

Kentucky Board of Education Annual Retreat Meeting August 6, 2014

Capital Plaza Hotel, Kentucky Room, 405 Wilkinson Blvd., Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

SUMMARY MINUTES

The Kentucky Board of Education held its annual retreat meeting on August 6, 2014, in the Kentucky Room of the Capital Plaza Hotel, 405 Wilkinson Blvd., Frankfort, Kentucky. The board conducted the following business:

I. Continental Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. (EDT)

II. Call to Order, Full Board Session, 9:00 a.m. (EDT)

Chair Roger Marcum called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the board's annual retreat. He noted that since it was offsite, the meeting was not being webcast and paper copies were being used.

III. Swearing-in of New Kentucky Board of Education Members

Chair Marcum then asked Judge Phillip Shepherd to come forward to swear-in the two newly appointed state board members.

Judge Shepherd administered the oath of office to Debra Cook and Samuel Hinkle.

IV. Roll Call

Chair Marcum asked Mary Ann Miller to call the roll.

Attendance Taken at 9:00 AM:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Grayson Boyd
Mr. Leo Calderon
Mrs. Debra Cook
Mr. Samuel Hinkle
Mr. Roger Marcum
Mr. Jonathan Parrent
Ms. Nawanna Privett
Mr. William Twyman
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Trevor Bonnstetter
Mr. David Karem
Dr. Robert King

V. Leadership for Instructional Transformation: Changes in Teaching, Learning & Assessment (Review Item) - Gene Wilhoit, Exe. Dir. of the Natl. Cntr. for Innovation in Educ.; KDE Assoc. Comm. Ken Draut & KDE Div. Dir. David Cook - 3-hr. presen./discus. (All Strategic Priorities)

Gene Wilhoit, Executive Director of the National Center for Innovation in Education, acted as facilitator for the first part of the session on leading instructional transformation. He indicated that in this part of the session, the background would be set on where we stand nationally and in Kentucky with instructional transformation for teaching, learning and assessment followed by Ken Draut and David Cook presenting ideas on how to move Kentucky forward in these areas. Wilhoit stated that the session would wrap up with an opportunity for the board to reflect on where it should move, how it will get there and what will be needed to do so.

Next, he used a PowerPoint presentation to make the following points:

- Where has national reform led us? (Improving America's Schools Act, No Child Left Behind and waivers)
- The new realities include: a) the loss of a quarter of our students before graduation is no longer acceptable. We must graduate virtually all; and b) the outcomes of our inherited system are no longer sufficient for success. All graduates must be prepared for success in a career, further their education and function as citizens in the interconnected world.
- We must make the shift from systems of schooling to systems of learning.
- Promising national trends include: a) clearer, higher expectations and a broadened understanding of readiness; b) dramatic shifts in teaching and learning and c) a system of personalized learning.
- On the horizon are new models of assessment and accountability aligned with a new vision for learning. These include interactive elements of both standardized tests with performance components and performance-based assessments/portfolios.
- Where do we go from here?

Jay Parrent noted that many school districts do not give attention to non-cognitive skills and dispositions because these do not get measured.

Nawanna Privett stated that the vision we are talking about is what Kentucky was reaching for in the 90s and involves the compliance versus commitment issue. Wilhoit agreed this is at the heart of the struggle.

Commissioner Holliday said that we have implemented the new standards for almost five years and carried out the new accountability system for three years. He continued that we are currently looking at the standards for any necessary changes, and the board will receive suggestions for changes to the accountability system at the October meeting, followed by revisions to the affected regulations. Holliday pointed out that the board could begin moving from a compliance model to a commitment model.

Wilhoit then indicated that the question is how to go about encouraging, interacting and promoting an environment where this can happen.

Commissioner Holliday added that the difference between the 90s and now is that different kinds of data are now available and policy makers understand the cost of measuring soft skills and dispositions.

At this point, Associate Commissioner Ken Draut moved on to talk about the changes that will be occurring in science in Kentucky. He shared that the new model for science will have strong formative and summative components. Draut explained that the formative component will include classroom-based and through course assessments, which will occur throughout the year and are aligned. He noted that these would not be used for accountability but instead for information purposes, and these would be connected to the summative assessment. Then, in the spring, Draut said, as part of the summative a through course assessment and content-based assessment would occur. He went on to say that it would have to be a matrix model in order to measure all of the standards. Draut indicated that department staff will be meeting with national folks in about two weeks on the development of this approach.

Mary Gwen Wheeler asked what other states are doing in the science area.

Commissioner Holliday replied that 12 states adopted the new science standards and a conversation is occurring with the Council of Chief State School Officers and Achieve about developing an item bank. He noted that it is best to give teachers two years with the new science standards before assessing them, so it is desirable not to give grades 4 and 7 of the existing criterion-referenced science test this year. However, he shared that the norm-referenced (NRT) portion of the test would be retained to meet the requirements of SB 1. Holliday felt that the science networks could develop Kentucky-based items to populate the formative part of the new test with hopefully enough items available by the spring of 2015 to run a field test along with using the NRT. He said development would continue with full implementation in either 2016-17 or 2017-18. The commissioner explained that the department is now negotiating on this with the U.S. Department of Education. He commented that the board can determine if this approach works from the field test and if it wants to move in this direction for other subject areas.

Roger Marcum then said that if this model does work, it will be a large shift locally. He asked about the source of this new model.

Ken Draut replied that it came from the guidance document that the standards developers issued. He emphasized that is why the department is bringing in national experts and said the model is attractive because it keeps assessment and instruction linked.

