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The Effective Programs Committee meeting was held via conference call on **May 26, 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); Margaret MacKinnon (AK); Otistene Smith (AR); Trish Boland (CO); Mildred Washington (DC); Karen Seay (ID); Cindy Hurst (IN); Bernell Cook (LA); Jack O’Connor (MT); Gayle Pauley (WA); and Bob Harmon (NASTID CEO—WA).

**AGENDA**

1. **Update on audio documentaries (Mike)**

The audio documentaries are also called podcasts. Mike has been working with his daughter Heather, who lives in Chicago and is a trained documentarian with NPR. They had been in communication with Melina Wright (State Title I Director for Illinois) in the selection of two Chicago area Distinguished Schools. So far, so good. The effort to have at least one pilot was stalled, however, when neither school wanted to take time to participate in the interviews; it was too close to the end of the school year. Next steps for the podcasts are to check if either of the schools is engaged in summer school or perhaps willing to participate in an interview over the phone. Mike will also be following up with the Joyce Foundation ([http://www.joycefdn.org/](http://www.joycefdn.org/" \t "_blank)) on potential funding for the project. Mike will update the group during the June call.

1. **Discussion about sample nomination documents (Gayle)**

Washington State’s sample of Distinguished Schools application materials (letter and form) are posted to the Committee files page and accessible [here](http://www.titlei.org/association/committees/qo/files-2015). Members on the call shared what they have in place for Distinguished Schools selection. A state-by-state recap follows:

* DC—has an application process
* CO—identifies the schools at the state-level with no application
* AK—has a separate Title I data process—alert the schools that they are eligible—asks district to select one school—using data from last year
* AR—has an application process after public accountability—generates a list of schools and identifies the top performers—peer reviewed by staff—this year’s data will be too late (sometime in the November – January window)
* MT—does a straight data run—this year’s preliminary data will be back in time
* IN—conducts a data run and identifies schools from that
* ID-- conducts a data run and identifies schools from that—no data last year—baseline data this year—growth next year

Gayle and Mike asked those on the call to submit Distinguished Schools selection documents, written information, links, or a combination to Bob within the next two weeks (Tuesday, June 9, 2015) for posting on the Committee files page. This topic will be a discussion item in the June meeting.

1. **Other**--None

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**The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 2:00PM EDT**, 1:00PM CDT, 12:00PM MDT, 11:00AM PDT & MST, 10:00AM AKDT. **The June agenda will remain the same as this month—with updates and further discussion.**