

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUBJECT: Office of Information Technology Services

REFERENCE: HB 0500, HD1, SD1, CD1; Section 75, Act 213

ACTION REQUESTED: Progress and Status Report for eSIS

DOE REPORT:

Introduction

Implementation of eSIS, the new electronic student information system began in 2004 with 10 pilot elementary schools and 2 secondary schools using basic functions of eSIS. These schools had the flexibility to export data to be used for longitudinal analysis. In addition to this feature, through alternative funding sources, computers for every classroom teacher is provided with software programs to aid the teachers with productivity tools in raising student achievement.

Listed below is a brief overview of the eSIS implementation.

- 2004-2005 School Year
 - Implement 10 elementary schools and 2 secondary schools.
 - Elementary schools used eSIS to generate the electronic standards-based report card
 - Secondary school used eSIS to generate the traditional secondary report card and transcript label
- 2005-2006 School Year
 - Implement 33 elementary schools
 - Enhancement made to the elementary standards-based report card by recommendation of pilot elementary schools
- 2006-2007 School Year
 - Implement 69 elementary schools, 10 secondary schools, and 1 elem/sec combination school
- 2007-2008 School Year
 - Implement 54 elementary schools, 28 secondary schools, 5 elem/sec combination schools and 4 multi-track schools
 - All elementary schools except Charter Schools and Elementary/Intermediate of Elementary/High combination schools are using eSIS
- 2008-2009 School Year
 - Implement remaining 39 secondary schools, 2 secondary multi-track schools, 1 special school (HCDB), and 1 Charter School

- 2009-2010 School Year
 - Implement Charter Schools
- New Servers and Hosted Facility
 - Transitioned June 15, 2007
 - Capacity sized to accommodate 2800 concurrent users
 - 24-hour monitoring of hardware
- Elementary Report Card Enhancements
 - Modified the "Fine Arts" drop down option for mark entry
 - Elementary schools with grade 6 are able to enter a final year grade for promotion/transition purposes
- Standards-based Kindergarten Report Card Prototype created and waiting for further discussions from the Joint Committee Task Force
 - Need for a more developmentally appropriate Standards-Based Report Card for Kindergarten
 - Need for more detail in Language Arts and social behaviors
- Future module implementation
 - Parent Assistant (parent access to grades)
 - Mobile Assistant (using hand-held devices to access eSIS)
 - Electronic Gradebook
 - Fee's Management Module (using credit card to pay school fees and obligations)
 - Centralized electronic transcript
 - Student Transportation (maintaining bus routes and riders)

FINDINGS:

With the increased traffic on the department's network, the Network System Services Branch increased the bandwidth in advance of each scheduled implementation as well as upgraded school networks. Through a secure access, teachers are now able to voluntarily work on student assessments and grading at home at their convenience. With eSIS, the schools have the flexibility to export data to track student achievement through the student's marks and GLO (General Learner Outcomes) ratings to:

- 1) Assist teachers in improving instructional strategies
- 2) Assist the Principal and the school staff to develop the Academic and Financial Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Sustain funding (approximately \$3.2 million) to implement future modules, future server upgrades, and the maintenance of the hosted facility. Funding will also be used to enhance existing modules to meet school/state/federal reporting needs.

SECTION 75. Provided that of the general fund appropriation for state and complex area administration (EDN 300), the sum of \$999,964 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the sum of \$1,000,774 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 shall be expended by the department of education for the electronic student information system; provided further that the department shall prepare a report that shall include but not limited to the progress and status of the implementation of the electronic student information system; and provided further that the department shall submit the report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008 and 2009 regular sessions.