Using the State Tool for Examining Post School Success (STEPSS) Capacity Building Institute May 7, 2019
Stories from Colorado
Why Colorado decided to jump in . . .

- Lack of change over 5 years in graduation and dropout rates for SWD
- Increase our involvement at the LEA level
- To assist and guide LEAs in the process, looking closely at their school systems using the data from the four indicators.
  - Program Evaluation
  - Root Cause Analysis
  - Improvement Strategies
Why we love it?

- Systematic
- Collaborative approach with education and community agencies
- Empowering local teams
- Facilitation model
- Funneling
Narrowing of Focus

Phase 1: Broad information – lots of data

Phases 2 - 3: Narrowing to student group and outcome

Phase 4: Action Planning
Rolling out the pilot

First try - 2017-18 school year

- 3-day NTACT training
- Data based selection process
- LEA data analysis
- Invitations
- Introductory webinar to Directors
- No takers
Rolling out the pilot – Take 2

Take 2 - 2018-19 school year

- Refresher training - 2 days
- Selection process
  - Personal relationships
  - Identified 2 LEAs from each region
  - Introductory webinar to Directors
    - Virtual or in person
  - All 4 accepted the opportunity
Lessons Learned

SEA

- More time needed for each phase (varied by team)
- Decision makers are essential
- It looks different for every team
  - School team only
  - Community agencies but few school members
  - School leaders involved
- Facilitation is harder than we thought
- Action plans - short term and long term
Lessons learned

LEAs

Zoom Participants

- Loved discussion: Predictors and Essential Program Characteristics
- Brought together people from different parts of the district
- Commitment to the process and time
Reaction of locals: Benefits

- A panel of stakeholders presented their experiences and lessons learned implementing STEPSS at our Special Education Directors’ Meeting in April.
- Enable each group to focus on the change that they could effect (different for each group).
- Action planning - short term and long term
- Sustainability - teams committed to ongoing work next year
Next STEPSS

- **Sustainability**
  - Teams committed to ongoing work next year
  - SEA committed to continued support

- **SEA hopes to recruit 4 more LEAs to participate for 2019-20 school year.**
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