

New York State Council of Educational Associations

October 3, 2008

Holiday Inn, Wolf Road, Albany, New York

Delegate Summary

Submitted by Joan Davidson, Secretary, NYSCEA

Call to Order, Welcome, and Roll Call

Dennis Tosetto, President and Joan Davidson, Secretary

Grace Wilkie, Math made a motion to accept the minutes. Elizabeth Scheffer seconded the motion.

Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support Update

Howard Goldsmith, Executive Coordinator, Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support

Handouts: Report of the Steering Committee from the ELA/ELL Content Panel
By Bonnie August and John Harmon, July 15, 2008

How can we expand our roles to include collaboration between SED and NYSCEA?
He cited an example of collaboration between NYSCEA and SED mentioning that David Arnone, NYS Technology Education Department, helped him develop a better quality Drivers Ed program. He explained that many of our young people die or are injured as a result of auto accidents.

Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support (OCIS) staff reviewed

CDOS is the next standard area that will be reviewed.

The longer the time you keep students in HS the more likely it is that they will graduate.
Career and Technical Education (CTE) is a successful strategy to keeping students in school.

Learning Standards Review: Key Points

Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support

-P-16 initiative

-Article VII

-Perpetual system of review

-Order of review, ELA first

we want the standards to connect with other disciplines and be part of career development

-Multifaceted process, not just review

-Connections with higher education, business and teacher preparation programs

-Engage experts at all levels of review

-Must develop new and aligned assessments.

Standards are the supporting frameworks for Curriculum and Assessment.

The Standards Review Initiative

Moving from “Review to the Revision”

- Structures and organizations of work
- Working Principles
 1. Include three levels of standards
 - Student learning standards
 - Teacher Knowledge standards
 - System infrastructure standards
 2. Develop a single set of standards for each content area

Recommendations for Revisions

- One set of standards
- Replace the items currently designated as “standards”
- Use the “Core Performance Indicators” and “Qualities” from the State assessment rubrics to develop revised standards
- Embed literacy into all of the content areas
- The study of literature and language should be emphasized and elevated as an endeavor separate from literacy
- Add viewing and (re) presenting
- Format revision is essential

Aspects of Standards Revision

- Viewing and (Re) presenting
- P-16 Connections
- Sport for English language learners, special populations, and students at different developmental levels
- Teacher knowledge
- More specificity needed at the 9-12 level where there is currently considerable repetition of performance indicators
- Assessments
- Conventions and grammar
- Reading-writing process
- Early Childhood
- Text based strategies
- Terminology consistency
- Motivation, engagement, and volition
- Ethics of communication/literacy
- Understanding authorship and audience

Goldsmith asked for NYSCEA feedback and revised standards

Howard Goldsmith, Executive Coordinator

Office of Curriculum and Instructional Support

NYSED

89 Washington Ave, Room 319EB

Albany, NY 12234

Phone: 518 474-8892

E-mail: emscocis@mail.nysed.gov

Sue Bogdan Ritty – NYS Reading Association-Will we have a copy of the powerpoint.? We will put it on the NYSCEA website. On SED website click Standards Review and Public Forums.

www.emsc.nysed.gov/standardsreview/Documents/sumrptpublicforum

Chuck Goodwin, NYS Technology Education Association

Standards were delivered to all across the state but we missed the boat in how to strategies to align them and use them in the curriculum.

Goldsmith explained that he counts on NYSCEA to tell us how to use them –that is where we need to work together-to test the strategies. Need professional development for all teachers and Integration strategies to demonstrate how to connect the standards with other learning.

Grace Wilkie – Association of Mathematics Teachers of NYS

Explained that we should NOT use Math as a model for professional development in disseminating or training. She suggested for the new changes in English and other subjects a turn-key book be developed. She said, we need equity on how to share this information with all concerned parties.

Howard agreed and said that we have learned from mathematics what not to do

In addition "We do not address technical writing well in our schools. Students do not have the expertise in technical writing".

She would like to see someone from the ELA committee to be included in the future areas that are being reviewed.

Howard thought this was a good idea

Mary Altieri –Association of Math Teachers of NYS

Are we saying that the only thing we teach needs to be measurable?

Goldsmith: Everything needs to be demonstrable and expressed in some way.

Elizabeth Sheffer – NYSUT.

“We do need to incorporate literacy in other areas. Need to state the standards so students, parents and teachers can understand them. NYSUT ‘s Education and Learning Trust may work with the NYSUT ELA and ELL Committees to put together an information packet on the new ELA standards.”

Stephanie Stewart, (ACTEA) Association for Career and Technical Education –requested that like the literacy people, CDOS standards folks are also included in other content area standards review.

