DYNAMIC INQUIRIES & ONLINE REPORTS —HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST?

Connector

Data for Student Success Launch Event in Cadillac, September 2009

As we all know, Michigan's summers are full of surprises – hundred degree days, tornadoes, clear beautiful skies and cool streaks you never saw coming. One thing that shouldn't be a surprise to schools in Michigan is that the Data 4SS project has spent the summer developing a new set of dynamic inquiries and reports. Data 4SS continues to push the envelope of providing schools with data and data analysis tools and resources to inform school improvement. Data and data analysis tools and resources are now available for all ISDs in order to help districts promote important, informed decision-making. The developments that are of greatest importance are: MME Proficiency, Students Near Proficiency and Analysis; MI Access Proficiency and Students Near Proficiency; CNA and PA 25 reports; and an enhanced user account management.

The release of the MME dynamic inquiries has been a major accomplishment for the educators and developers who have made it happen. Developers believed that it would be important for the inquiries to be consistent, where possible and appropriate, with the MEAP inquiries that had been unveiled a year earlier. To a large extent, the "look and feel" of the inquiries remains consistent – bar charts with the ability to drill down to individual student records. The significant differences between the MEAP and MME have challenged the Data 4SS team to create an inquiry analogous to the MEAP Comparative Item Analysis while staying true to the nature of the assessment. Check out how the team created a standard level analysis that displays "bins" of students who were able to answer a certain number of items correctly.

The MI Access dynamic inquiry has also been added to the online tool this fall. Although the data accessible through the inquiry is fairly limited, it is available.

The CNA and PA 25 reporting features are a new addition for the project. While the dynamic inquiries focus on the ability to "drill into" the data down to the student level, these reports deliver to building users the information that has been captured by Data 4SS in a format that mimics those published by the MDE. Take, for instance, the CNA report. Data 4SS (with the Office of School Improvement—OSI) created a report that supports the "School Data Profile" in the Comprehensive Needs Assessment. If a school chooses to use the AdvancEd forms provided online through OSI, the Data 4SS CNA report sections can be exported and used by the school as they complete the School Data Profile.

Throughout the fall, additional components of the inquiries will become available and new data report components will be added. Work will begin on a new ELPA inquiry. Messages will be sent out through the Data 4SS listserv, prompting you when the reports will be available for review and use, or you may check back often at https://d4stats.data4ss.org.

www.data4ss.org

DATA 4SS LISTSERV

Mary Gehrig presenting at a break out session during the Sustainability Symposium.

Data for Student Success Listserv - Reminder

The Data 4SS listserv has been up and active for many months now. It has been utilized as a venue for notifying schools and ISDs around the state of project events, as well as a place to poll the Data 4SS community regarding project developments. Thank you for contributing to the ongoing discussion about the use of data to support school improvement in Michigan. If you have not yet had the opportunity to sign up to receive listserv messages please register at the site below. The intent with this listserv is not just for communication with the Data 4SS project, but is a venue for connecting with the entire Data 4SS community. This community now includes over 4000 users from ISDs and LEAs across the state.

To sign up, register via the web at:
http://listserv.data4ss.org:81/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=d4ss

The password to sign up is: d4ss@calhoun

Put d4ss@listserv.data4ss.org in your address book as it is the email address to go to the listserv. REMEMBER–replies go to EVERYONE! If you need to reply individually to a person who sent a message, forward it to them, or start a new email.

First Sustainability Event A Success!

In August, the first of three Data 4SS sustainability symposiums scheduled for 2009-2010 occurred at Mission Point on Mackinac Island. The purpose of this and the other symposiums is to bring together ISDs/RESAs who have attended launch events and are implementing action plans to learn what is new and share lessons learned. At the August event, nearly 150 ISD/RESA staff and targeted members of their LEAs who are involved in helping deliver the professional development around Data 4SS were in attendance.

Keynote Mike Schmoker (author of *Results* and *Results Now*) challenged the audience to focus on the "brutal facts" they face in their schools. Participants attended a wide range of breakout sessions that focused on a variety of topics related to the use of school data including: assessment, creating a culture of quality data, data conferencing, facilitation strategies, examining student work, leadership, new MME and MI Access Inquiries, a new writing PD module and new CNA reports and PA 25 reports.

MICHIGAN Department of Education

CISD CALHOUN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT An Educational Service Agency

November 30 - December 1
Data for Student Success: Sustaining a Culture of Quality Data Symposium

FREE Symposium

This two-day symposium will focus on assisting participants to effectively access and analyze student data. There will be continued training on current professional development modules and data inquiry tools, as well as the unveiling of new modules and tool enhancements. This event has been strategically organized to occur at the same location as the School Improvement Conference that is at the Lansing Center on December 1 and 2. (Register separately through MDE for that conference.)

Our next symposium will be held on May 5 and 6 in southeast Michigan. Registration will open after the first of the year for the May symposium.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Audience: Staff from ISDs who have attended a Data for Student Success ISD Launch Event, as well as key contacts they identify from their local school districts. If you attended the first symposium this past summer, you are welcome to attend if you need more professional development or have other members from your ISD that couldn't attend this summer.
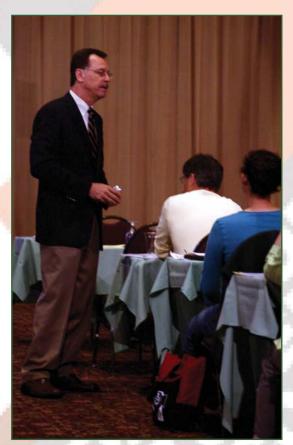
Where: Lansing Radisson Downtown, Lansing, MI
When: Monday November 30, 2009 - Tuesday December 1, 2009

Register by November 16 at
www.calhounisd.org/register

Quotable Quotes:

Mission Point:

"The presenters are well prepared. I really like how the presenters are using the strategies that are being taught through the Data 4SS sessions."

After all the launch events have occurred, respondents tell us that:

88.5% report that they are ready to utilize the data inquiries to inform school improvement activities.

82% report that Data 4SS is well aligned with their instructional goals.

82% report that they believe the overall quality of the Data 4SS professional development is either good or excellent.

Overall:

55 of 57 ISD/RESA's in Michigan have attended a launch event!

Mike Schmoker presenting the keynote address at the Sustainability Symposium at Mission Point.

www.data4ss.org