

COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

MEETING MINUTES- MAY 2, 2011

Nevada Department of Education
State Board Room
700 East Fifth Street
Carson City, NV

Humboldt County School District
Administration Board Room
310 E. 4th Street
Winnemucca, NV

Clark County School District
Curriculum & Professional Development Center
3950 S. Pecos McLeod
Las Vegas, NV

White Pine County School District
1135 Avenue C
Ely, NV

Elko County School District
1092 Burns Road
Elko, NV

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carson City:

Commissioner Bill Slentz
Dr. Keith Rheault, Ex Officio
Commissioner Arnie Maurins

Winnemucca:

Commissioner John Newman

Las Vegas:

Chairperson Jhone Ebert
Commissioner David Flatt

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Essington Wade
Commissioner Ji Wang
Commissioner Dori Jensen
Commissioner Dan Stockwell
Senator Mike Schneider

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Carson City:

Dr. Kim Vidoni, (NDE)
Christy Borino, (NDE)
Melissa Swann, (NDE)
Joe Elcano (KNPB)
Alan Medeiros (Lyon County School District)
David Gustafson (DoIT)
Janice Towns (Carson City School District)

Elko:

Susan Neal (Elko County School District)
Duane Barton (Elko County School District)

Las Vegas:

Shelly Hacker (Clark County School District)
Stavan Corbett (Nevada State Board Member)
Brian Saffle (Clark County School District)
Loretta Asay (Clark County School District)

Winnemucca:

Jeanne Moline (Humboldt County School District)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – Chairperson Ebert called the meeting to order at 10:20am. Roll call was read and the attendees present are as recorded above. The Commission on Educational Technology (CET) did not have a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Chairperson Ebert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes, January 24, 2011

Chairperson Ebert asked for the approval of the previous meeting minutes, however due to the Commission not having a quorum, they will have to be approved at the next meeting.

Chairperson Ebert requested to move Item 7 before Item 4. No objections were heard.

4. Discussion of bills and Department budgets that may affect the Commission- Dr. Keith Rheault gave a synopsis on the following bills: SB197 which is considered a K12 Governance Bill. This bill was a result of the ACR2 Interim study. The Bill includes the reorganization of the State Board of Education and all of the statutory Councils and or Commission. This bill was referred to Senate Finance and is considered exempt. At this time nothing has been scheduled to date. Section 24-27 would affect CET where this Council would become Advisory only with the responsibilities to the Nevada Department of Education (NDE). NDE would still have requirements for the state technology plan and distribution of funds.

Dr. Rheault continued that he fully expects to have a hearing on this bill. If this Board continues to be viable we will fill vacancies. The Governors K-12 funding Bill is AB558 which would create a categorical block grant program – take all line item funding currently provided by the state, such as class size reduction; full day kindergarten and all other smaller funding- education technology funds, library books, public broadcasting and give the districts the flexibility to use this money where they need it most. The bill was to start this block grant in July of this year, but given the reduction in the total amounts and the confusion of how the block grant would work; the bill was amended to start the school year of 2012-2013. For the continuing year we would still distribute money as we have done in past through CET under normal procedure of grants to school districts. The amount of tech money will be reduced from the current funding of 2 million; the amount would be reduced by 10.8% for 2012. The State Board would have to approve the plan to use the block grant money. This bill, AB 558 also recommends library funds to be directly allocated to the State Library.

Commissioner Slentz requested the calculation to be verified.

Dr. Rheault calculated that the reduced amount is \$1,942,210 available for Ed Tech next year, see the account number 2699 in our budget for 2012 to see the amounts for Ed Tech, but the districts will have the flexibility to use as they decide when the block grant kicks in. When the block grant starts, the Districts would get this

categorical block funding based on NDE's 50% funding formula, student enrollment within district (previous year), other 50%, number of licensed teachers within the districts. Districts would determine how they use money, and submit an application to DOE for approval.

NDE's concern is that without specified use for each line item, just one amount that ultimately the Legislators will want to know how the districts determined what was spent.

