**Regional Meetings with State Education Department Staff**

**Every Student Succeeds Act Financial Transparency Requirement**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that, beginning with the 2018-19 school year, State Report cards must include:

*“The per-pupil expenditures of Federal, State, and local funds, including actual personnel expenditures and actual non-personnel expenditures of Federal, State, and local funds, disaggregated by source of funds, for each local educational agency and each school in the State for the preceding fiscal year.”*

For the 2018-19 school year, reports will be on actual expenditures during that year and are expected to be due by December 2019.

We are committed to taking advantage of the opportunity this federal requirement provides to enhance transparency, equity, and accountability to inform local decision-making.

To ensure the financial reports are useful to school districts and their communities, we are soliciting stakeholder feedback through a series of regional meetings across the State. The topics we will discuss include, but are not limited to, the following questions:

* How do districts currently account for expenditures among their schools?
* What expenditures are not easily identifiable at a school level?
* What expenditures are not easily identifiable as coming from a federal or state/local funding source?
* What type of report presentation and additional contextual information would be useful to district personnel, parents, and community leaders for inclusion in a report?

Department staff welcome any and all comments on these topics and will engage with a representative working group to disseminate the collected feedback in developing uniform guidance that all districts will be required to follow to comply with federal law. Recommended attendees for these events include school district leaders, business officials, board members, parents, and others interested in school accountability issues.

**Meeting Information**

Date: Friday, September 14, 2018

Time: 1PM – 3:30PM

Location(s): Capital Region BOCES, 900 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205

 WSWHE BOCES Gick Road Conference Center (via video conference)

 27 Gick Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

 <https://www.wswheboces.org/Driving_directions/searchDirection>

Space is limited. Please RSVP by September 12th. **For the Albany location**, please send your RSVP to vicky.schweizer@neric.org, and for the **Saratoga location** to tpasco@wswheboces.org.

If you have any questions or would like to provide feedback to the above questions but cannot participate in the meeting, please feel free to email ESSAFinTrans@nysed.gov.