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ESSA State Plan: Recommendation Form

Development Cycle No: 3	Decision Point No(s): 25		Recommender: Josh Souliere
Date submitted: 7/19/2016		Bounce Team Coordinating: School Effectiveness	

ESSA Citation: 1111(b)(1)(A)

Question(s) being considered: How should the Continuous Improvement Plan process and format be revised to reflect ESSA requirements?

Solution being proposed:

One SU/SD Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) that also houses the CIPs for schools within the SU/SD

- SU/SD goals, actions and measures of success are identified
- Schools within the SU/SD have plans connected to these systemic SU/SD goals, but may also have more specific improvement
 actions based on a comprehensive or targeted identification
- Needs assessment to be completed for all schools
- SU/SD Leadership Team is responsible for development and implementation of the SU/SD plan
- School Leadership Teams are responsible for the development and implementation of the school CIP, with support from the SU/SD

Continuous Improvement Plan format

- Comprehensive needs assessment aligned with the Education Quality Standards
- Includes mandated state and federal components
- · Research based frameworks and resources that support Continuous Improvement efforts will be provided by the AOE as resources
- The AOE will provide a Continuous Improvement Plan template that includes the state and federal requirements. All SU/SD/Schools
 will submit this template to the AOE

Rationale: Explain why your proposal supports each decision logic element below:

Equity:

- Instill culture that promotes education quality and continuous improvement for all schools, all SU/SDs, and all students.
- Focus on improved outcomes for all students.
- Shared systemic goals, actions and measures across the SU/SD.

Alignment with current VT policy and practice:

• Alignment with Vermont's Education Quality Standards.

Efficiency (streamlining processes, eliminating duplicative systems or requirements):

- Alignment of goals, actions and measures within educational systems.
- Alignment of federal and state requirements within an accountability model.
- Strategic networking approach to allow for increased collaboration across schools, and the sharing of improvement practices and results

Possibility (implementation feasibility for the AOE and impacted stakeholders):

- Focus on what can be implemented and have the greatest impact with current capacity and resources at the state and SU/SD/School level.
- Focus on alignment of CIP with the Education Quality Standards.

Identify any known or potential risks associated with your proposed solution:

- Change to increased SU/SD support to schools could result in inconsistent implementation.
- Resource and capacity become thin due to number of schools identified.
- Resistance from field due to desire to continue using locally-developed CIP format.

What are the expected benefits associated with your proposed solution:

- Improved alignment between federal and state accountability.
- Continuous improvement efforts, resources and technical assistance aligned with Education Quality Standards.
- Capacity at the state level to provide technical assistance to SU/SDs with focused, aligned approach.
- Improved alignment of resources and technical assistance with identified needs.
- They'll be able to implement their CIP efforts using their own format internally, but will submit a common template to the AOE
 resulting in strengthening our capacity to review CIPs.

Secretary's Decision Date: 7/22/16 Initials:

- ☐ Confirm recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team
- ☐ Reject recommendation of ESSA State Plan Management Team and offer the following as an alternative: