Graduation Cohort

Cohort Determination Process

G-CAT and Lookup Tools

Ramifications

Data Services
2011 Data Conference
April 18-19, 2011

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

You and Your Graduation Cohorts

- Why are Graduation Cohorts Important
- How to Manage Graduation Cohorts
- Clean up the Data
  - Encourage your Data Stewards to attend work days
  - Communicate changes in the student roster to the Data Stewards

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Purpose

- Difference between NCES Graduation Rate and Cohort Four-Year Graduation Rate
- Education on the Cohort
- Ramifications
  - Where is the Graduation rate calculation used?

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Purpose *(cont.)*

Training on Cohort Corrections

- In NSSRS Validations
  - G-CAT tool
  - EGY Lookup tool
  - Enrollment Lookup by ID tool
  - Student Lookup by ID tool
  - Verification Reports, Validation Errors, and Unresolved Issues (G-CAT)
- In the CDC, Graduation Cohort Resolution Request and Submission Tool

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

You Will Leave Knowing:

- Common Vocabulary
- How to:
  - Fix Errors back to 2007
  - Proactively Manage:
    - SIS Data Entry
    - Predict Future Grad. Rates
    - Assessment Participation
  - Troubleshoot Graduation Cohort Anomalies
    - Expected Graduation Year
    - Enrollment in the Graduation Cohort
  - Use a Variety of Lookup Tools

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Impact

Funding

Public Image

Leadership

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Why Do You Care?

- **Reported to the Federal Government and displayed on the SOSR in the October 2011 (2010-2011 data)**

  - Impacts AYP (2012-2013 Other academic indicator for HS)
  - Persistently Low Achieving Schools (PLAS)
  - Nebraska State Assessment (NeSA)
  - State of the Schools Report (SOSR)
  - Data Reporting System (DRS)

- **Future $ Ramifications**
  - Title I, SIG, ARRA, Accountability Grants
  - Media Interpretation Longitudinal and Comparative

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

What is a Cohort?

A **Cohort** is a group of students who share the same Expected Graduation Year

The **Expected Graduation Year (EGY)** set for the first time in the ninth grade becomes the student's Graduation Cohort Year

In Nebraska, the Graduation Cohort Year is set by districts and determined (not calculated) through the **Nebraska Student and Staff Records System (NSSRS)**

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Process for Setting Cohort

Starting Nebraska Graduation Cohort

- Set it in the ninth grade for the first time
- Forget it
- Continue to report but never change
  - SPED, retention, demotion, mid-year promotion, early graduation
- Honor previous school's Expected Graduation Year (In or Out of state transfers)

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Graduation Cohort Calculation
A numerator/denominator percentage equation applicable at school and district level.

Graduates with a diploma (203) in their assigned four year cohort

High School Diploma Recipients (YEAR X)

FIRST-TIME [(YEAR X – 4)] ninth graders + (transfer in) – (transfer out)]

All students in the Expected Graduation Year (Graduation Cohort Year and still enrolled)
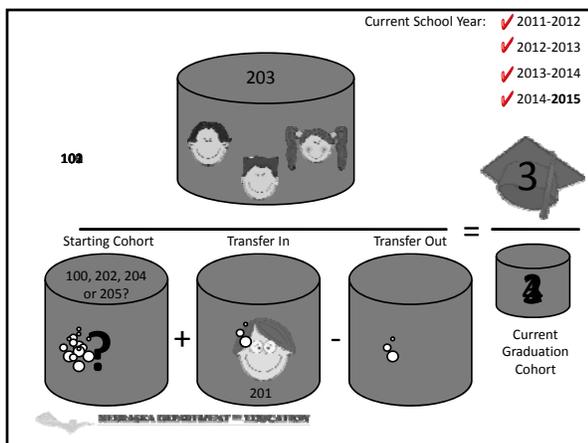
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FIRST-TIME [(YEAR X – 4)] ninth graders + (transfer in) – (transfer out)]

All students in the Expected Graduation Year (Graduation Cohort Year and still enrolled)

Enrollment Codes
Included:
- 100
- 101
- 102 – (Includes Option in and Contract In)
- 103
- 200 – (District level, not School level)
- 202
- 203
- 204
- 205
- 208

Enrollment Codes
Excluded:
The only way out death or transfer out
- 201 – Transfer Out (includes option out and contract out*)
- 206 – Deceased
- 200 – Intra-district transfer (School level, not District level).

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Contract out reported annually

Current School Year: ✔ 2011-2012
✔ 2012-2013
✔ 2013-2014
✔ 2014-**2015**

203

102

3

Starting Cohort   Transfer In   Transfer Out   =

100, 202, 204 or 205?   +   –
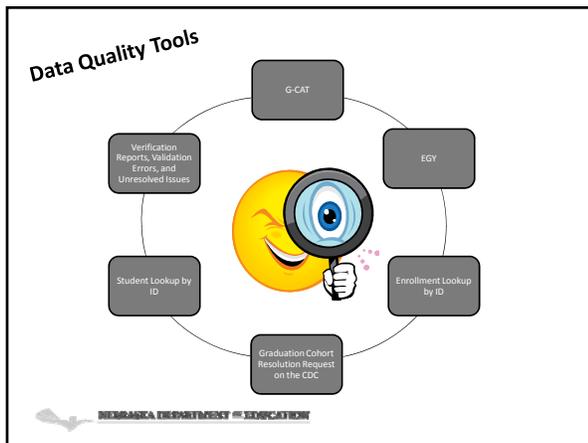
201

Current Graduation Cohort

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Graduation Cohort Data

- Starting in the 2007-08 school year
- Multiple school years
- Look at your data proactively
- Make corrections

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Data Quality Tools

G-CAT

EGY

Verification Reports, Validation Errors, and Unresolved Issues

Student Lookup by ID

Enrollment Lookup by ID

Graduation Cohort Resolution Request on the CDC

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Cohort "Verification" vs. "Validation" vs. "Unresolved Issues"

Even if your data looks clean...

Check the names of the students in each category of the Graduation Cohort Analysis Tool (G-CAT).

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

What if it's wrong?

2 ways to make corrections:

- Submit Graduation Cohort Resolution Request on CDC
- Submit batch file to the NDE HelpDesk

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Graduation Cohort Resolution Request in the CDC

GRADUATION COHORT ANALYSIS AND RESOLUTION REQUEST

Person to Contact Regarding This Collection (first name and last name):	Phone Number (xxx) xxx-xxxx OR xxx-xxx-xxxx:
E-Mail:	Best Available Time To Reach Contact:
Regional NDE Trainer (optional):	
--Select--	Save Contact

Complete Request

There are currently no records submitted for review.

View Summary

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Proactive Uses in the G-CAT

Predictor of Graduation Rate

– In the G-CAT Tool
– Potential intervention for students by Graduation Cohort Year

Cohort four-year Graduation rate includes __all__ students in the Graduation Cohort for a high school.

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Proactive Uses in the G-CAT *(cont.)*

Beginning of the Graduation Cohort

How to Transfer Out students who leave between school years:

- Transfer out ('201') before June 30th, 20xx of the same school year.
- An entry ('1XX') and an exit ('2XX') enrollment record in subsequent school year, but not on the same day.

  (Risk: Between 8th and 9th grade this will set the EGY for these students)

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Proactive Uses in the G-CAT *(cont.)*

During the Graduation Cohort

- An entry ('1XX') and an exit ('2XX') enrollment record in subsequent school year, but not on the same day.
- Intra-district Transfer Out ('200') is not the same as a Transfer Out ('201')
- Use the Enrollment Information column in the G-CAT Tool

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Proactive Uses in the G-CAT *(cont.)*

End of the Graduation Cohort after four years

Students who remain in the Graduation Cohort:

- Enrolled ('1XX');
- Dropouts('202');
- Not enrolled, eligible to return ('205');
- Completers with diploma ('203');
- Completers without a diploma ('204')

Students who are removed from the Graduation Cohort:

- Transfer out ('201') the student if the majority of his/her instruction is at an exempt school, nonpublic system, or another public district
- Deceased ('206') students

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Takeaways

- Set the EGY and forget it.
- Get it right the first time.
- Keep school enrollment up to date.
- Manage your graduation year process or it will manage your public image and your funding.
- Think cohort not grade level, credits, or age.
- Data has longitudinal impact.

References

http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Documents.htm

- Quick Reference Guides
  - Graduation Cohort Analysis Tool
  - Expected Graduation Year Lookup Tool

- Program-specific Information
  - Graduation Cohort Guide

Questions and Answers
Thanks for attending
Please fill out the survey