

Connecticut State Board of Education
Hartford

Minutes of the
June 11, 2014, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Academic Standards and Assessment Committee met on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, in Room 223, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Stephen Wright called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

Present: Stephen Wright, Chairperson
Allan Taylor
Theresa Hopkins-Staten

I. Consideration of the Minutes of the May 21, 2014 Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Vote: In Favor: Wright, Taylor
Abstained: Hopkins-Staten

Motion carried unanimously.

II. K-3 Reading Assessments

Ellen Cohn, Division Director of the Academic Office, provided a summary to the committee with a recommended menu of research-based K-3 Reading Assessments for their approval. The menu of research-based grade K-3 Reading Assessments will be used by districts for the purpose of Universal Screening for Reading of the entire K-3 student population. It may also be used for progress monitoring.

Committee members asked that the report provide a glossary of terms and a list describing the acronyms and address any issues now. They also asked about the follow-up process. Mrs. Cohn stated that the legislation requires the SDE develop a statewide reading plan report which the Commissioner will present to the legislature.

The Menu of Research-based Grade K-3 Universal Screening Reading Assessments will go to the full board at its July 9, 2014 meeting for approval for use by school districts beginning July 1, 2014. Following SBE approval, the CSDE will immediately communicate with Local Educational Agency leaders regarding the changes to the assessment menu.

III. Social Studies Progress and Mission Statement

After discussion on the draft Social Studies Progress and Mission Statement, the committee members suggested that it be brought to the full board at its July 9, 2014 meeting. This will allow the full board to provide feedback and send it back to the committee with recommended changes and reintroduce it to the full board at its October or November meeting. Some of the suggestions committee members made: provide a draft to the public for feedback this summer; reach out to parents and focus groups by holding informational forums and posting the draft on the website so they can weigh in; have an article on social studies printed in the CBE Journal; reach out to CBE to begin to get the message out; have the Commissioner include it in his back to school meeting with superintendents; look around actively for students and have them speak at the SBE meeting to hear what they are saying regarding social studies; present to pre-serve teachers and get as many endorsements as possible; let everyone know that the department is taking their interest seriously.

Have the Communication's Office work on the format, make it clear where it comes from, and include a list of the writer's on the website.

IV. Discussion of Next Meeting Schedule

Six meetings will be scheduled in Academic Year 2014-15. A proposed meeting schedule will be sent to Chairman Wright for his consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Rivera
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