Metadata for the Common Mandate

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Tom Ogle, DESE State Perspective







Legacy Systems – Maintain compatibility with current systems.

80 column card/screen constraints

8 character variable names

SSN stored as a numeric value







Formal Metadata Guidelines

Current State Government IT Standards

Database table and column names







Authoritative Data Sources

School District Directory table

Standard Codes table







Federal Department of Education Reporting Requirements – EDEN

Discipline reporting categories

Migrant Education reporting categories







National Data Standards

NCES Handbooks

National Forum on Education Statistics

Education Data Association Standards







Metadata Management

- Data System Manuals Documentation of current systems in printable format.
- Metadata Repository Single integrated system designed to store metadata for all agency data systems including data collections, repositories and reporting systems.





Beth Young, QIP National Perspective









Is it a question of type?









Or a question of brand?









What is a standard?

- Data definitions and code sets Concerned with the meanings and contents (e.g., values) of data elements.
- Technical specifications Used by software and systems developers to facilitate interoperability between applications or to guide data reporting.
- General guidelines/relationships Describe the relationships that exist between data elements. Data models are the typical source of such information.







How did we get here?

- NCES Handbooks
- Federal Data Collections
- Forum Best Practice
- Vendor Community
- **❖** NEDM
- **CDS**

Different Types







Who should be "in charge" of national standards?

- US Department of Education?
- Vendor Community?
- > States?
- Districts?
- > Associations?
- > Foundations?







Glynn Ligon, ESP Historical Perspective







Reinventing Data Standards— Again

Please, no!

EDICS NCES Handbooks
SEDCAR NEDM
SIF PESC Common Data Standards
PBDMI EDEN/EDFacts
SEA Standards
Vendor Proprietary Standards







Reinventing Data Standards— Again

Please, no!

So, how are data standards set and managed across different industries?







Two Challenges: (Standards across Agencies)

1.Rules: Definitions of data elements, options/code sets, business rules, periodicities, etc.

2.Compliance: Processes/people that follow the rules







Two Challenges:

1.Rules—Definitions of data elements, option/code sets, business rules, periodicities, etc.

Without clearly stated rules (a.k.a. data standards), even the most conscientious data provider cannot provide quality data.







Two Challenges:

2. **Compliance**: Processes/people that follow the rules

Without conscientious compliance, even the most clearly stated rules will not produce quality data.







Two Challenges:

2. **Compliance**: Processes/people that follow the rules

Without conscientious compliance, even the most clearly stated rules will not produce quality data.

- Documentation
- Help
- Training
- Support

Enforcement







Who's creating the data standard?

The practitioners/users of the standard who will "manage/generate" the data and for whom the data must be comparable, interpretable, valid, and high quality.

•SEAs

Adopt the Rules

- •LEAs
- Postsecondaries
- Charters, privates, commercials, etc.







Who guides/advises/funds them?

The decision-makers, policy makers, data users who depend upon quality data and have the capacity to fund and/or influence legislation, policy, or best practice

- Policy makers (governors, legislators, Congress, etc.)
- Foundations
- Education boards
- News media
- Researchers

State the Questions







How have industries accomplished this?

Communities of practice have:

- Established a joint standards body
- Anointed or accepted an entity to be their management/fiscal/central coordinator
 - Emergency Response Alliance
 - Public Health Data Standards Consortium
 - ANSI
 - •SIFA

1 Authoritative Body







Every standard proves to be inadequate for the users!

- •SPEEDE/ExPRESS User Guide-ANSI X12 EDI
- Profiles or Extensions for the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata
- SIFA Oklahoma Test Harness
- EDEN/EDFacts—Notes
- •Missouri DataSpecs—Track Changes for Annual Definition Changes
- •Louisiana DataSpecs—Comparison of Definitions of Elements Mapped to Enterprise Metadata Dictionary

User-Defined Alternatives







Every industry has metadata tools!

- •Where are the data? How are they arranged?
 - •ISInsight
- •How are data defined?
 - DataSpecs

Software for your industry







Every industry has metadata tools!

