

Education Information Management Advisory Collaborative (EIMAC)

The Education Information Management Advisory Collaborative (EIMAC) mission is to influence, advance, and sustain the innovative use of data and technology in support of CCSSO's aspiration that each child—across all backgrounds—graduates ready for college, careers, and life, and that our state leaders, schools, and educators are prepared and have the right resources at the right moment to meet the needs of each student they serve.

Education data and technology are critical components to the success of the education community, including state chiefs, SEA staff, policy makers, educators, parents, and students. State education data systems must be strategically implemented in a manner that best supports high-quality teaching and learning. These systems are being asked to provide increased access to data and technology tools, allow seamless integration and interoperability, and promote continuous improvement while at the same time safeguarding student and educator records. In addition to systems development and safeguarding data, promoting the use of data and fostering a culture of data-driven decision making is also critical to the success of education at all levels. To promote a forward-thinking education data and technology vision, innovation must be encouraged and be at the forefront of the planning and development process. These topics and more will be featured throughout the EIMAC 2018-2019 program year.

The EIMAC membership includes state education agency (SEA) technology and data leaders, as well as organizational and industry partners. The EIMAC program includes a specific network for the SEA Chief Information Officer (CIO) or Technology Director/Lead and a new network for the SEA Data Use Director/Lead (Data Lead). In many cases, the Data Lead will be the individual responsible for agency public reporting, accountability data, data analysis, research, and/or state report card. The CIO Network and the Data Lead Network participate in the development of the EIMAC priorities, focus areas, and meeting agendas for the program year. Members from the CIO and Data Lead Networks attend the two EIMAC meetings and individual network meetings designed to focus on specific problems of practice associated with their CIO or Data Lead role. SEAs may designate additional team members to participate in the two EIMAC meetings. EIMAC organizational and industry partners are also invited to attend and participate in the two EIMAC meetings.

EIMAC, the CIO Network, and the Data Lead Network have been established to help states achieve these aspirational—yet attainable—education data and technology goals. A primary objective for EIMAC is to promote and facilitate cross- and in-state collaboration between state technology and data leaders, philanthropic funders, partner organizations, vendors, and other thought partners. The EIMAC convenings create opportunities to learn from and share best practices and to harness the collective influence and synergy of the education technology and data communities.

2017-2018 Achievements:

- Facilitating cross- and in-state collaboration for education data and technology leaders through a series of EIMAC and CIO Network convenings.
- Hosted a series of data and technology webinars on specific topics identified as priority areas by EIMAC members. Topics included Financial Transparency, Data Visualization, Report Cards, Interoperability, and Data Security and Privacy.
- Expanded the CIO Portal to include additional Systems/Services and championed a data entry effort to assist states with CIO Portal data entry.
- Assembled a Financial Transparency project team to support and expand technical assistance to state education agencies (SEAs) and local education agencies (LEAs) as they work to meet the financial transparency reporting requirements outlined in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Partnered with Edunomics Lab at Georgetown University to host a co-located meeting between the CIO Network and the Edunomics Lab Financial Transparency Working Group (FiTWiG). The purpose of this meeting was to foster the connection between FiTWiG and the CIO Network and to enhance the awareness of the Financial Transparency project.
- Developed a State Education Interoperability plan and proposal that will improve the ability of technology systems and software products to communicate, exchange data, and work together to process and use the information that has been exchanged. Interoperability remains a major hurdle for the education community as technology leaders attempt to meet the evolving technology needs and challenges of educators and students.

2018-2019 Goals

In support of CCSSO's aspiration that each child—across all backgrounds—graduates ready for college, careers, and life, EIMAC's mission is to influence, advance, and sustain the innovative use of data and technology in order to support our state leaders, schools, and educators so they have the right resources at the right moment to meet the needs of each student they serve.

- Launch the Data Lead Network. This network will focus on data use and will be designed for the SEA staff responsible for public reporting, accountability data, and state report cards.
- Launch a State Education Interoperability initiative with a goal of enhancing the state education technology ecosystem to strategically connect and improve interoperability between education systems, technology, and data.

Spotlight on Equity

A focus on equity is central to CCSSO's 2017-2020 strategic plan and our work with our members. CCSSO and state chiefs are committed to each child—across all backgrounds—graduating ready for college, careers, and life. In 2017, CCSSO and the Aspen Institute Education & Society Program released [Leading for Equity: Opportunities for State Education Chiefs](#), which set forth ten commitments and a series of actions state chiefs can take to advance equity. Each of CCSSO's collaboratives is a venue for working with national experts and collaborating with peer



states to identify concrete strategies for advancing relevant commitments found in the report. Equity will play a major role in the agenda of the collaboratives over the next membership year. Examples of equity commitments from *Leading for Equity* the EIMAC collaborative addresses through its work are:

- **Equity Commitment Number 1, Part B)** Proactively initiate and lead conversations about equity.
- **Equity Commitment Number 3, Part E)** Ensure the accountability system is relevant and meaningful to parents, students, and other stakeholders.
- **Equity Commitment Number 3, Part F)** Partner with LEAs to ensure school improvement efforts are targeted to community needs and strengths.
- **Equity Commitment Number 4, Part E)** Provide targeted supports and guidance to districts to help teachers and leaders build and sustain excellent schools.
- **Equity Commitment Number 5, Part A)** Advocate for equitable and adequate funding.
- **Equity Commitment Number 9, Part A)** Measure and improve school culture as one important aspect of closing achievement gaps.

Biography of Lead

Brent Engelman serves as the Education Data and Information Systems (EDIS) Director at CCSSO. Brent has recently served as the Director of Information Technology at the Illinois State Board of Education. During his 17-year tenure in Illinois, in addition to serving on the Cabinet for Superintendent Tony Smith, he was tapped for various leadership roles including: Data Governance Council Chairman, Longitudinal Data System Governing Board and the Illinois Century Network Policy Committee. Brent has been an active member of the CCSSO Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Education Information Management Advisory Consortium (EIMAC).

Brent is committed and involved in education in his personal life as well. He served as the School Board President for six years at the Nokomis Community Unit District until 2013.

2017-18 State Members Included:

AZ, AR, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, ME, MA, MI, MS, MO, NE, NV, NJ, NM, NC, OK, OR, PA, SC, VA, WA, WI.

2017-18 Partners Included:

American Institutes for Research (AIR), BrightBytes, LearningMate, Public Consulting Group(PCG), SAS





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