 - The CCTCE is responsible for administration of community and technical college education in the state. The West Virginia Community and Technical College System coordinates community and technical colleges statewide, partnering with businesses to meet workforce needs, and ensuring a meaningful education for our students. The Community and Technical College System's goal is to provide 60 percent of West Virginia's workforce with a formal credential beyond high school by 2030.

State Partnerships

The WVDE staff partners with various state agencies and organizations to advance the provision of services and resources to public school students across the state. While the nature of state partnerships vary, many of these partners are working with the WVDE to address social, emotional, behavioral, physical, and mental health issues in our schools.

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
State (33)			
1. Accessibility Technical Assistance Center (TAC) at the West Virginia Schools for Deaf and Blind	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Financial/Informational/Training
2. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) Programs	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational
3. Behavior and Mental Health Technical Assistance Center (TAC) at Marshall University	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Financial/Informational/Training
4. WV American Federation of Teachers (WVAFT)	On-going	57 School Districts/State Board	Advisory/Informational
5. Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health: Adverse Childhood Experiences Workgroup (Legislative HB 4773)	Monthly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Informational/Training
6. Education Alliance	Quarterly	57 School Districts/WVDE	Administrative/Informational/Training
7. Governor’s Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment	Quarterly with monthly subcommittee meetings	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational
8. West Virginia Association of School Administrators (WVASA)	Monthly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Training
9. WV Fusion Center	On-going	School Safety in 55 Counties safe-guard students in the event of viable threats to WV schools and students.	Advisory/Informational/Training
10. School Health Technical Assistance Center (TAC) at Marshall University	On-going	26 School Districts/75 Schools	Administrative/Advisory
11. Statewide Independent Living Council	On-going	57 School Districts/Schools/Communities	Advisory/Informational
12. West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA)	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Informational/Training
13. West Virginia Education Association (WVEA)	On-going	57 School Districts/State Board	Advisory/Informational
14. West Virginia Library Commission	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/Financial/Informational

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
State (33)			
15. West Virginia Public Broadcasting	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Informational
16. WV Advocacy Agencies (Developmental Disabilities Council, Employment First, and State Rehabilitation Council)	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational/ Training
17. WV Association of School Administrators (WVASA)	Monthly	57 School Districts and District Staff	Administrative/ Informational
18. WV Board of Barbers and Cosmetologist	Quarterly	Partner	Advisory/Informational
19. WV Department of Commerce	On-going	State Agencies	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational/Financial
20. WV Department of Culture and History	On-going	State Agencies/57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational/Training
21. WV Coalition to End Homelessness	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools/ Communities	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational
22. WV Commission for Professional Teaching Standards	Quarterly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory
23. WV Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR)	On-going	57 School Districts/Schools/ State Child Care Facilities	Administrative/ Financial/ Informational/Training
24. WV Division of Rehabilitative Services	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Financial/ Informational/Training
25. WV Legislature	On-going	134 Legislators and Legislative Staff	Financial/Informational
26. WV Nina M. Lowry 21st Century Community Learning Center	On-going	23 Federally Funded 21st Century Learning Communities (12 School Districts /11 Daycare Facilities)	Administrative/ Financial/ Informational/Training
27. WV Oral Health Coalition	Quarterly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational
28. West Virginia Professional Educators (WVPE)	On-going	57 School Districts/State Board	Advisory/Informational
29. WV Public Education Collaborative (WVPEC)	Quarterly	Educators/Legislators/Business/ Community Professionals	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational
30. WV School Board Association	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory
31. WV School Board Authority	Monthly	57 School Districts/WVDE	Administrative/Advisory/ Financial
32. WV Sexual Violence Prevention Collaborative	Monthly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational
33. WV State Board of Examiners for Licensed Practical Nurses	Quarterly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational

Highlights:

- » **The West Virginia Behavioral/Mental Health Technical Assistance Center at Marshall University** is funded by the WVDE and serves all 55 counties providing technical assistance with Autism and school-based mental health services. Additional partnerships between this TAC and the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Behavioral Health support school-based mental health programs in 26 counties/64 schools in West Virginia.
- » **The West Virginia Department of Education Accessibility and Transition Technical Assistance Center at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind** partners with the Division of Rehabilitative Services and the West Virginia Library Commission to provide technology support, devices, training and mentoring for students, parents, and educators in an effort to provide accommodations to support students' transitions to post-secondary education and careers. This TAC was created in the summer of 2021, and all 57 local school districts are served by this partnership.
- » **The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources** (DHHR) collaborates with the WVDE on a variety of programs. More than \$375 million dollars in federal benefits helped support the nutritional needs of nearly 260,000 WV children (eligible students and non-students under the age of six) in SY2020-21 and summer 2021. The DHHR collaborates with the WVDE on an Interagency Taskforce for Child Safety and the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment. Additionally, the WVDE collaborated efforts regarding COVID-19 protocols, vaccines, school closures, and public health workforce capacity. The DHHR partners with the WVDE to implement various public health sources for school-based activities and health-based programs for school-aged children as well as for those WV Universal Pre-K programs housed in local child care centers.
- » **The Education Alliance** is a nonprofit organization that advocates for a quality public education for all West Virginia children. The Alliance was established in July 1983 by business executives who saw the importance of supporting public schools and giving the business community a voice in education. The State Superintendent and/or his designee attends the Education Alliance Board Meetings and partners on a number of programs. The WVDE and the Education Alliance continue to partner on Competency-Based Learning and other innovative practices in education and are currently working together to host monthly virtual meetings and virtual tours with other schools from around the country providing insight, leadership, and training to WV school teams.

