# Differentiated Systems of Support for Rural Agencies Community of Practice (CoP) Agenda

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018**

**3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Eastern time zone**

## Agenda – Learning Cycle 5: Differentiating Rural School Improvement Technical Assistance—Next Generation Differentiated Supports

| Time | Session Topic | Speakers |
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| 3:00 – 3:15 p.m.3:15 – 4:10 p.m. | Welcome, Review of Learning Cycle 5Welcome new SEA and LEA participantsBrief reminder of CoP norms*Revisit the norms to support the CoP.* Next Generation Differentiated SupportsAn Introduction to Next Generation Differentiated Supports*What are next generation differentiated supports? How can these supports be of value to rural school systems? Now that we have explored and shared some promising practices to support a rural school improvement strategy, we would like to explore additional sources of differentiated supports that are emerging across the nation. These supports may come in the form of partnerships between school districts and higher-education institutions, healthcare groups, and other social organizations.* | Dr. Paul Hopkins, State Support NetworkDr. Brad Mitchell, State Support Network |
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| 4:10 – 4:25 p.m.4:25 – 4:30 p.m.4:30 p.m. | Place-Based Initiatives *Place-based work seeks to understand and address the interconnected problems of underperforming schools, dilapidated housing, neighborhood violence, poor health and insufficient economic opportunities, and their impact on the life outcomes of students and families living in concentrated poverty. Jane Hodgdon will share how the Place-Based Initiatives Team is focused on improving “cradle-to-career” educational opportunities. She will share examples of the work that has been done and the approaches grantees have taken to implementing Promise Networks and Promise Zones that have been effective next generation supports. State and local leaders will add to this discussion by asking questions and sharing information about their experiences.*Partners for Education at Berea College*The Partners for Education at Berea College is focused on supporting Appalachian students succeed at school. Dreama Gentry will share information about this organization’s Partners Playbook, results, strategies, and programs and activities that support these strategies. She will conclude by offering “lessons learned” that may help CoP members if they decide to pursue a similar program. State and local leaders will add to this discussion by asking questions and, if applicable, information about similar programs in their area.***Reflection Opportunity***Participants will be encouraged to share what they have learned from our two guest presenters. Specifically, SEA and LEA leaders will share what next generation differentiated supports exist in their community or state and how can today’s learning about these supports increase opportunities for students in rural schools. Feedback from participants will be recorded.*Next Steps*Discuss pre-work and communications for the next learning cycle. Remind participants of the virtual learning space.* **Adjourn** | Jane Hodgdon, Lead for Place-Based Initiatives Team, Office of Innovation and Improvement, United States Department of EducationDreama Gentry, J.D. Executive Director, Partners for Education at Berea CollegePaul Hopkins and Brad MitchellPaul Hopkins |
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