

Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
Oliver Hodge Building
Room 217
Meeting of the Title I Committee of Practitioners
May 4, 2007

Minutes

Cindy Koss called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Attending: Ms. Geneva Matlack, Mr. Danny Jacobs, Ms. Jackie White, Mr. Mike Anderson, Dr. Lois Howard, Ms. Nita Cochran, Ms. Brook Meiller, Dr. Steve Hart, Ms. Terry Fraley, Ms. Debbie Quadracci, Mr. Rick Bishop, Ms. Jo Ann Layne, Ms. Ann Ewing, Ms. Kathy Dunn, Ms. Jennifer Mankins, Dr. Cindy Koss, Ms. Gayle Castle, Ms. Erin Clapper, Mr. Gary Hurst, Mr. Frank Rexach, and Ms. Amber Polach

1) On agenda item number 1, No Child Left Behind Reauthorization Report

Dr. Cindy Koss, Assistant State Superintendent, Office of Standards and Curriculum, attended the Council of Chief State School Officers meeting in Washington, D.C., and highlighted areas of the Joint Statement on Reauthorization of the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB). The following areas are of importance in the reauthorization discussion: growth models, strengthening state accountability, appropriate testing for English Language Learners (ELL) and children with special needs, teacher incentives, highly effective teachers, high school reform, peer review and restructuring sanctions for school districts. Dr. Koss stated that Deputy Secretary Ray Simon would like to hear feedback from states and school districts. Dr. Koss urged the committee to send stories and opinions regarding NCLB reauthorization to the committee that is currently holding hearings on the subject.

2) On agenda item number 2, Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) System

Ms. Amber Polach, Program Specialist, Office of Grants Planning, provided the committee with the latest number regarding the Highly Qualified Teacher System-Phase I. Ms. Polach stated that according to the system the State of Oklahoma currently has, 66% of core content classes taught by a teacher who is highly qualified in the core content area. The system reports approximately 4000 applications have been approved and over 8000 are pending approval at both the principal and superintendent level. Ms. Polach stated that only those teachers who were assigned core content classes on the October 2006 Accreditation Report and used the High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) to meet NCLB requirements need to enter data by the due date of Friday, May 11, 2007. The Oklahoma Educator Credentialing System-Phase II will be available in the Fall of 2007 and will provide the teacher degree information along with other certification/credentialing functions. HOUSSE data for future assignments can be entered into the system once the teaching assignment is reflected on the October 2007 Accreditation Report. The committee expressed concern over the deadline. Several

members of the committee commended Hupp Information Technologies for quickly responding to HQT system support requests.

3) On agenda item number 3, Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Update

Mr. Gary Hurst, Director, Office of Grants Planning, provided the committee with an overview of SES. Mr. Hurst stated that for the 2006-2007 school year 42 tutoring agencies were on the approved provider list. One provider was removed from the list midyear. For the 2007-2008 school year Mr. Hurst received 22 new SES applications. Twelve providers from the 2006-2007 school year did not reapply for next year. Mr. Hurst mentioned that there was an increase in applications from faith-based organizations. For the 2007-2008 school year the SES list will contain approximately 50 providers. Dr. Koss stated that the provider list will be available in June after the State Board of Education gives approval. Mr. Hurst mentioned to the committee that the Mid-Continent Comprehensive Center (MC3) and Mr. Steven Ross will be providing technical assistance to the State Department of Education concerning the effectiveness of SES.

4) On agenda item number 4, Even Start Indicators

Ms. Erin Clapper, Program Specialist, Office of Grants Planning, provided the committee with performance indicators for the 2007-2008 school year. The new indicators were created to standardize the data that is sent to the United States Department of Education (USDE). Dr. Koss informed the committee that MC3 will be providing technical assistance to SDE staff regarding a state evaluation of the Even Start program.

5) On agenda item number 5, Oklahoma Migrant Education Program

Mr. Frank Rexach, Program Specialist, Office of Grants Planning, provided the committee with a description of the Migrant program along with the following three documents, the Oklahoma Comprehensive Needs Assessment Initiative, the Oklahoma Migrant Education Program Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) Report and the Narrative Synthesis of Migrant Students Profile in Oklahoma. Mr. Rexach stated that 31 school districts currently receive migrant funds. He also stated that the state migrant program is currently looking for a recruiter. In recent years there have been fewer students that meet the criteria to receive migrant funds due to a decline in agriculture. Ms. Jackie White, Executive Director of Pupil Accounting/Grants, asked Mr. Rexach if students with parents in the construction business qualify for migrant services. Mr. Rexach stated that those students whose parents work in construction do not meet the criteria under the migrant definition. Mr. Rexach stated that school districts are required to fill out a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) form for students that are eligible to participate in migrant services.

6) On agenda item number 6, Comprehensive Monitoring Process

Ms. Gayle Castle, Team Leader, Office of Grants Planning, stated that 130 districts have participated in either a desk or on-site consolidated compliance review and more have received technical assistance visits from State Department of Education (SDE) staff

during the 2006-2007 school year. A common finding during the reviews has been the lack of Title I targeted or schoolwide site plans. The consolidated compliance monitoring is currently on a five-year cycle and SDE staff is looking toward moving to a three-year cycle to monitor all 540 Oklahoma school districts.

7) On agenda item number 7, Fiscal Year 2008 District Consolidated State Application Update

Ms. Castle stressed to the committee that when completing the District Consolidated State Application school districts must spend more time on the needs assessment portion of the application and how the needs are reflected in the professional development activities. In addition to reducing the checklist portion of the application the district application will now contain a page for a professional development description and a page for parental involvement activities. Ms. Castle stated the districts will be able to view SDE staff notes concerning issues with the application. Ms. Terry Fraley, Title I Coordinator, asked Ms. Castle if, in the new description pages there was a character limit. Ms. Castle stated there probably is and to submit multiple sheets if needed. The committee expressed positive feedback on the online grant system. Ms. Jackie White asked why Title I funding was down and Ms. Castle stated we received a decrease in funding due to the decline in Oklahoma's census numbers.

8) On agenda item number 8, Federal Programs Survey Summary

Ms. Castle shared with the committee some information from the survey. Over 400 individuals completed the survey and Ms. Castle shared some of the responses in addition to some of the comments. Dr. Koss stated that in the fall she would like to have a committee to help plan for a summer conference in 2008.

9) On agenda item number 9, Student Achievement and School Accountability Monitoring 2007-2008.

Ms. Castle directed the committees attention to the document titled Student Achievement and School Accountability (SASA) Monitoring. The SASA document is what the USDE will use to monitor the SDE in school year 2007-2008.

10) Open Forum

Ms. Jackie White stated that she wanted to see more relationship building between SDE and district staff. Ms. Debbie Quadracchi, Federal Programs Director, stated that she would like to see the videoconference center used more for teachers. Dr. Koss reminded the committee there are many summer conferences opportunities. Please check the SDE Web site for registration information. Mr. Hurst reminded the committee that with gas prices increasing it would be a time and money saver to host the committee meetings via the videoconference centers.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

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