Leading a Standards-Based System:  
A Framework for Strategic Planning and Decision Making

A Regional Convening for State Boards of Education  
Friday, May 29, 2015  
Hilton Saint Louis at the Arch  
400 Olive Street, Saint Louis, Missouri

EARLY RELEASE AGENDA

7:30 a.m.  
Registration and Breakfast  
Laclede Ballroom

8:30 a.m.  
Welcome and Introductions  
Laclede Ballroom  
- Mary Lord, President, NASBE  
- Kris Amundson, Executive Director, NASBE  
- Francis Eberle, Deputy Executive Director, NASBE

8:45 a.m.  
Leading a Standards-Based System:  
A Framework for Strategic Planning and Decision Making  
Laclede Ballroom  
- Robert Hull, Director of College, Career, and Civic Readiness, NASBE  
  - Why are high-quality learning standards important?  
  - How do learning standards drive strategic planning and decision making?  
  - How do learning standards anchor policy development?  
  - How can a board of education harness the power of learning standards to drive improvement?  

All subsequent sessions will focus on one area of the framework presented during this session.

9:15 a.m.  
States Raise Proficiency Standards in Math and Reading:  
Commitments to Common Core May Be Driving the Proficiency Bar Upward  
Laclede Ballroom  
- Francis Eberle, Deputy Executive Director, NASBE  
- Harvard Kennedy School of Education and Education Next  
  - How do proficiency level expectations impact student performance?  
  - How can boards of education utilize proficiency level standards to drive strategic planning and decision making and to anchor policy development?  
  - How can a board of education harness the power of learning standards to drive improvement?

10:30 a.m.  
Break

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10:45 a.m. Teams are encouraged to divide and attend all sessions provided.

**Session A: Laclede Ballroom**  
**Adoption of Next Generation Science Standards: Ready or Not?** An in-depth look at a comprehensive self-evaluation and planning instrument designed to guide decisions regarding readiness for adoption and implementation of new science standards. This session is a must for any state considering adopting new standards or considering the review of current standards. Participants will review a tool to help guide the decision making process for all facets of standards adoption and review. While designed for use with science standards, this instrument is easily adaptable to all content areas.

- Catherine Jacques, Researcher, Center on Great Teachers and Leaders, American Institutes for Research
- Daniel Conley, Senior Technical Assistance Consultant, American Institutes for Research
- Paige Fenton Hughes, Coordinator, Wyoming State Board of Education

**Session B: Independence Room**  
**High School Graduates: Ready for What?** This session will take an in-depth look at how state boards of education have established and revised high school graduation requirements based on college and career readiness standards. Learn how leadership in a standards-based system ensures all students meet higher levels of readiness for life beyond K-12 education through effective policy development governing graduation expectations.

- Marie O’Hara, Associate Director, State Policy & Implementation Support, Achieve, Inc.

11:45 a.m. Team Processing Time

12:00 p.m. Lunch

12:45 p.m. Teams are encouraged to divide and attend all sessions provided.

**Session C: Laclede Ballroom**  
**Working with Districts to Ensure Improvement in a Standards-Based System.** This session will showcase one model for working with districts struggling with student performance. Primary emphasis will be placed on policy and practice regarding effective teachers and leaders.

- Sarah Leonard, Manager, ICF International
- Adam Brumer, Consultant, Education First

**Session D: Independence Room**  
**Curriculum and Materials Decision: The Connective Tissue of Standards Implementation.** The terms standards and curriculum are often used interchangeably which leads to confusion and misinformation. Standards are not curriculum, but they are close cousins. This session will focus on how state boards should approach policy and practice regarding curriculum development and materials adoption in a standards-based system.

- Nancy Gannon, Director of State and District Instructional Materials, Student Achievement Partners, Inc.

1:45 p.m. Team Processing Time
2:00 p.m.  
**Session E: Laclede Ballroom**

*Assessment for Three Dimensional Learning: New Ways of Assessing Student Competence in Science.*  Based on the work of the National Research Council of the National Academies, participants will take an in-depth look at essential components of a comprehensive assessment process that measures student achievement and program effectiveness in a new conceptual framework of science education. This is a timely topic for most states as they grapple with assessment and accountability alignment with the multi-layered demands of new science standards.

- Awaiting speaker confirmation

**Session F: Independence Room**

*Assessment Systems as a Key Indicator of Successful Implementation of High Quality Standards.* A comprehensive assessment system is more than just a summative measure as required by federal regulations. What are the essential components of an assessment system that measures student competence and reports the results in a manner that informs instruction, enhances program development, and provides actionable data to impact policy development, review, and implementation? Participants will examine promising practice in sample states that moves the needle of assessment from compliance to informed governance.

- Awaiting speaker confirmation

3:00 p.m.  
Break

3:30 p.m.  
**Team Processing Reporting Time**

- What are the major lessons learned?
- What are our areas of immediate action?
- What resources, support, or help is needed from NASBE as you move forward

4:00  
Adjourn