

The newest version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA) requires a focus on equity and college and career readiness. Additionally, the law emphasizes continuous improvement – the process of developing, and using, evidence to improve ongoing effectiveness.

In recognition of ESSA's focus, Chris Thiel is part of a team of MPS and Wisconsin representatives engaged in work with the ESSA Leadership Learning Community (ELLC). The ELLC is a collaborative comprised of the Wallace Foundation, Council of Great City Schools, Council of Chief State School Officers and the Urban League. Additional MPS representatives include Superintendent Driver, Tonya Adair, and others. Other Wisconsin representatives to the ELLC include State Superintendent Evers, Deputy Superintendent Mike Thompson, Mr. Rueben Anthony of the Madison Urban League, representatives from WASDA, and superintendents of the Madison, Green Bay, Racine, and Kenosha school districts.

In addition to representatives from Wisconsin and the national partners mentioned above, the collaborative also includes representatives from Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. Under the guidance and assistance of the national partners, representatives from the respective states meet in monthly work groups to work collaboratively. Every three months, the work group meeting occurs at the ELLC national meeting. The work of each state team and the collaborative is supported by Education Counsel, the New York City Leadership Academy, and Policy Studies Associates.

The stated goals of the ELLC are:

- To assist states and districts in using ESSA funding to build the capacity of education leaders to implement supports and interventions to turn around schools most in need of improvement.
- To accomplish this end by working with a group of states and districts prioritizing this issue to create, model, capture, and share lessons learned.

These goals were developed collaboratively by the national partners.

Mr. Thiel's engagement with the ELLC is just one effort being pursued by OBG to support successful implementation of ESSA. The office is also consistently working with are partners and officials at the federal level.

The ELLC organizational structure and proposed timeline are attached for your reference however the timeline has changed.

How the ELLC is organized



ELLC timeline

