Utah State Legislature

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October 4, 2016

Speaker Gregory H. Hughes, Chair
President Wayne L. Niederhauser, Vice Chair
Legislative Management Committee
State Capitol Complex
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Subject: Education Interim Committee request for School Leadership Policy Meeting

Dear Speaker Hughes and President Niederhauser:

In connection with our interim study item related to school leadership, the Education Interim Committee has the opportunity to receive technical assistance from the National Conference of State Legislatures and work with national experts at a policy meeting on school leadership. We are requesting authorization to hold this conference on December 19, off of the State Capitol Complex but along the Wasatch Front, and have attached a draft agenda.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Sen. Ann Millner, Chair
Education Interim Committee

Rep. Bradley G Last, Chair
Education Interim Committee

Attachments: Draft Agenda

DRAFT AGENDA

NCSL UTAH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP POLICY MEETING

December 19, 2016
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

NCSL acknowledges the Wallace Foundation for their generous support of this meeting.

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Welcome
Welcome and discussion of meeting objectives. Participants will introduce themselves.
Speaker:
- President Wayne Niederhauser, State Senate
- Senator Ann Millner

8:30 am – 9:15 am

School Leadership Overview and Utilizing State Policy Levers
Research shows investments in school leadership makes a positive difference in student outcomes. This presentation will include a brief overview of the importance of school leaders and the policy levers legislators may use to prioritize effective school leadership.
Speaker:
- Kelly Latterman, Policy Associate, NCSL

Pre Reading:
- Developing Excellent School Principals to Advance Teaching and Learning: Considerations for State Policy
- School Leadership Interventions Under the Every Student Succeeds Act

9:15 am – 10:20 am

How Does Utah Compare?
This session will discuss which policies research shows make a difference in principal preparation program approval and candidate licensure. Participants will hear policy examples and comparisons to other states. Utah representatives will discuss the data on current principal preparation.
Pre-reading:
- A Policymaker's Guide: Research Based Policy for Principal Preparation Program Approval and Licensure

Speaker:
- Kelly Latterman, Policy Associate, NCSL
- Utah State Board Representative
- Utah School Leadership Expert

10:20 am – 10:30 am

Break

DRAFT AGENDA

10:30 am – 12:10 pm

What's Working in Principal Preparation?

During this session, program providers will discuss the tools and resources they provide to aspiring principals, how they make research-based decisions, and what they are doing to ensure their graduates are day one ready.

Moderator:

- Kelly Latterman, Policy Associate, NCSL

Speakers:

- Senior Fellow, National Institute for School Leadership
- Steven Tozer, Director, Center for Urban Education Leadership and Professor in Education Policy studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Gina Ikemoto, Executive Director of Research and Policy Development, New Leaders

12:10 pm – 1:10 pm

Working Lunch

A lunch discussion with Utah principals and superintendents. The panel will discuss gaps in preparation and professional development. They will share the leadership qualities they look for while hiring, the challenges and successes in their positions, and what they would like to see change.

Speakers:

- School Principals
- School Superintendents

1:10 pm – 2:45 pm

Breakout Activity: State Policy Solutions

Participants will break up in small groups to discuss state policy solutions and best practices to promote school leadership. The groups may include these or other topics:

- *Preparation (selection, internship)*
- *Licensure (experience and assessment requirements, regulatory policies, alternative pathways)*
- *Professional Development (mentoring, induction, ongoing support)*

Each group will respond to the following questions:

- *What are the challenges around this topic area?*
- *What are we already doing in Utah to address this topic?*
- *What ideas and next steps can and should we do?*

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Share Out and Walk Through

Groups will share out what they discussed and their group results.

3:15 pm – 3:40 pm

Thought Questions

Participants will have the opportunity to pose questions to other groups for consideration.

3:40 pm – 4:30 pm

Guided Group Decisions and Next Steps

In the full group setting meeting participants will review what they have heard and move towards action based next steps.

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Meeting Wrap Up and Announcements

Speaker:

- Senator Ann Millner