



RILDS

RHODE ISLAND LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM

Rhode Island Longitudinal Data System Executive Governing Committee DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 – 2:00 PM
Department of Administration, 4th floor, Executive Conference Room
1 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

DCYF – <i>Absent</i>	OMB – Brian Daniels
DLT – Matthew Weldon	RIDE – <i>Absent</i>
DOA (co-chair) – Jonathan Womer	RILDS – Melanie Bowdish
ETSS – Brian Tardiff	RIOPC (co-chair) – Shannon Gilkey
OHHS – Richard Charest	RISOS – Rob Rock

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ashley Deckert (DCYF); Angelica Infante-Green (RIDE).

GUESTS:

Scott Gausland (ETSS); Rebecca Lebeau (OHHS); Kim Pierson (RILDS).

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair **Womer** called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM EST, confirming a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Womer called for approval of the minutes from April 22, 2025, as presented, and without modification.

Motion:

Second:

Vote: Unanimous approval

3. Discussion of RILDS Center Updates

Bowdish shared updates from the RILDS and expressed gratitude for a warm welcome to the new role. She shared that she attended the Multi-State Data Collaborative and Coleridge Initiative annual convening. She also shared that she will attend an upcoming conference hosted by the PSEO (Postsecondary Education Outcomes) Coalition.

Womer noted that they were familiar with the Michigan model.



Bowdish shared that she will attend the PSEO (Postsecondary Education Outcomes) Coalition conference in Denver in coming weeks.

Gilkey mentioned that there is a Strada planning grant and RIOPC and RILDS met with Strada to learn how to create initiatives and data systems to support the Rhode to Prosperity.

Bowdish updated the committee on the recent accomplishments and projects completed by the RILDS Center team.

Charest asked about any ongoing agreements with academic centers that had requested data need to revoke their request.

Bowdish explained that one request had been rescinded due to unknown funding, but otherwise she had not seen any impact.

Bowdish shared that the RILDS center is working on operational efficiencies, a new data request form, and investments in networks of subject matter experts from data contributing agencies.

Lebeau asked about the technical support capacity at RILDS.

Bowdish updated the Committee that RILDS has one engineer and a support firm that is helping to supporting the process.

Daniels expressed gratitude for the RILDS handling of time-sensitive data requests for the Education Funding Formula in partnership with RIDE and DHS.

Gausland highlighted that this project is a primary use case for the Integrated Data System work.

4. Discussion on Integrated Data System Report Action Items

a. Updates related to IDS

Gausland (ETSS) shared that the RFP process is underway and many vendors asked questions that the ETSS team is working through and shared RFP deadline was extended by two weeks and updated the group on the appointed selection committee.

Daniels asked if one or many vendors would receive the award. **Gausland** shared that it will be awarded to one vendor, but they are able to sub-contract with other vendors.



Lebeau expressed support for the federated data system, noting that data governance and data sharing are a natural next step, and it will be important to begin building a coalition of support across agencies.

Gilkey shared that RIOPC can help identify higher education stakeholders to support this coalition building.

b. Updates related to federated governance and data sharing

Bowdish shared an overview of federated data governance regarding multi-agency collaboration and data integration, what a federated data system looks like, and an understanding of key differences in data governance models.

Gausland shared Data Owners, Stewards and Technicians are a missing piece of our current governance model. **Lebeau** shared that the Ecosystem brings Data Stewards into their learning and evaluation processes and highlighted the importance of learning from others and building a standard language.

Gilkey expressed the importance of the input of Data Stewards. **Womer** asked how often the Ecosystem brings data stewards together. **Lebeau** shared that they meet monthly. **Womer** emphasized the importance of this kind of collaboration and that the state could support a collaborative networking opportunity for Data Analysts.

Charest noted the importance of considering data security and navigating FERPA and Health compliance. He asked, in a federated system, where matching occurs.

Gausland shared that this would be determined on a project by project basis. **Lebeau** shared the importance of establishing an independent legal counsel representing the IDS.

5. Adjournment

Womer moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:01 PM EST.

Motion:

Second:

Vote: Unanimous approval

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.