

## RAC Executive Director Update – January 16, 2019

- TEA Updates
  - Effective Schools Framework
  - Teacher Strategic Compensation
    - Goal is to improve recruitment and retention to ultimately impact student performance.
    - Possible Teacher Designations (district developed and TEA developed)– Master, Exemplary, Recognized (all require a Standard Certificate as foundation). Opportunities to grow and be recognized for your impact on student perf.
    - District Developed:
      - Admin Observations
      - Student Achievement
      - Student surveys
      - Other (peer review, campus outcomes, teacher leadership or community initiatives)
    - State-developed:
      - Admin observation
      - Student achievement and growth
      - Teacher leadership
    - Possible Funding
      - \$3k-\$30k per teacher per year based on:
        - level of teacher designation
        - school characteristics (tier of poverty, rural)
    - A “rural” would automatically bump up 2 tiers.
    - TEA Information Request
      - Are you doing a form of strategic compensation?
      - Are you interested in developing you own plan in the next 3 years for differentiating compensation for highly-effective teachers?
      - Are you interested in using a state-developed plan in the next 3 years for designating and compensating highly-effective teachers?
    - Interested in participating at some level? Let me know.

- Texas Commission on Public School Finance
- ESC-20 Updates
  - Assessment Calendar - 2020
    - English II EOC
    - LEAs have the flexibility to adjust test dates within the scheduled administration window for STAAR tests.
    - If you are closed on April 10, 2020 for Good Friday TEA recommends that you move STAAR II administration to Wednesday, April 8, 2020 and provide make-up testing on Thursday, April 9.
  - “School Finance Budget Series”
    - See flyer
- Social Sentinel A couple of Regions have worked with this company to arrange for a consortium purchasing model to save
  - Social Sentinel is a social media scanning tool that can serve as a part of your safety and security program.
  - Social Sentinel scans 1B public social media posts per day looking for indicators of harm and violence.
  - Social Sentinel does not follow, surveil, or monitor individual social media users. The service supports Constitutionally protected rights to freedom of speech and expression.
  - Social Sentinel has developed the most comprehensive Library of Harm and threats containing hundreds of thousands of behavioral threat terms compiled by experts in law enforcement, public safety, mental health, counseling, linguistics and data science. When a threat or harm is identified and connected with a client, an alert is sent.
  - A couple of Regions have worked with this company to arrange for a consortium purchasing model to save the LEAs money on this service. A few of our superintendents have expressed an interest in the service and a handful of our LEAs currently have this service. During our cluster meetings next month I will bring some more information and details related to a potential consortium model. If you are considering this service I would encourage you to hold off until after February so that we can determine a level of interest and possible cost savings to you. I’ve talked with the team at Sentinel and we plan

to organize an informational meeting in March, once we determine what the level of interest.

- Products & Service Survey
  - Sent to clients who actually use specific products and services.
  - Intent is to receive customer voice related to quality, value, impact, knowledge of staff, and overall service.
  - We work hard to update our contact lists so that the recipients are the actual users of the product or service.
  - This is really important information for our staff and we appreciate your willingness to provide feedback as we continue our path of continuous improvement.
  - You and your staff will begin to receive the survey requests in early February
  - On a related note, thank you for completing the recent UT 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Survey which evaluated the Center as a whole and becomes part of our evaluation with the Commissioner. This year the System of ESCs had the highest response rate yet. We appreciate the support.
- CFO, Client Business Services
- Next Charter RAC meeting – March 27