

# MERA Spring Conference May 18, 2010 Eagle Eye Golf Club



## 1. Framing the Issues - Panel Discussion - Facilitated by Dr. Peter Youngs. -- Dr. Joseph Martineau, Peter Spadafore, Don Cooper and Dr. Frank Ciloski 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	4	4.1%						
Slightly	13	13.4%						
Moderately	44	45.4%						
Very Much	36	37.1%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	0	0.0%						
No Response	0	0.0%						

## 2. How Hopkins Public School and Allegan AESA are Responding to Teacher Performance and Evaluation. -- Chris Stevens and Beth Carr 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	6	6.2%						
Slightly	15	15.5%						
Moderately	33	34.0%						
Very Much	42	43.3%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	0	0.0%						
No Response	1	1.0%						

## 3. Do Teacher Characteristics Matter? New Results on the Effects of Teacher Preparation on Student Achievement. -- Dr. Sharon Kukla-Acevedo 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	5	5.2%						
Slightly	37	38.1%						
Moderately	31	32.0%						
Very Much	24	24.7%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	0	0.0%						
No Response	0	0.0%						

## 4. Measuring Growth, Performance & Change. -- Dr. Ken Frank and Min Sun 12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	4	4.1%						
Slightly	24	24.7%						
Moderately	25	25.8%						
Very Much	37	38.1%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	2	2.1%						
No Response	5	5.2%						

## 5. MDE/OEAA Update - MI-SAS Update -- Dr. Joseph Martineau and Steve Viger 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	3	3.1%						
Slightly	7	7.2%						
Moderately	15	15.5%						
Very Much	37	38.1%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	11	11.3%						
No Response	24	24.7%						

## 6. Recent Data Comparing Charter Academies & Public Schools -- Suzanne Dubois 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	5	5.2%						
Slightly	8	8.2%						
Moderately	14	14.4%						
Very Much	11	11.3%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	25	25.8%						
No Response	34	35.1%						

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**7. Please indicate themes, issues or topics you would like to hear about at future MERA conferences.**

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Assessing special populations	20	20.6%						
Content Standard Changes and Assessment	27	27.8%						
Data Systems/Data Warehouse Projects (LEA/ISD)	23	23.7%						
Developing valid district/classroom assessments	36	37.1%						
Program Evaluations	24	24.7%						
High School Merit Curriculum	10	10.3%						
MME/MEAP: Changes, Data Trends	30	30.9%						
Reauthorization of NCLB	19	19.6%						
Research Studies and Michigan Schools	25	25.8%						
School Accountability/Accreditation	19	19.6%						
Valid uses of assessment data	41	42.3%						
Other	14	14.4%						
No Response	2	2.1%						

**Other Responses:**

- Explanation of MDE's comprehensive assessment system
- Core Content State Standards
- Common Core! Very Important
- Reauthorization of ESEA; Applications of RTTT in MI
- 5% lowest performing
- practices of other districts with evaluation
- detailed information on PA 205
- strategies for teaching data novices (teachers & admins) to use data
- common assessments for non-core subjects
- common core & assessments
- finding scientific/research based strategies
- measuring growth
- educator evaluation
- Non parametric/small sample data analysis for teachers/admin

**8. Please use the space below to expand on any topics and the focus that would be greatest benefit/interest to you.**

- more specifics about variety of tools (pro's & con's) and (limitations & positive attributes) to measure growth
- Integratory data & measurements into teacher evaluation
- More practical application of material. Session 2 was a commercial. Session 3 was a review of a dissertation - not impressed with today. Session 4 - was not about measurement it was sociology.
- Ways to eliminate all of those issues from the data that teachers are not in control of. We know what they are, how do you "clean up" the data?
- I would like to learn more about gathering & analyzing local data for school improvement
- Current sp. 2010 theme will be highly relevant and of interest for next year as well
- most of the information given was spoken in generalities - I would love to hear specific examples to help grasp the concepts & information
- continued specifics and legal updates as they relate to PA 205
- Jackson County ISD does "Data Retreats" it would be interesting to hear how they're used this tool as a major school improvement initiative which is producing good fruit
- Common assessment - missuse  
item banks not good enough  
teacher added item - change reliability & validity
- The creation of assessments (pre & post) for core subjects in identified strands
- any examples of good use & bad use of data would be great
- assessment development
- I would like to know more about the growth model
- Race to the top reforms and how data will be part of policy, identification reform lots of changes keep us on (ahead of) the curve!
- continued session on "measuring teacher and administration performance"
- collecting data, use of data, research/evidence
- In relation to data warehousing. I'd like ideas on using data warehouse data innovative at district, school and regional levels.
- changes in state laws
- based on non-normal/small samples, what are some rank-based procedures that teachers can use to analyse their data (per test, for example)
- theory is interesting but need application or ideas to be put into practice

**9. How did you hear about the conference?**

- Curriculum Director
- Oakland Schools sent us information
- Email
- colleague
- email announcements
- email blast
- directed to attend
- email blast
- Email list serv
- email
- email/asst. supt.
- flyer sent to the schools
- email

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- Curriculum Director
- ISD
- from superintendent
- invited by our director of curriculum - we are currently developing a new evaluation tool for our school
- my principal
- email
- My curriculum director and EA president
- brochure
- flyer
- the superintendent of our schools
- curriculum director
- email
- email
- from my asst. supt.
- suggested by administration
- brochure
- central admin for district
- MERA Board Member
- MASSP
- been attending
- from the MERA email list
- flyer
- flyer
- Ernie Bauer - emails
- email from organization
- co-worker
- previous conferences
- past participant and mailing from MERA
- email
- on-line
- Invitation by presenter
- Have been coming for a few years - originally online
- website
- Asst Supt.
- pamphlet
- school leadership team
- mailing
- asked to attend by district
- district
- attended regularly
- email
- long-time attendee
- MERA website
- member
- list serve
- Ernie Bauer
- known about it
- MERA Website
- district mail
- pervious attendee
- flyer
- my curriculum director
- district curriculum office

