

# **Utah Student Data Systems Community**

## **Summary of purpose, meetings, and accomplishments**

### **Data Community Overview**

The Utah Student Data Systems Community was organized by the USOE in February, 2010. It is comprised of representatives of administrative, assessment, and IT areas selected from school districts statewide. Three initial meetings were held in February, March, and April. While no further group-wide meetings have been planned, the community remains intact and may resume regular meetings as needs dictate.

### **Purpose**

USOE has been charged with organizing a data community and facilitate its dialogue for the following purposes:

1. To initiate a process of support and collaboration between Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in regards to the collection, reporting, and analysis of classroom-level student data.
2. To identify the various data tools in use by each LEA in order to inform and promote cross-LEA collaboration.
3. To establish a library of documented best data practices, consistent with state and federal regulations, for use by the local districts.
4. To promote ongoing collaboration between LEAs regarding data tools and best practices.
5. To solicit ideas and feedback from LEAs regarding the UTREx project.

### **Data Community Meetings**

Meetings consisted of data-related policy updates provided by USOE, the creation of a shareable document identifying data tools used in LEAs, presentations and demonstrations of tools by LEAs to inform the development of a “best practices” list, and SIS-specific small group discussions. USOE also devoted time during each meeting to update Data Community members on the status of the UTREx project.

### **Accomplishments**

1. Meetings were well attended. A survey conducted by USOE concluded that the various sessions were valuable to participants and that interest exists in further cross-LEA collaboration.
2. USOE created a comprehensive listing of data tools used by LEAs, their purpose, and extent of use. The document has been distributed to all Data Community members. It is expected that the document will evolve with LEA input to become more useful.
3. Resultant from these meetings, USOE is developing a list of best data practices for distribution to the Data Community.
4. USOE has implemented an online communication tool for ongoing, independent collaboration between LEAs
5. A selected subset of the Data Community was organized as an informal advisory committee for the UTREx project. This group’s first meeting was held in mid-April.