

Alternative Education Advisory Committee Meeting
October 15, 2019 – 10:00 am.
State Department of Education
Conference Room 215

Attendees: Linda Mace, Cindy Allen, Debra Watson, Colbi Beam, Lisa Nelson, Amie Hardy, Elizabeth Ressel, Jack Reed, Justin Fite, Melissa White, Jay Lehr, Travis Calvin, Jody Pendleton, Sheryl Tatum, Monty Guthrie and Courtney Vernnon. On the phone was Garland Delk, Dixie Spears, Don Riley, Mildren Burkhalter.

Purpose of Advisory Committee: To rank among the top 10 states with the highest graduation rate for students in four-five-and six-year cohorts.

WELCOME:

- ❖ Petra Woodard (Executive Director of Academic Counseling) opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by welcoming attendees and providing time for introductions. She also explained her new role as Interim Director of Alternative Education, reviewed the purpose of the advisory committee, and had Missy Corn (Alt Ed Field Specialist) read notes from the previous meeting and review roles of the working groups: Evaluation, Funding, and Accountability.
- ❖ Dr. Shelly Ellis (Deputy Superintendent of Student Support) reviewed the following items:
 - Staffing--Provided an update on personnel in the Alternative Education office and how the office has changed. Petra will serve as Interim Director until a new director is hired to replace Jennifer Wilkinson, former Director of Alternative Education. Schools will be visited by regions, separated north and south of the state.
 - School Report Cards—How does the School Report Card affect alternative education programs?
 - Program and Student Data with guest presenter Eric Friend, Executive Director of Information Systems—What is allowed/is not allowed as far as accountability and what are we already collecting in terms of data?
 - Programs of Excellence with guest presenter Levi Patrick, Asst. Executive Director of Instruction. Do we want to consider this in alternative education and what would it look like?

AGENDA ITEMS:

- ❖ Presentation on Programs of Excellence: Levi Patrick, Asst. Executive Director of Instruction
 - Champions of excellence- A look into the rationale structure and process.
 - Background –Every child deserves a champion.
 - Envision—Support—Celebrate
 - Look at your report cards on the website- you can see the programs of excellence, this is pulled from the teacher's assignments information.
 - Starting this year the schools will explain their priority areas. An example would be, parent can see these priority areas, such as Safe and Health schools.



- Look at the rubric and give feedback on the program. This is 4 million dollar grant, with 33 teams working on the design of what this program will look like.
- Mr. Patrick presented on Math providing examples of bronze, silver and gold categories.
- Teacher can look at the rubric and show evidence in each of the three categories.
- The bronze, silver and gold levels will start 2020-2021. If you are working on the three categories this year your school would be considered as pilot school.
- Topic comments and concerns:
 - Amie Hardy from Jenks explained most alternative education programs fall under their traditional school's report card and would not be identified as an independent school. Levi explained the program is an opt-in program.
 - Paul from Norman would like to see alternative education programs graded on growth and attendance.
 - How do we highlight our alternative education programs? Would it have to be hard number pulled from the WAVE, or could it be a manual pull from each alternative education program?
 - Program of Excellence is just an opportunity to highlight what alternative education programs are doing well. It is not a must, but an option to demonstrate successes.
 - If the school districts report card shows an "F" grade but we have programs of excellence how do we explain this to our audience? Response: You are highlighting one area your site does well—not overall program. The review process is a school based advisory committee that will do a self-evaluation. The self-evaluation will be presented to the district school board.
 - Jack thinks "The Program of Excellence" would be great if all alternative education programs had their own report card. We need an alternative education report card to see what the programs are doing. There are a number of students we do not get to count because they are 5th or 6th graders. We need to include all schools underneath each program, treatment centers, OJA etc.
 - Sheryl from insight would like to see a report card for alternative education programs.
 - Justin Fite asked what is the ultimate goal in this whole process (Programs of Excellence)? Levi explained, the ultimate goal is to collaborate and communicate with all school districts across Oklahoma to help each district better understand how to showcase their school district. Marty Guthrie explains this will be seen on your school district dashboards. Justin Fite explains this will be a lot of work for districts. Travis Calvin explained that his district is already doing this with his alternative education program.
 - Shelly would like to look at a subcommittee for the program of excellence. She asked for district to email her, Missy or Petra if they were interested.

❖ Program/Student Data—Erik Friend (tabled, unable to attend)

❖ Alternative Education Report Card (tabled, time constraints)

FINAL QUESTIONS/CONCERNS



- Alternative Education Rubric:
 - Concerns were raised about the special education percentage being scored on the rubric. After discussion, there was a proposal to move the special education section from the Appropriate Program Design to Service At-Risk Students section to Intake and Screening section.
 - Suggestion was to provide a waiver for special education district over the district special education percentage. This would be a follow-up conversation with accreditation.
- Alternative Education Evidence Checklist
 - Volunteers for new evaluation working group: Paul Tryggestad, Melissa White, Jay Lehr, Courtney Vernon, Amie Hardy, Jody Pendleton, Elizabeth Russel and Justin Fite

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Recorders: Missy Corn, Alternative Education Field Specialist
Emily Hicks, Coordinator I—Office of Student Support