**10. What were the strengths of the conference?**

- Focus
- the topic
- The topics, the location, great speakers
- thoughtful effort to incorporate range of topics related to framework educator evaluation
- discussion with colleagues
- variety
- food & facilities
- non - disappointed across board!
- very formal - excellent details given
- The Hopkins/I Observation Presentation
- topics
- relating to teacher evaluation
- diverse speakers
- application of new laws ie: framework, ex. of teacher evaluation system (Hopkins)
- acknowledgements that this is a complicated issue
- interesting - segments
- great food

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- good range of approaches to conference theme
- well organized, much critical information given
- thoughts thru new law an concerns along the way
- increased my knowledge base/collaboration with teacher and admin attending
- the information in general
- timely information, location
- teacher evaluation process
- more focus on data
- Focus on a very timely topic - teacher/educator evaluation
- overview of complexities associated with measuring teachers performance using a student achievement component
- relevant topics, updates of state/fed reg./laws
- networking
- diversity of research on multiple measures of teacher effectiveness
- single focus for the day; good use of facility
- lost of information
- some good presenters; location
- The expertise of the presenters
- new information - insightful ideas
- location was nice/convenient
- varied speakers
- new topics
- networking of data & research/connecting universities and policy makers
- connection between legislation and practice in districts
- great program - new/different speakers. Great location/facility
- topic was strong
- relevant
- Ken Franks hopeful outlook
- Research, policy and practice intersection
- Joseph Martineau's honesty and straight forwardness. All participants should be like this
- Very informative, a lot of information
- lots ot think about
- good information
- panel
- new teachers evaluation guidelines
- research

**11. What suggestions or observations do you have that would help us improve the conference?**

- Allow opportunity for conversation at the end of a session. (dialogue with other team members)
- Hard to see the presenter against the windows change setup
- Very well organized. It is always valuable to give people some time to talk with each other - make sense of whay they heard
- Change the placement of speakers away from the windows, although beautiful view
- Does MERA attempt to set or influence a research agendas about assessments that could be useful; exciting possibility to engage in with MI's consortium for educational research, MI assessment consortium and interested IHE's
- I was very disappointed. I was hoping for some guidance on HOW to implement an annual evaluation system tied to student growth
- the "how" piece
- We needed more info on the "annual" teacher evaluation legislation how do we make it happen?
- Better abstracts for presentation - title misleading. Would not have attended today had I better understood program.
- Move us around a little! Speakers tended to jump around (skipping slides/etc.) hard to follow
- more application we can take back
- We need more help in doing this - why do we always have to invent the wheel? We have no resources to do this

Why does the state contunue to tell us what to do, but leave the hard part to us!

- nice facilities but too cold! hard to see speakers because they were in front of windows
- more answers/examples of how to conduct these evaluations in a timely manner
- focus was on teacher evaluation, not how we might address new law. Not real strategies offered up. Specific concerns were not provided specific answers
- Get info from practioners to formulate agenda need usable info. presentations were not what they were toted to be
- While it hade some benefit, it really did not address the issue of evaluation teachers annually - how to accomplish it, the tool to use or how evaluate student growth and progress
- after speaker finished allow 10-15 min. to discuss topic (debrief)
- The presenters, as a whole framed their issues well, but were a little light - offering solutions.
- more explanation about the new law
- Review al lthe new current legislation 1st panel discussion at the end of the conference
- If you want more graduate students to present research, please make sure we understand they are still learning. Suzanne's questions were veiled attacks
- internet more accessible/websites of highly performing - need documents as they speak Joseph- need PPT of his - talk - skipping around - hard to follow
- Thanks for having this in Lansing - meant no over night stay
- We need a handout on the tiers and calculations
- due to the topic, room could not accomodate attendees
- strong wireless signal help to locate research/website during presentations
- fewer topics and allow more time for the presenters so there can be processing time.

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- last presenter was totally out of line with her statistics
- People seemed to want more information on how to do the larger performance evaluation in a limited amount of time
- give handouts
- Room needed to be setup w/speaker at 90 degrees to the left. It was hard to see speakers with window light
- Did not gain a lot of insight on this topic
- I was disappointed that we didn't get any specific regarding appropriate and valid measurements of growth
- have facilities set up better
- need models, samples of evaluation tools
- a lot of the speakers didn't present on measuring teacher performance
- conference didn't stay on topic!
  - answer questions that are asked; have plans of action to look over; are speakers today being paid by how well this evaluation is completed
- have powerpoint handouts available
- good location, good agenda today
  - bring Joseph back to every session
- continue to provide examples of implementations
- The survey design presumes I had expectations for sessions. I don't find the survey scale appropriate.
  - Need handouts
  - Especially need the one for OEAA update
- fewer topics & dig deeper into them?
- Nice work in anticipating needs during a sea of change. Maybe work on smoother researcher - educator transition.
- Talks on "How to" not on mistakes we are making but on how to do things (leave out companies though)
- Not enough answers. MDE representation was embarrassing concerning evaluation. Hanging our hats on RTTT is not the answer to the budget problems or to evaluation
  - MDE presentation much better in p.m.
- would like to see more of a model to solve the problems addressed
- Was attracted by 1st session - what followed was not of value to me .

Possible MERA Candidates:

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