Federal Partnerships

The WVDE works closely with many federal agencies to receive and coordinate federal funding, implement federal legislation, monitor compliance, and receive technical assistance.

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
Federal (23)			
1. OSEP-Funded Technical Assistance Centers	On-going	50 States/55 WV School Districts	Advisory/Informational/ Training
2. American School Counselor Association (ASCA)	Monthly	National Group of 50 States and Jurisdictions	Advisory/Informational
3. Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Perkins V Act	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions/57 WV School Districts	Administrative/ Financial/Informational/ Training
4. Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)	Bi-annually	50 States/5 Extra State Jurisdictions	Administrative/ Informational
5. Danya Institute/Region 3 Mental Health Technical Transfer Center	On-going	National Collaboration of States Serving School Districts	Advisory/Informational
6. Education Commission of States (ECS)	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions	Informational
7. Learning Policy Institutes	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions/55 WV School Districts	Advisory/Administrative/ Informational
8. McKinney-Vento "Homeless" Education Act	On-Going	57 School Districts	Administrative/ Financial/Informational/ Training
9. Milken Family Foundation	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions	Administrative/Advisory
10. National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA)	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions/55 WV School Districts	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational/Training
11. The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC)	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/ Informational
12. National Board for Professional Teaching Standards	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory
13. National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)	Quarterly	50 States/4 Jurisdictions/55 WV School Districts	Advisory/Informational
14. National Center of Educational Outcomes (NCEO)	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions	Advisory/Informational
15. Neglected and Delinquent, Title 1, Part D, Subpart 1 and 2	On-going	57 School Districts	Administrative/ Financial/ Informational/Training
16. NOCTI Consortium of States	Quarterly	Partner	Advisory/Informational
17. Region 5 Comprehensive Center	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/ Informational
18. Regional Educational Laboratory Appalachia (REL AP)	Bi-Weekly	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Advisory/Informational

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
Federal (23)			
19. Substance Abuse and Mental health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	Monthly	6 School Districts/8 Schools	Administrative/Advisory/ Financial
20. United States Department of Education (USED) Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	On-going	50 States/5 Extra State Jurisdictions	Administrative/ Financial/ Informational/Training
21. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions	Administrative/Financial
22. USED Nina M. Lowry 21st Century Community Learning Center	Bi-annually/On-going/Conference	23 Federally Funded 21st Century Learning Communities (12 School Districts/11 Daycare Facilities in WV)	Administrative/ Financial/ Informational
23. WV Center for Juvenile Justice	On-going	57 School Districts	Informational

Highlights:

- » **The United States Department of Education (USED) Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA)** allocates an average of \$135,700,000 per year in regular ESEA Title program funding to the WVDE for distribution to local school districts. Since March of 2020, the USED has allocated an additional \$1.2 billion in education stabilization funding to the WVDE for COVID-19 relief activities for public and non-public schools. The WVDE administers the grant process and monitors for fiscal and program compliance.
- » **The USED Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Programs** allocates an average of \$92 million per year in regular Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funding to the WVDE for distribution to the local school districts. Since March of 2020, the USED has allocated an additional \$17.3 million in educational stabilization funding to the WVDE for COVID-19 relief activities to address the needs of students with disabilities. The WVDE administers the grants process and monitors for fiscal and program compliance.
- » **The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Perkins V Act** provides WVDE with \$9.3 Million in federal funds to facilitate connections between secondary and post-secondary education and employers. Considered the main federal source for career and technical education, the Perkins funds impact WV's 57 local school districts, 26 CTE Centers, 48 Comprehensive High Schools, 7 Multi-County CTE Centers, and our colleges and universities.
- » **The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC)** has served as a professional membership organization representing state departments of education and professional standards boards / commissions responsible for the preparation, licensure, and discipline of K-12 educational personnel since 1928. The NASDTEC is dedicated to providing leadership and support to those responsible for the preparation, certification /licensure, employment, ethical and professional practice, and continuing professional development of educators. Jurisdiction members include all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, Guam, and the Canadian province of Ontario. West Virginia is a member state and benefits from the use of the Educator Identification Clearinghouse, support

from experts from across the country in matters of licensure, educator misconduct, preparation, professional standards, the use of the Interstate Agreement for reciprocity, and access to their *KnowledgeBase* (a comprehensive source of information on teacher licensure and relevant resources), and gathering survey-type information about other state’s related programs development and implementation.