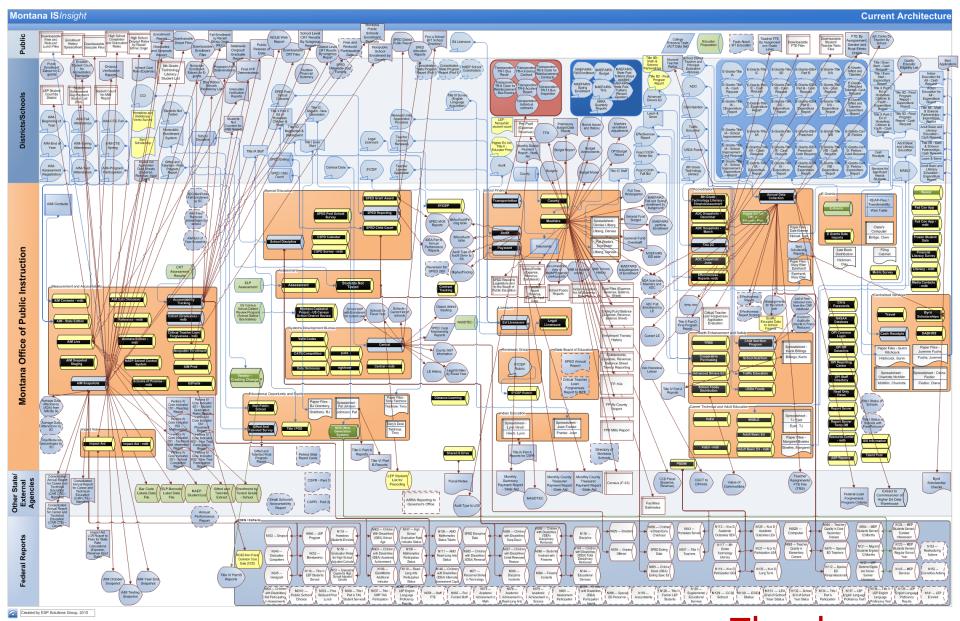
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Software for your industry















Thanks,
Montana OPI!









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Tools like DataSpecs manage an agency's metadata & map to national standards.

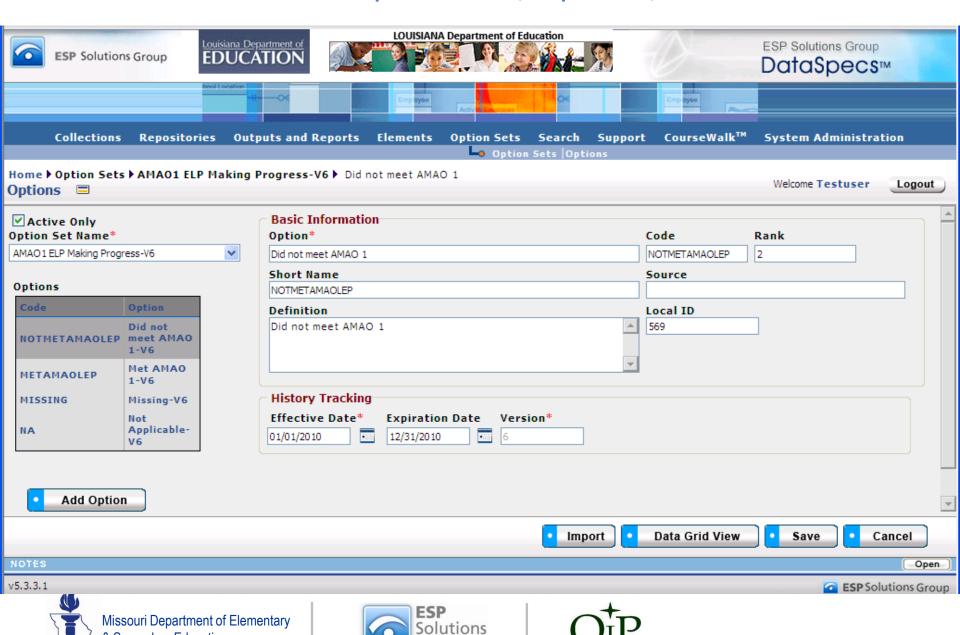








Standardize Option Sets, Options, & Codes



Group

& Secondary Education

Honor thy father and mother.







Standard 4.1.2.3 and 5.1.2.3 (AKA Commandment, numbered and amended dependent upon reference to Jewish (Talmudic); Anglican, Reformed, and other Christian; Orthodox; Catholic, Lutheran; or independent orders and sects adopting this standard)

Honor thy father/mother, alternatively, mother/father, and or mother/mother, father/father, step-mother/father, step-father/mother, legal guardian, court-appointed guardian, custodial parent, foster parent



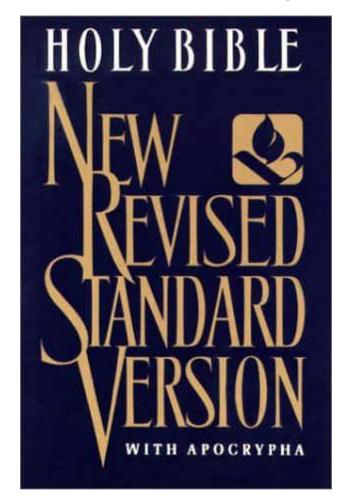




Standards abound......

....Even God knows that a standard is a process, not a

finished product.









The End...of course not...

Questions & Responses





