

## WestEd Monthly Report, April 2019

This monthly report reflects work completed during the designated month and any work in progress. We also provide a summary of upcoming work.

### Work Performed During this Period

- Bulleted list of major work completed by last working day of each month.
  - Conducted focus groups for special education directors and secondary transition coordinators for all 5 regions
  - Completed internal data security training

Interviews/Meetings Conducted:

Name	Title	Department/Program/Organization	Location	Date(s)
Bill Blandford	MOIEP	Johns Hopkins University	virtual	4-11-2019

Focus Groups/Site Visits Conducted:

Group/Department/Program/Organization	Location	Date(s)
Secondary Transition Coordinators focus group	Turf Valley Resort, Ellicott City	4-2-2019
Special Education Directors focus group	Turf Valley Resort, Ellicott City	4-2-2019
Secondary Transition Coordinators focus group	Clarion Inn, Frederick	4-1-2019
Special Education Directors focus group	Clarion Inn, Frederick	4-1-2019
Special Education Directors focus group	Crowne Plaza, Annapolis	4-8-2019
Secondary Transition Coordinators focus group	Crowne Plaza, Annapolis	4-8-2019
Secondary Transition Coordinators focus group	Embassy Suites, Hunt Valley	4-9-2019
Special Education Directors focus group	Embassy Suites, Hunt Valley	4-9-2019
Special Education Directors focus group	Virtual, for Region 5 Directors (re-scheduled from the lessons learned meeting in Cambridge, March 29)	4-16 -2019 4-23-2019

### Deliverables and Major Activities

Bulleted List of Deliverables Completed this Month:

- Lit Reviews on IEP best practices and retention of special ed teachers and related service providers

Bulleted List of Progress on Other Deliverables:

- Completed data collection tools and supporting communication resources for school level focus groups
- Finished collecting data for the 50-state policy scan on special education funding; currently drafting the related write-up.

**Challenges/Questions Encountered and Plan to Address Them**  
**Work Plan for Upcoming Month**

Focus Groups/Site Visits Planned for Upcoming Month:

<b>Group/Department/Program/Organization</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
Conduct 2 large focus groups of all Family Support Services Coordinators statewide meeting	Hussman Institute for Autism, Catonsville	5-8-2019
Group Interview - MSDE Resource Management Team	virtual	5-6-2019
Group Interview – MSDE Transition Team	virtual	5-6-2019
Visit schools (20) and public agencies (5)	Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George’s, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, SEED School, Maryland Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Juvenile Services	5-13-2019 through 5-31-2019
Hold family and student focus groups, 5 regions and public agencies	Proposed: Frederick and Cumberland Silver Spring Hunt Valley Annapolis Cambridge and Easton Public Agencies	5-13-2019 through 5-31-2019
Group Interviews – MSDE Resource, Early Childhood, and Performance Support Teams	virtual	TBD