A Celebration of Efficiency & Effectiveness

Marin County Schools

2011–2012
Goal:
To use current knowledge on Quintessential School Systems (QSS) software (Personnel/HR components) within the countywide personnel group to create a group learning atmosphere utilizing local “experts” (district staff) to efficiently and effectively train the group on the new QCC platform.

Results:
- Six (6) trainings in 2011–12 using the recorded QSS webinars and “local expert” district employees
- QSS webinars posted online for access by any district employees

Other Shared Opportunities:
- Automated Sub caller system (SubFinder)– shared training costs
- CODESP testing for paraeducator for small districts
- Review of fingerprinting process
Goal:
Districts to share a technology support position in the 2011–2012 school year.

Results:
• Formation of the Enterprise Zone
• Provide District Technology Services
• Training and support
• Aeries, CALPADS, DataDirector

Other Shared Opportunities:
• Internet Access Services ..20 districts
• Financial Software Consortium ..19 districts
• Aeries Student System ..9 districts
• SEIS, DataDirector ..20 districts
• Computer Applications Training – 379 district staff 2011–12
• Emerging Trends in Education
• Countywide Technology Committee
• Cloud Migration Services
• Business Process Automation, Digital Documents, e-Workflows
• Group Purchasing
Goal:
To leverage the combined purchasing power of Marin County school districts to achieve cost savings in the purchase of custodial supplies and other products and services required to maintain and operate schools.

Results:
- Selected Fishman Supply, Petaluma
- Group purchase
  - Janitorial and cleaning supplies
  - Average discount 10%

Other Shared Opportunities:
- Annual Mandated Topics Training
- Maintenance and Operations Regular Meetings
- Shared training
- Custodial Sub pool
- Equipment
District Business Officials

Goal:
To utilize purchase practices and tools that will result in savings and efficiencies in the purchasing process.

Results:
• The DBO Committee concluded that cost savings were unfounded through the Ed-Buy system
• Committee determined that purchasing strategies are unique to individual cultures
• Cost savings were inconsistent, if there were cost savings at all, thus the lack of clear data did not produce a compelling reason to shift individual school district purchasing practices

Other Shared Opportunities:
• Additional research regarding the concept of purchasing efficiencies
• MCOE is working with additional online supplier of goods, to compare with existing suppliers
• QSS Financial System is hosted by MCOE for 18 of the 19 Marin school districts. All payroll, and payable transactions are processed through this system
• All retirement transactions are processed through MCOE
• Monthly District Business Officials meetings include roundtable discussion of best shared practices and methodologies ranging from budgeting to implementing new state and federal financial funding and expenditure restrictions and requirements
• RFP collaborations are continually sought for the purchase of professional services, and coordinated by MCOE. Examples of professional services include but are not limited to:
  - Independent Auditor Services
  - TPA, Third Party Administrators for 403(b), TSAs, Tax Shelter Annuities
  - GASB 45, Actuarial Studies for OPEB, Other Post Employment Benefits
Goal:
Quintessential Control Center (QCC) Payroll Users Group

Results:
- Ongoing opportunities to share and learn tips during Payroll Roundtable meetings, held every two months
- Support and guidance is provided by the MCOE business staff
- Additional trainings have been held and are scheduled to continue
  - Prior to scheduled trainings, district staffs are polled to determine training priorities
  - Two “priority topics” for trainings were held in January

Other Shared Opportunities:
- MCOE has provided additional interactive, recorded webinar trainings with a QCC trainer employed through the El Dorado County Office of Education
- QCC webinars provide 2–hour trainings in areas such as budget development, online requisitions, and other modules within the QCC financial platform
Goal:
Increased use of data and DataDirector reports within school districts and throughout Marin County will be a contributing factor to the increase in student achievement as identified in Countywide student achievement SMART Goal.

Results:
- CLC meetings discussion revolved the use of data and DataDirector reports to inform instruction
- RtI implemented to ensure learning for all students throughout the County
- API results for subgroups has increased throughout the county in all Districts

Other Shared Opportunities:
- Using flexible dollars to fund DataDirector product throughout County
- Districts contribute to a position to support using data at the teacher and district level
- Coming together as a community of learners in CLC to share best practices
- Share needs County-wide in regards to Professional Development needs
Goal:
To coordinate and implement a new law, Assembly Bill 354, regarding Pertussis (Whopping Cough) immunization for students 2011–2012.

Results:
• 98% of 7–12 grade students received the Tdap and 2% were PBE of the 13,057 enrolled Marin County Public Schools
• 6 Tdap Pertussis Clinics were held at school sites to meet the requirement

Other Shared Opportunities:
• Health Trainings: Type1Diabetes and Middle School Family Life Curriculum
• Developed a Health & Wellness website that includes a Health Manual to provide resources and services which reflect school community health standards
• Collaborative Partnership with Marin County Public Health on communicable diseases and immunization rates
• Participation in establishing protocols for SB 161: administration of epilepsy medication (Diastat) in an emergency