Commissioner Holliday apprised the board that the end-of-course test in biology would continue for high school for the time being and noted this portion of the assessment will be tackled at a later time.

At this point, David Cook then talked about the Districts of Innovation and the concept of letting them try out some innovative assessment models in all subject areas. He explained that this would be a small pilot that will occur in conjunction with the science assessment roll-out. Cook noted that

these districts will still have to comply with the SB 1 accountability model but will run the pilot at the same time.

Roger Marcum commented that he likes this approach because the districts do not escape accountability.

Cook added that no waivers will be necessary for this pilot.

Then, Gene Wilhoit assumed the facilitator role again to wrap up this part of the retreat. He summarized that the proposal on the table is to do a science assessment that is a combination of classroom-based/through course and summative. Wilhoit asked the board to consider what would be needed to improve understanding of this model, what would be needed to develop a framework for board action and what resources are needed to promote the conversation on this concept.

The following feedback was given by board members:

- Teacher development/training – must include a strong component of content knowledge (particularly at the elementary level)
- Set of talking points for state board members
- Vocalization by state board members of the approach in their communities
- Assurance by outside experts on the justification for building the approach
- A timeline/steps for implementation with deliverables
- Messaging that can help to translate the approach to other subject areas
- Awareness of lessons learned from the past
- List of professional growth that will be available on this approach
- A reference tool that state board members can use between meetings
- Inclusion of higher education in the discussion/development of this new approach
- Reassurance of how the summative will be built throughout the year
- Perhaps a presentation by Danville Independent on their innovative work
- Availability of a sample through course test for state board members to see
- Summary of the history of the writing portfolio for state board members

The board then recessed for lunch.

VI. Lunch - 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. (EDT) - Ballroom 1 (Lunch provided for KBE, invited guests and meeting presenters)

Lunch was held from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

VII. Dual Credit/Enrollment (Review Item) - ECS Sr. Policy Analyst & Co-Dir. of Info. Clearinghouse Jennifer D. Zinth, KDE Commissioner Terry Holliday & KDE Assoc. Commissioner Dale Winkler - 3 1/2-hour presentation/discussion (Next Generation Learners and Next Generation Schools/Districts)

Associate Commissioner Dale Winkler and Branch Manager Marissa Hancock came forward to begin the discussion on dual credit/enrollment first from the state perspective. Winkler pointed out the white paper done by the Kentucky Department of Education that was posted on the board's

online materials site that presents the major points relative to issues that exist in Kentucky. Also, a PowerPoint was used that raised the following:

- The major pieces of legislation related to dual credit/enrollment were summarized.
- SB 87 failed to pass during the 2014 legislative session and would have permitted an eligible high school student to use a KEES award to pay tuition for up to six college credit hours and allow the use of KEES for career and technical courses required for an industry recognized certificate or licensure program.
- Successful dual credit programs in Kentucky include Floyd and Hickman Counties.
- Concerns with dual credit in Kentucky include different admission requirements among the 16 KCTCS colleges, large variations in tuition fees among the universities and colleges, inability to transfer credits among institutions, not being allowed to work with universities and colleges outside the service regions, different requirements for teacher credentials and several KCTCS colleges indicating they will no longer offer dual credit for CTE courses.
- Explanation of the CPE Dual Credit Policy implemented in fall of 2013 was given.
- The KCTCS and KDE Dual Credit MOU was presented.
- Several slides reflecting data relative to access, finance, ensuring course quality, and transferability of credit were presented.

Next, Dr. Jennifer Zinth from the Education Commission of the States presented a national perspective on dual credit/enrollment. She began by giving highlights from the paper titled "Dual enrollment: A strategy to improve college-going and college completion among rural students".

Commissioner Holliday then stated that Senator Wilson and Representative Graham have written a letter to President King, Executive Director Rollins and himself asking the three of them to convene a task force on dual credit and to bring recommendations on resolving the existing issues back to legislators by November 5. The commissioner said he wanted the board to understand the issues involved in this discussion and be able to provide feedback.

Chair Marcum added that Vice Chair Jay Parrent will serve as the board's representative on this task force.

Holliday continued that Dr. Zinth will share the 13 national recommendations for successful dual credit programs and said he would appreciate getting feedback today from the board on these recommendations.

At this point, Dr. Zinth went through the paper on the board's online materials site titled "Increasing Student Access and Success in Dual Enrollment Programs: 13 Model State-Level Policy Components".

Once the explanation of the 13 recommendations was completed, Chair Marcum asked the board if they were okay with the commissioner pursuing these with the task force. By consensus, the board agreed.

VIII. KBE Policy Manual (Review Item) - KBE Executive Director Mary Ann Miller - 10-minute presentation/discussion

Chair Marcum asked the board if there were any changes to bring forward relative to the Policy Manual. None were brought forward.

IX. 2014, 2015 and 2016 Meeting Dates (Action/Discussion Item) - KBE Executive Director Mary Ann Miller - 10-minute presentation/discussion

Chair Marcum then asked the board to review the schedule of future meeting dates and said a motion, second and vote to approve these would be needed.

Motion Passed: Approval of the 2015, 2016 and 2017 meeting dates passed with a motion by Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler and a second by Mr. Jonathan Parrent.

Mr. Trevor Bonnstetter	Absent
Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Mrs. Debra Cook	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. David Karem	Absent
Mr. Roger Marcum	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Yes
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

X. Recess

Chair Marcum indicated that the board would stand in recess until tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. over in Capital Plaza Tower, State Board Room.