



The 2017 Conference Planning Subcommittee met via webinar on December 17th, 2015 at 1:00PM EST. (12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST, 9:00AM AKST).

Those in attendance were: Mike Radke (MI), Sonya Morris (FL), Jack O'Connor (MT), Elena Sanders (OH), Lynn Sodot (VA), and Monica Kemper (CA – A+ Events).

Meeting Agenda

1. Review the article on convening: [Gather](#)

Mike Radke briefly described the convening concept and how it might be incorporated into the 2017 Conference. He asked for ideas from committee members on topic areas, as the convening will need to be narrowed down to a very specific topic. The Committee spent some time discussing common issues that Title I schools in their states are facing, which might be addressed by during the convening process. Some of the largest problems schools are facing:

- Designing quality programs to help students succeed
- Teacher Expertise
- Supplement not Supplant

Teacher Retention Quality was selected as one of the main challenges that might be addressed by convening. In order to structure this into a convening, individual schools or districts would need to be identified and invited to participate. The key is selecting the problem to solve and then gathering the specific groups who are facing the challenge, along with those who are “experts” on the issue. They would work together in a workshop setting to co-create concrete, unique solutions for the schools or districts. The convening would be an extended session, a minimum of four hours, up to eight hours over two days. Advance sign-ups would be needed and only specific groups would be invited to participate. A convening session would need to be longer in order cover all the problems and complexities of the root cause, key drivers, barriers, etc, of the issue.

The committee also discussed the new ESSA law and how there will be a great deal of clarification needed about it over the next two or three years. This topic is more conducive to a traditional session, where the USED staff are invited to present and exchange information with attendees. This would not work as a convening topic, but these types of traditional conference sessions and the convening session would be offered simultaneously.



NATIONAL TITLE I ASSOCIATION

a National Association of State Title I Directors

2. The theme for 2017 is about engagement, the design thinking presents another option that has some proven success in engaging students. Mike Radke suggested committee members review the website: <http://izonenyc.org/ppc-resources/> and in particular, watch some of [the videos on this page](#), about design thinking for educators. Those on the call agreed the videos are a great resource, but it was not clear as to how they would be incorporated into the overall convening concept.

3. Website Demo - Monica Kemper

Monica gave a brief demonstration on how to navigate the [Conference Planning Subcommittee webpage](#) and where to find all of the pertinent committee information.

This group meets the third Thursday of every month at 1PM Eastern time. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 1:00PM Eastern**, (12:00PM CST, 11:00AM MST, 10:00AM PST, 9:00AM AKST).