

Minutes
Parental Involvement Task Force
Commission on Professional Standards in Education
November 1, 2011

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Parental Involvement Task Force met via telephone conference and a public location at the Nevada Department of Education Office, Superintendent's Conference Room, in Carson City on November 1, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 2:37 P.M. by Chair Elissa Couch.

Task Force Members Present:

Elissa Couch, Chair - via telephone conference call
Ann Bingham, Member – via telephone conference call
D’Lisa Crain, Member – via telephone conference call
Rorie Fitzpatrick, Member – via telephone conference call
Margaret Ferrara, Member – via telephone conference call
Amy Henderson, Member – via telephone conference call

Task Force Members Absent:

Eva Melendrez, Member
Karen Taycher, Member
Lyn Gorrindo, Member
Shawn Vogel, Member

Staff Present:

Christina Harper, Commission Administrative Assistant
Dr. Katherine Rohrer, Licensure Office

Public:

Teri Jamin, Douglas County School District and Rural NASB Representative for Parental Involvement

Chair Couch determined that quorum of the Task Force was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Jamin stated that she is observing and was recently ask to be the rural representative for the Nevada School Board Trustees to the Parental Involvement

Commission and she is also a member of the Board of Trustees for the Douglas County School District.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 11, 2011

It was noted that the October 11, 2011 minutes were not ready to be reviewed and approved.

ACTION: The October 11, 2011 minutes will be placed on the next agenda for review and possible approval.

REVIEW COURSEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPING REGULATIONS TO ADD COURSEWORK FOR TEACHERS IN THE AREA OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Task Force Chair Couch reviewed two proposals based upon recommendations from the October 11, 2011 meeting. The proposed language includes amendments to NAC 391.045 placing the requirements in the general requirements for licensure; and the second proposal would be a new regulation. The proposals provide an opportunity for universities and school districts to address the requirements. There was caution expressed about being too prescriptive for out-of-state licensure applicants.

Task Force Member Bingham expressed concern and suggested that the Task Force discuss was to how these requirements were going to be satisfied either as in-service or continuing education.

Task Force Member Crain expressed appreciation for the proposed language and the language and the fact that it is aligned to the current state policy and national PTA's six standards on family engagement; but SB 229 was passed, this past legislative session, that revised the six standards; so all of the school districts are revising their district policies and thinks that the six standards listed are the old standards and suggested reviewing SB 229 to be line with the current standards. Task Force Member Crain likes the six standards but does not think that they are all encompassing if we are looking at from what do teachers need to know. One of the critical components missing is language in cultural competency.

Task Force Member Fitzpatrick expressed that she favors the more detailed proposal; with regard to the question of in-service vs. university credit. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that she appreciates the opportunity for a teacher/teacher candidate to access coursework in a combination/variety of avenues. Task Force Member Fitzpatrick suggested

adopting by reference a set of standards, such as the National PTA Standards to allow for best practices to be updated on a continual basis.

Task Force Member Crain suggested that the area of cultural competence should be emphasized as a separate item and needs to bullet the heading as to what does a teacher need to understand about different cultures in order to better understand and teach students and families. It was suggested to insert a reference to the six standards of the National PTA and areas such as building relationships, outreach, and cultural competency.

Task Force Member Bingham suggested that teachers need to learn about their own cultural impressions and support cultural competence and agreed that cultural competence should be a separate bulleted item.

Task Force Chair Couch recommend that the Task Force look to being specific, but broad in concept with concern to not be too specific and incorporate the concept of cultural diversity.

Task Force Member Ferrara expressed concern to keep the wording generic to allow for a broad curriculum and future curriculum changes.

Task Force Member Crain suggested that there be some definition to tie back to the state policy.

Task Force Chair Couch suggested scheduling another meeting, have Task Force Members review information/proposal along with SB 229 for further discussion at the next meeting.

Task Force Member Bingham stated that State Legislators saw this requirement as a value to the state and specific as to what information beginning teachers need to have to be effective.

Task Force Member Ferrara expressed concern with cultural competence term, as this term is not well used or known term.

ACTION: Staff is to ensure that Task Force Members receive a copy of SB 229 for review prior to the next meeting.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE – IF NECESSARY

The next meeting of the Task Force was scheduled for November 16, 2011 at 2:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS COMMENTS

There were no Task Force Member comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Task Force Chair Couch adjourned the meeting at 3:26 P.M.