

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE FULL COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING. SHOULD REVISIONS BE MADE, THEY WILL BE INCLUDED AS AN ITEM IN THE MINUTES OF THAT MEETING.

Minutes of the Meeting of the
COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION POLICY, RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT
April 6, 2005
Pepper Building, Tallahassee, Florida

Members Present: W. C. Gentry Elaine Vasquez (via phone)
Bob McIntyre (via phone) Harold Wishna
Bob Taylor

Members Absent: None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 15 & 16, 2005 meeting were approved.

Chairman's Report

Due to the resignation of Chairman Akshay Desai, the first order of business was the election of a new chairman. Vice Chairman Bob Taylor nominated Mr. W. C. Gentry, seconded by Ms. Elaine Vasquez. Mr. Harold Wishna moved that by acclamation, Mr. Gentry be elected as chairman.

Mr. Gentry said he appreciated the opportunity to serve as chairman. He stated that the Council is very competent and that it has been a great experience for him to serve on the Council. He has been extremely impressed with the work of the Council.

Mr. Taylor said he hoped new members would soon be appointed to the Council. He said he hoped there could be a discussion about a balance of where the appointees come from. Mr. Gentry said the Council should be more proactive with the appointing authorities in terms of suggesting people who would be appropriate for the Council.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. William Proctor said everyone had a copy of a letter from UCF giving an update on where they are regarding the Bachelor of Applied Science that CEPRI asked them to develop when CEPRI did a review of a request by DBCC. UCF's letter provided an update and very detailed curriculum. Dr. Proctor said this group has completed the fundamentals of the proposed bill by Senator Jim King on the Bachelor of Applied Science. Senator King proposed a bill that when a community college identifies a need, they notify the four-year institutions around them that they have identified a demonstrated need and believe a program is needed. The institutions have 90 days to respond. The bill goes on to say that if a four-year school says they are proceeding forward, they have one year to implement the program. Dr. Proctor said that one amendment to the bill states that administratively CEPRI would be taken out of the process.

Dr. Proctor gave an update of recent meetings he had attended.

Master Plan – Major Initiatives

Leadership Study

Council members were provided with an update on the school leadership study. The second phase of the study was presented and feature data on the career paths of principals and changes in the role of the principal over the past decade. Council members requested that the study emphasis be revisited and a new study outline developed that captures the critical issues facing school leaders in Florida. The staff will prepare a revised study outline and present it at the May 2005 Council meeting.

K-3 Education – No report at this time.

Studies/Assignments

In-service Education - The proposed second phase of the study on In-Service education in Florida was presented. The following study activities were proposed to gather additional data and information on these issues for Phase II of the project:

1. Contact staff development directors and other appropriate district personnel in school districts that have completed the first cycle of on-site reviews using the Professional Development System Evaluation Protocols and gather data on the evidence of improved student performance based on staff development participation/practices.
2. Obtain a more accurate accounting of staff development dollars by contacting the Auditor General's office to determine what cost accounting reports are submitted by school districts detailing their staff development expenditures.
3. Continue to work with Schultz Center and Duval County School District personnel to develop a model for measuring the effectiveness of staff development in terms of improved student achievement.
4. Conduct a detailed and descriptive analysis of the staff development funding mechanisms in a representative sample of Florida school districts.
5. Identify "best practices" in staff development that positively impact student achievement, particularly in low-performing schools/districts.

Schultz Center Program - Plans for continuing the in-service study partnership with the Schultz Center for Teaching and Learning in Jacksonville were outlined and included an overview of the study and progress to date. Ms. Lynda Lewis, President Emeritus and Executive Vice-President for Programs at the Schultz Center, joined in via conference call to share progress to date concerning data collection and analyzing the training model they have developed for in-service. A conference call was scheduled for April 26, 2005 with Schultz Center staff, Duval County personnel in testing and evaluation, and CEPRI staff to discuss next steps in the study.

Class Size Study Update – Dr. Proctor stated that he met with Ms. Jeanine Blomberg from the Department of Education. He said that Ms. Blomberg said the districts will need to answer most of CEPRI's questions. Dr. Proctor said volunteers are needed. Dade and Broward counties are excluded for reasons of size and complexity. He said that Hillsborough, Seminole, Volusia, and Lee

counties are a possibility. Some questions to ask are, "How would you approach the class size study, and what are the methods for implementing?" He said that a couple of scenarios will be reviewed to determine the amount of funding needed. Dr. Proctor said that a couple of counties need to get on board and initially prepare a hard, serious cut. He said that we want to know how many teachers are teaching out-of-field and how many they need to hire. One concern is the \$30 billion it would take to implement this. Our approach is to take two to three counties and do a real heavy-duty case study in a compressed timeframe.

Bachelor of Applied Science Degree - Dr. Proctor presented an overview of what a Bachelor of Applied Science degree is and who offers it. He said it is an innovation program that articulates with AS degrees. Associate of Science programs do not articulate into four-year programs. When someone receives an AS degree, it is a terminal degree unless one takes the other general education courses. A BAS combines applied technology with general education core courses and elective coursework. The purpose is to enhance job progression and moving up a career ladder. It is for highly skilled, highly trained, well-paid people who cannot move up in their profession. Generally, adults are the only people who enter the BAS program. It is usually a lower cost option because it is offered where the student lives, offered by a deliverer that offers it cheaper, and it ties with economic development of local business and industry.

Other Items of Interest

The May 11, 2005 meeting will be held in Ft. Lauderdale.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



William B. Proctor
Executive Director