Minutes of the Oklahoma Standards Steering Committee Meeting

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OLIVER HODGE EDUCATION BUILDING
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, RM. 1-20
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

May 19, 2015

The Oklahoma Standards Steering Committee met for an update and review of current English Language Arts and Mathematics Writing Standards Team’s progress at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, in the Board Room of the Oliver Hodge Education Building at 2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK. The agenda and informational materials were available for all attendees.

Members of the Steering Committee present:

Joy Hofmeister, Chair of the Steering Committee
Glen Johnson, Chancellor of Higher Education
Cindy Koss, Deputy State Superintendent, Academic Affairs
Gen. Lee Baxter, State Board of Education
Don Raleigh, Superintendent of Pryor Public Schools
Cathryn Franks, State Board of Education
Barbara Bayless, Educator
Elaine Hutchison, Educator
Mautra Jones, Parent Representative (Conference Call)

Members of the Steering Committee not present:

Marcie Mack, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education
Deby Snodgrass, Secretary of Commerce and Tourism

Also present:

Bill Radke, Executive Director
Jennifer Watson, Co-Chair for English Language Arts Standards
Matt Hollrah, Co-Chair for English Language Arts Standards
Stacy Reeder, Co-Chair for Mathematics Standards
Dionne Mock, Recording Secretary
Opening Remarks:

Superintendent Hofmeister called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. She called attention to the agenda and opened the floor to Dr. Radke.

Dr. Radke addressed the agenda items regarding the ELA and Math Writing Standards, announced the Co-chairs in attendance that would be presenting the progress of the Teams, and discussed timelines and deadlines for the completion of the first draft reviews. Thereafter, the floor was given to Dr. Koss.

Dr. Koss, through a power point presentation, explained the initial methods by which input and feedback to the standards development process would occur. The stakeholders involved along with numerous survey responses (ELA 614 responses & Math 1172 responses) provided suggestions to building the new standards. Dr. Koss noted the details for the first rough draft review by representatives of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Department of Commerce, and Career and Technology Education. Dr. Koss also shared that the work of the committees continues with vertical alignment. The second draft review will be available at the EngageOK Conference for Educators, July 7-9, 2015. A town hall forum is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2015 and sessions on July 8, 2015 to provide an overview.

Dr. Radke invited the Co-chairs to take the platform and discuss progress thus far.

Dr. Hollrah and Dr. Watson – Co-chairs for English Language Arts Writing Team

The Co-chairs presented their intention to construct standards that would represent 21st Century skill levels. They reviewed standards from other states to accomplish the charge and broadened the purpose of the standards to represent current practices. They delineated eight overarching standards:

- Speaking and Listening
- Reading Process/Writing Process
- Vocabulary
- Critical Reading/Critical Writing
- Language
- Research
- Multiple Literacies
- Independent Reading/Independent Writing

Dr. Reeder – Co-Chair for Mathematics Writing Team

The Co-Chairs informed the committee about the work of the Mathematics Standards Writing Team. Their primary goal is to create standards that will prepare students to be college and career ready. Over 600 survey responses and reviews of other successful state standards were considered by the Math Team. The 19 member math team constructed Mathematical Actions and Processes: Oklahoma’s map to College and Career Readiness in Mathematics. They are as follows:
• Deep and flexible understanding
• Accurate and appropriate procedural fluency
• Strategies for solving diverse problems
• Mathematical reasoning
• Productive mathematical disposition
• Ability to make conjectures and generalize
• Ability to communicate mathematically

Committee members asked several questions about the varied grade level processes; the fluency and continuity of skills throughout grade transitions; closing the math gap from middle to high school and from high school to college; the transferring of coursework from one district to another; combating remediation rates; and additional funding to support failing students. Dr. Reeder responded that she feels very confident about the new standards and believes that the Writing Team is on the right track to establishing viable and attainable standards that will benefit all grade levels Pk-12 throughout the state of Oklahoma.

Closing Remarks:

Dr. Radke thanked the Co-chairs, the staff at the OSRHE, particularly Dr. Blake Sonobe, also Dr. Koss, and the State Department of Education Specialists for their involvement and significant efforts in producing college and career ready standards.

Superintendent Hofmeister stressed her commitment to deep foundational learning in the early years. The teams were commended for the significant work accomplished in such a short time span. Superintendent Hofmeister adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.