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Nevada Professional Judgment Study

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Today's Presentation

- Overview of the professional judgment process
- Professional judgment panel results
 - Resources identified
 - Base cost and ELL weights
- Determining additional weights and adjustments
 - Review of adequacy studies nationally
 - At-risk weight
 - Special Education weights
 - Size adjustment and LCM from 2006 Nevada study
- Modeling results for the state

Professional Judgment Process

- Professional Judgment (PJ) approach relies on the expertise of education professionals to identify the resources needed so all students can meet all state standards
- State standards considered:
 - Compulsory education requirements
 - Required staff ratios
 - Content standards
 - Assessment requirements, including for ELL students
 - Course and graduation requirements
 - School Accountability/School Performance Framework
 - Educator effectiveness requirements
 - Federal requirements

Professional Judgment Process

- Held a series of interviews with ELL experts prior to panels
- Convened 5 panels in October 2014
 - Three school-level (elementary, middle, and high school) panels, one ELL panel, and one statewide review panel
- Panels included teachers, principals, ELL coordinators, technology specialists, district-level administrators, CFOs
 - 33 educators from Nevada participated in the PJ process

Professional Judgment Process

- Panels identified resources for all students, then the additional resources needed to serve three levels of ELL students (L1/L2, L3/L4, L5/Monitoring)
- Resources discussed:
 - Personnel: instructional, pupil support and administrative staff
 - Other personnel costs: substitute teachers and time for PD
 - Non-personnel costs: supplies, materials, and equipment, student activities
 - Non-traditional programs and services, including before and after school, preschool, and summer school programs.
 - Technology, including hardware, software, and licensing fees.
- Panelists provided starting point figures from Evidence-based research

Draft PJ Results

- PJ process identified both a base cost and weights for ELL students
- Examples of key resources from Nevada PJ panels for all students (base):
 - Small class sizes: 15:1 for K-3rd grade, 25:1 for 4th-12th grade;
 - Professional development and instructional coaches for teachers;
 - Student support (counselors, social workers);
 - Technology rich learning environments, including one-to-one student devices and needed IT support; and
 - Preschool recommended for all four year olds.

Draft PJ Results

- Examples of key resources from Nevada PJ panels for ELL students:
 - Multi-faceted approach to ELL education to ensure that the education of ELL students is the responsibility of everyone
 - ELL teachers for direct instruction and/or co-teaching, instructional coaches to provide all teachers with guidance on ELL instruction, interventionists to work one-on-one with students, and pupil support through social workers and family liaisons, as well as counselors at the high school level.
 - A focus on addressing long-term ELL needs for students that often stay in the L3-L4 category;
 - Ongoing monitoring support for students that have transitioned out of the L1-L5 categories to ensure their success; and
 - Before and after school, summer school for L1-L4 ELL students.

Draft PJ Results- Base Cost

- Applied average salaries to resources identified by panels to develop per pupil costs
- Detailed School-level Base Costs

	Elem. School	Middle School	High School
School-level Costs, Base	\$7,690	\$6,313	\$6,225
Personnel Costs	\$7,005	\$5,541	\$5,093
Professional Development	\$223	\$192	\$188
Non-Personnel Costs	\$200	\$300	\$600
Technology	\$261	\$264	\$240
Other Programs	\$0	\$17	\$104

- Combined School-level Base Cost: \$6,862

Draft PJ Results- Base Cost

- District-level Base Cost:
 - Calculated based upon 2006 work; 25% of updated school-level base costs
 - District-level base cost: \$1,715
- Total Base Cost:

Total Base Cost	\$8,577
<i>School-level</i>	\$6,862
<i>District-level</i>	\$1,715

Draft PJ Results- ELL Costs and Weights

- School-level ELL Costs

	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
ELL- L1, L2	\$3,482	\$2,749	\$3,021
ELL- L3, L4	\$2,617	\$2,749	\$2,898
ELL- L5, Monitoring	\$1,063	\$1,140	\$768

- District-level ELL Costs: \$350
- ELL Weights:

ELL- L1, L2	0.41
ELL- L3, L4	0.36
ELL- L5, Monitoring	0.13

Determining Additional Adjustments and Weights

- PJ process was used to update base cost and ELL weights
- Needed to determine additional adjustments and weights for:
 - At-Risk
 - Special Education
 - District Size
 - Location Cost Metric (LCM)
- Reviewed 2006 Nevada study results and conducted review of adequacy studies nationally
 - CO, CT, KY, MN, MT, PA, SD, TN, and Washington D.C.

Determining Additional Adjustments and Weights

- Size Adjustment
 - Compared Nevada 2006 district size adjustment with most recent adequacy study size adjustment available
 - 2013 Colorado
 - Similar adjustment, so kept 2006 Nevada size adjustment
- LCM
 - Could not be redone as part of this study, kept 2006 Nevada LCM
 - *Caveat: changing economic realities over past 10 years would likely result in different LCM figures if run today*

Determining Additional Adjustments and Weights

- At-Risk Weight
 - Nevada (2006): .29-.35
 - Nationally: 0.25-.075
 - Updated figure: .35
 - *Reasoning: Nevada specific figure, well within national range*
- Special Education Weight (Single Weight)
 - Nevada (2006): 1.1
 - Nationally: 0.8- 1.5
 - Updated figure: 1.1
 - *Reasoning: again, Nevada specific figure, in line with national weights*

Next Steps

- APA is applying new figures to Nevada districts to create statewide adequacy costs
 - Comparing against actual district expenditures

Note: in both cases, using 2012-13 figures