Business Partnerships

The WVDE works closely with many different types of businesses to achieve the WVBE goals. From American Dairy Association (ADA) to early learning research groups to Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), these business relationships support the WVDE efforts to best serve the West Virginia students and WVBE goals.

Name of Organization	2021 Interactions	Level of Involvement/Impact	Role of Partners
Business (11)			
1. American Dairy Association (ADA)	On-going	50 States/4 Jurisdictions	Informational/Training
2. Cambium Assessment, Inc.	On-going	57 School Districts/Nonpublic Schools/Home School	Administrative/ Informational/Training
3. Educational Testing Service (ETS)	On-going	57 School Districts	Administrative/ Informational/Training
4. College Board	On-going	57 School Districts/Nonpublic Schools/Home School	Administrative/ Informational/Training
5. Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) at University of Kansas	On-going	57 School Districts/Nonpublic Schools/Home School	Administrative/ Informational//Training
6. Hanover Research	On-Going	National Research Agency	Informational
7. James & Law	Annually	Legislatively Required WV Textbook Auditor	Administrative/ Informational
8. MetaMetrics, Inc.	Quarterly	57 School Districts/Nonpublic Schools/Home School	Administrative/ Informational/Training
9. National Institute for Early Learning Research at Rutgers University	Annually	57 School Districts	Administrative/ Informational
10. NCS Pearson	On-going	57 School Districts/648 Schools	Administrative/ Informational
11. Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)	On-going	4 Regional Boards (Southern region has 16 states, including WV)	Administrative/ Informational/Training

Highlights:

- » **The American Dairy Association** (ADA) has been a source of emergency deployment of strategies and resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. ADA has supplied cooler bags, breakfast carts, and other materials to help the safe transportation of meals to WV children in school and accessing non-congregate meals. On an ongoing level of support, ADA provides educational resources to WV schools – such as posters, recipes, and fun facts about agriculture. Recently, when a supplier

of milk to schools ceased operation, ADA was instrumental in mobilizing to get the facts about what the transition to a new provider of milk would entail. This quick action and level of support allowed the WVDE to communicate with boards of education affected by the change and remain focused to ensure meal service to children would not be affected or disrupted. Quality training and informational sessions are provided free to the local school districts with topics that include nutrition education, scratch cooking/recipe development, and innovative ways to integrate healthy physical activity into nutrition programs.

- » **The National Institute for Early Education Research** (NIEER) is a longstanding partner of the WVDE for multiple initiatives. Since 2015, NIEER has worked exclusively with the WVDE and Marshall University to implement the nation's largest statewide Early Learning Longitudinal Study (currently in Phase 2) to determine the impact of high-quality early learning programming on children's achievement. The WVDE utilizes the interim study data provided by NIEER to 1) drive continuous quality improvement efforts within the nationally-acclaimed WV Universal Pre-K program; and 2) provide a data-driven infrastructure of support that spans through the lower elementary grades as well.
- » **The SREB** provides several services to the WVDE, including 1) a School Improvement Initiative, 2) development of professional learning tools, 3) middle school math unit design, and 4) an Educator Certification Program to certify approved teachers in math and science, to decrease the teacher shortage in these areas. All these programs are broad, cross-year projects that are respectively designed to improve the instructional process and increase the number of math and science teachers in West Virginia.
- » **MetaMetrics** works with state departments of education as educational partners to best utilize the world of educational policy and practice to improve and accelerate learning for all students. The WVDE has worked with MetaMetrics to link both frameworks to the West Virginia General Summative Assessment in Grades 3-8 and the SAT School Day in Grade 11. Students receive both Lexile and Quantile measures based on their performance on these summative tests administered each spring. Lexile and Quantile scores also are reported for the state-provided interim assessments. As part of our ongoing partnership, West Virginia was one of the first states in the country to work with MetaMetrics to create customized Lexile and Quantile Score Reports for our summative assessments. These reports are provided each year to students and their parents/guardians to help them better understand what the students' Lexile and Quantile scores mean. These reports provide information on how students can use MetaMetrics' Lexile and Quantile Growth Planners to illustrate the reading demands and mathematical demands of different occupations. The Growth Planners allow students to enter their Lexile and/or Quantile measures to determine if they are on track to graduate ready for different occupations. As part of WV's licensing agreement with MetaMetrics, West Virginia educators, students, and parents have free access to valuable resources available on the Lexile and Quantile Hub. MetaMetrics staff also are available to provide free professional development to West Virginia educators in the use of Lexile and Quantile measures in the classroom.



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