The **Effective Programs & Quality Outcomes Committee** was held via conference call on **March 24, 2015 at 2:00PM EDT**, 1:00PM CDT, 12:00PM MDT, 11:00AM PDT & MST, 10:00AM AKDT.

Participating in the call were: Mike Radke (Co-chair—MI); Otistene Smith (AR); Trish Boland (CO); Sonya Morris (FL); Karen Seay (ID); Cindy Hurst (IN); Bernell Cook (LA); Jack O’Connor (MT); Anita Villarreal (TX); Beth Meyer (VT); and Bob Harmon (NASTID CEO—WA).

**Meeting Topics:**

1. **Update on Pilot Survey of Distinguished Schools**

Bob reported on this item. The [Survey Proposal](http://www.titlei.org/c/titlei/files/Association/2014/Committees/QualityOutcomes/SurveyProposal.pdf" \t "_blank) will serve as background for the notes. Having communication with ED has been a struggle. An email describing the project and requesting a conference call was sent on behalf of the Association to Monique Chism (OSS) and Ruth Ryder (OSEP), but there was no immediate response. At the Conference in Salt Lake City, Bob talked directly with both Monique and Ruth about the pilot survey and the anticipated outcomes and there seems to be genuine interest in further discussions. The original message was re-packaged and was re-sent. When there was no response after several weeks, Bob spoke directly with Monique on the phone. The interest is still expressed. A conference call involving Ruth, Monique, the Committee’s 3 co-chairs, Bob, and potentially other OSS and OSEP staff is being scheduled. Stay tuned on this one.

1. **Discussion about Honoring Distinguished Schools**

Mike and Bob reviewed the contents of an email (sent to the 3 co-chairs by Lisa Brandes) about appropriately honoring Distinguished Schools. The email included the 2014 itemized expenditures and are listed in this document: [Distinguished School Materials](http://www.titlei.org/c/titlei/files/Association/2015/Committees/EPQO/Distinguished%20School%20Materials.pdf" \t "_blank). Those expenditures totaled $7,987.60. The budget item for 2015 is $10,000.00—assigned to this Committee. After much discussion with many good ideas expressed, the group agreed that with the wide availability of digital technology in schools (cameras, smart phones, etc.), the cameras currently sent to Distinguished Schools could be discontinued. In its place—and staying within the same budget parameters—the members recommended (in some combination, depending on cost) plaques, upgraded (maybe personalized to the school) banners and framed certificates. Bob agreed to research options and their associated costs and report back.

1. **Distinguished Schools Interviews:** Links to the 6 Title I Video On Demand Distinguished School Interviews from the 2015 National Title I Conference are provided below:

Claiborne Fundamental Magnet Elementary School

[Dailey Elementary School](http://www.titlei.org/ondemand/interview-national-title-i-distinguished-school-dailey-elementary-school/" \t "_blank)

[Benjamin Eaton Elementary School](http://www.titlei.org/ondemand/interview-national-title-i-distinguished-school-benjamin-eaton-elementary-school/" \t "_blank)

[Gibson Elementary School](http://www.titlei.org/ondemand/interview-national-title-i-distinguished-school-gibson-elementary-school/" \t "_blank)

[Virgil L. Baily Elementary](http://www.titlei.org/ondemand/interview-national-title-i-distinguished-school-virgil-l-baily-elementary/" \t "_blank)

[Westdale Elementary School](http://www.titlei.org/ondemand/interview-national-title-i-distinguished-school-westdale-elementary-school/" \t "_blank)

Mike reported to the Committee on the Distinguished Schools interviews. In 2014, Mike conducted interviews with just the principal (or staff member) from the four selected Distinguished Schools. In 2015, a special room was reserved and a profession photographer was utilized to video-tape six Distinguished Schools from four states: Colorado, Indiana, Louisiana, and Michigan. Bernell and Mike each facilitated three. The links to interviews are provided above. Most on the call had watched at least some of them. The feedback included:

* Overall, good to do it
* Audio-visual was clear, professional
* Sometimes wanted more information from the school staff
* Some concern about the length and a desire to condense it

Since the teams were all asked the same questions, one person suggested chunking the information from several schools around one or more questions.

Questions that came up during the discussion are copied below. Bob agreed to research and report back at the next meeting.

* Six schools were video-taped. What is the cost per video?
* The videos are posted on the NASTID website via Title I On Demand. Are there “access records”—do we know how many times the videos have been viewed or opened?
* What sort of marketing or communication happens to schools so that they know when and how to view their videotapes?
* The visual part of the video is the least valuable. Instead of videos of what are essentially “talking heads,” what about an audio only podcast? They could be listened to anytime, anywhere, and would not require a computer to do so.
* When will the new Distinguished Schools criteria, timeline, and selection/submission process be accessible on the NASTID website?

**The next meeting is Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 2:00PM EDT**, 1:00PM CDT, 12:00PM MDT, 11:00AM PDT & MST, 10:00AM AKDT.