5. Discussion and possible approval of State Educational Technology Award – Chair Ebert advised that this was brought to the Commission by Superintendent Carolyn Ross talking about recognizing positive aspects that we have in our State. Kim – assembled small group to draft the Commissions Ed-Tech Excellence Award, Commissioners Flatt and Wade, Jeanne Moline, Susan O'Neil, and Joe Elcano from KNBP. Thank you for your help. Put together a good first draft. Group had some suggestions – two awards; one for administrators & one for teachers who exhibit excellence in ed tech. Application procedure electronic, including scoring. Scoring criteria – based on ISTE nets for teachers and administrators. Application period in winter, no funding for prize. Award would be recognition by the board. Joe did volunteer to find outside funding, monetary award if approved by commission. Draft states awardees' will be honored at the Clark County School Districts Ed Tech Conference in Oct. Hoping to provide travel expenses for awardees out of Ed Tech Budget. Also honored at Commission meeting. One question – whether commission would want to make selection during public meeting, or have small working group make a selection and then give to commission for approval. Open for input.

Slentz - Screen through small committee, present 3 to commission – have qualifiers come to meeting and make a presentation or to answer questions. Chair Ebert: great discussion item, will add as agenda item when full quorum.

5. Discussion was started by Commissioner Gustafson regarding shared services with Department of Information & Technology (DoIT) - David Gustafson, Acting Director, NDOIT, Chief Information Officer for the State. Gave key facts on DoIT; Executive Branch – how can we do more with less? How can we work better together? Main frame services to Clark County; CCSD. Here to help, any way possible.

Chair Ebert – all entities here to provide services and support to constituents of the state of Nevada. Makes sense for us to work together with DoIT.

6. Presentation of McAfee Security Solutions – Presentation will not occur today, moving on.

7. Update on Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Technology Approach Work Group activities

– Dr. Vidoni – SBAC formed 10 work groups, Vidoni is on the Technology Approach Work Group – purpose; select and manage technology providers that will create the systems infrastructure to support SBACs assessment system. 10 members from around the country, meet once a week for 2 hours. Functional group; work very well together. Meetings facilitated by West ed. Started in Jan – developed an RFP to select vendor to conduct readiness survey; evaluate states districts and schools preparedness to conduct online test. Will evaluate testing devices, infrastructure, support personnel, produce gap analysis report for each entity, school, district and state level reports. Still getting input, should be posted any time now. Timeline – survey released in fall, reports posted end of year. Web based, allow users to log in and view. Also working on IT architecture RFP up and running, being written by west ed. Released in May or June.

Commissioner Maurins – Where is the funding coming from?

Through Race to the Top funds, federal funds; SBAC/PARCC consortium.

Funding is simply for producing and administering tests but whatever we find out that gap is in Nevada, don't know who will pay for it. Does not come out of SBAC funding.

8. Comments from Commissioners – No comments from the Commissioners

Chair Ebert would like to have a meeting in June to determine how we will move forward.

Clark County School District received on Friday an LCB request for information regarding the purchase of iPads. Senator made comment “why are you purchasing technology when you can have classroom teachers”? Chair Ebert finds interesting; do we not need technology in the classrooms? How many purchased, being used for? Question #6 says that Commission on Educational Technology must develop a plan for the use of Educational tech in public schools. Is the purchase of iPads a recommendation contained in the state tech plan? If not, why not? Easy answer is the iPads born in April of last year, plan updated in January of last year, so talking about technology that didn’t exist. Never gotten into which specific tools a school district or teacher in classroom will use because many different devices and needs of teacher.

Chair Ebert asked Commissioners if there was anything they wanted added to response.

Commissioner Flatt – will you have to testify on or report back to them?

Ebert – sent to CCSD directly. Since on Commission and employee both, represent state and commission when sit here. Written request back by next week.

Commissioner Slentz – talking about just iPads or all notepads.

Chair Ebert – just iPads, 8 questions on iPads.

10. Public Comments –

Elko – no comment

White Pine – No comment

Humboldt – no comment

Clark County – no comment

Carson – no comment

11. Adjournment –

No quorum, so no motion to end meeting.