

Data Analysis for Student Learning (DASL) Administrative Overview

February 7, 2006

Where are we today with Student Software?

- Current software – POISE, SIS, Campus America, McSIS – all the same
- Converted to this package in August 1986
- Text based software
- Flexible
- Reliable
- Functional

What is DASL

- DASL – Data Analysis for Student Learning
- Replacement for current Student Information System (SIS)
- Funded by 16 Information Technology Centers (ITCs) formerly DA Sites
- Developed at NOACSC (Lima)
- Some development work still taking place

Why do we need to change?

The current software is functional but....

- Package is over 23 years old (used at NOECA for 20 years)
- No new enhancements for the last 8 years
- Only changes have been bug fixes or EMIS and proficiency requirements
- Schools want new features and options

What will we gain by changing to DASL?

- POISE/EMIS data will be converted to DASL
 - Some manual entry for data currently not in POISE may be necessary
- EMIS process will be streamlined with data being maintained in DASL
- End user will see immediate new features and functionality
- Enhancements
- Data is validated at time of entry

What will we gain by changing to DASL?

- Portal page – can be customized by building
- Graphical interface
- Home school/JVS integration and sharing of student information if JVS uses DASL through NOECA
- Software will continue to be updated to meet the growing needs of schools

Let's take a brief look at DASL

NOECA's Role and Responsibility

- Install, maintain and support software
- Training will take place 'just in time' for each application
- Provide customization of forms and reports as software allows

District Responsibilities

- Assign a DASL Point of Contact
 - Critical to appoint the right person. This person will play a key role in the conversion process.
 - Characteristics of this person
 - Possess excellent organizational and communications skills
 - Authority to coordinate and schedule meetings
 - Direct line of communication to district/building administrators
- Note – The DASL Point of Contact does not need to be a SIS expert but should have some general SIS knowledge

District Responsibilities (cont'd)

- Assemble a DASL Implementation Team with representation from each building
- Ensure DASL Point of Contact and DASL Implementation Team attend all DASL trainings
- Utilize “play” database prior to implementation

Role of DASL Point of Contact

- Responsible for understanding and implementing security roles
- Coordinate all activities related to DASL implementation
- Schedule meetings as necessary
- Coordinate all issues/bugs reported by DASL team members
- Keep district/building administrators updated on the DASL project/timelines/issues

Time Commitment?

- DASL Point of Contact will need to dedicate a considerable amount of time to the DASL project
- Previous ITCs have found that the initial implementation may take up to 8 weeks
- This person may spend 20+ hours per week on the project

Timelines

- Phase I – Planning
 - Phase II – Security and Portal Implementation
 - Phase III – Training (DASL play) *
 - Phase IV – School Setup and Configuration (DASL play)
 - Phase V – Data Validation and Unit Testing *
 - Phase VI – Go Live !
 - Phase VII – Post implementation
- * Most critical and time consuming phases

What is our customer base?

- 160 buildings
- Over 650 customers made up of building principals/assistant principals, guidance counselors, building secretaries, attendance officers/secretaries, EMIS coordinators and others

NOECA Staffing

- Laurie Pitts – Student Services Coordinator – 24 years experience at NOECA
- Diane Young – Student Services Specialist – 7 years experience
- Judy Toth – Student Services/EMIS Specialist – 17 years experience
- Jackie Jackson – EMIS Services Specialist – 9 years experience
- Matt Wagner – Student Service/Progress Book Specialist – 1 ½ years experience

Support for NOECA

- ITC at NOACSC (Lima)
 - Several NOACSC staff to support project
 - NOACSC provides support to 16 ITCs statewide
 - NOECA is in the last wave of ITCs to implement DASL

Implementation/Training Timeline

District “Go-Live” / Training Dates

- Fall 2006
 - Training July/August 2006
- December 2006
 - Training October 2006
- March 2007
 - Training January 2007
- April 2007
 - Training February 2007
- May 2007
 - Training March 2007
- Fall 2007
 - Training July/August 2007
 - Note: NOECA will attend their first DASL Boot Camp training the first week of March

Factors that may impact schedule

- Districts not prepared to implement as scheduled
- NOECA not able to meet the implementation schedule
- Statewide implementation not proceeding as expected
 - 10 districts per week - statewide
- Unforeseen issues

Sample of training that will be required

- Entering new students, schedules, update, reports
- Interim grade reporting
- EMIS reporting (Fall, December, June)
- Grade reporting
- Semester grading period
- Scheduling for next school year
- Year end processing
- On-going training

District Decisions

- As an administrative team decide when you would like to implement DASL
- Consider staffing at the building level
- Consider any unique requirements needed (i.e. exports to other software packages)
- Complete DASL district survey form
- Submit DASL district survey form to NOECA by Tuesday, February 28th

Factors that may impact district implementation timeline

- Progress Book mid-year conversion should not be an issue for next school year
- Export/import support for other grade reporting systems
- Unique requirements
- Number of districts vying for available implementation slots
- Staffing in the district

What to expect?

- Software is new - anticipate problems
- There will be a substantial learning curve for everyone involved – that means NOECA staff as well as staff at districts/buildings
- Procedures and work flow will be different from POISE
- People will need to adjust to new processes

Technology Needs

- Terminals no longer used
- Reflections software no longer needed
- PC specifications
- MAC
- Internet browser - version
- Laser printers
- Elimination of dot matrix printers

Recap

- DASL Point of Contact will be essential for success
- Data validation and testing will be **CRITICAL** to a smooth DASL implementation
- Play account – use it!

QUESTIONS?

Reminder

NOECA survey available from January 30 –
February 10

We want and need your input!

URL: http://intercom.noeca.net/noeca_sur/