George Raneri, NYSCEA - What kind of dialogue or collaboration is being done with Community Colleges in terms of Curriculum and Entrance Requirements?

Goldsmith: “I would love to get feedback from Community Colleges as to what is still needed.

Elizabeth Sheffer- “SED has put together writing teams that will construct the performance indicators for the revised ELA standards. Each team has representatives from P-12 and higher education.”

Office for Standards, Assessment and Reporting Update

Thomas Schoeck, Chief, Bureau of Test Administration

- Hand-Outs:
1. Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests
Important Dates for the 2008-2009 School Year from David Abrams
 2. January, 2009 Regents Examination Schedule from David Abrams
 3. Component Retesting Schedule May 2009
 4. Procedures for requesting and Storing the Grade 5 Elementary-Level Social Studies Test and the language Assessment Battery Revised (LAB-R) from Thomas Schoeck
 5. Procedures for Requesting, Shipping, and Storing of Materials for the 2009 Administration of NYS Elementary-and Intermediate-Level Tests
 6. Mathematics Regents Examinations Implementation/Transition Timeline
 7. Extension on Test Accommodations for Former English Language Learners. From Johanna Duncan-Poitier
 8. Appeal to Graduate with a Lower Score on a Regents Examination Submission Information 2005-06

Schoeck explained:

- SED Staff has been lost and there are no replacements.
- SED budget has been reduced by 10%. SED is trying to still maintain their quality level.

Practitioners from all over the State review the exam and take the test before it is printed. Changes are made as part of this process.

SED developed a system that identifies conflicts students may have in taking the Regents Exams. SED planned to have exams that involve longer scoring like Essays to be at the beginning of the Exam week.

Testing schedule goes to BOCES Superintendents for review. Superintendents send the info to their teachers who give their input. A final schedule is then developed.

Schools now tell SED the number of test they need. Involves 3,000 public schools. All information is e-mailed instead of mailed to the schools.

There is a "help" desk (3-4 people on staff) for teacher calls re: What tests need to be taken and other questions.

There are alternatives for students who fail the Regents Exams. Students who fail Math A can take an SAT2 (Integrated Algebra) test to meet the requirements for credit. SAT2 is a shorter exam – one-hour test rather than two hours.

Testing accommodations for Limited English Language students. LEPL

A lot goes on when taking tests when adapting the test taking process, for example to take the test by dictating response to a scribe rather than writing answers. When students pass the test using the adaption techniques they need more time to develop their ability to write on their own. Regents agreed to continue to provide testing accommodations for students who were considered ELL and LEPL students.

Grace Wilkie, Association of Mathematics Teachers of NYS
asked when the Integrated Geometry regents was being given?

Schoeck: At the beginning of the Regents week but that he would have to check back at the office.

Schoeck explained the Appeal process. Needs are recognized after the law is made and this causes laws to change. Availability of RCT is expiring. Discussion is about to begin on the future of RCT. RCT is a lower standard than the passing score on the Regents Exam. It may be a problem for State to agree to allow students with Disabilities to pass on the basis of RCT's

Policy Guidance for Graduation Requirements

emscgradreq@mail.nysed.gov

Schoeck explained that SED staff would not be leaving Albany until SED funding is increased. Video conferencing may have to be considered.

Alfred Siue, Association of NYS Social Supervisory Association

The process of setting exam standards and the conversion chart occurred after the Algebra exam was administered last June. Will this process now start happening with other Regents exams?

Schoeck: If we had more space and time to finalize conversion charts it might have been different.

Grace Wilki, Association of Math Teachers of NYS

Regents Scale Scoring, The perception of educators is different than the public. To a teacher 33 out of 88 means that a student only understands 37.5% of the material but to a parent it means that their child has passed. Putting a percentage number to a scaled score does not have the same meaning. Tom said he would have to go back and look at it

Linda Lapp, NYS Council for the Social Studies

Agrees with Grace that the SED scores seem inflated compared to the raw scores.

TSchoeck@mail.nysed.gov

Lunch

Office of Higher Education Update

Joseph Frey, Associate Commissioner, Office of Higher Education

Office of higher Education is 5% of SED.

50% of staff is focusing on teaching.

The Board of Regents accredits colleges.

Every teacher has to be fingerprinted including non-public schools which now have the option of having new hires cleared through the fingerprinting process.

A lot of criminal investigations have to be made and previous criminal actions have to be clarified.

211 Waiver have to be approved for retired teachers/supervisors/administrators to return to work and be paid up to a certain amount.

Regents- Five Concerns

1. Strengthening Teaching

14,000 full time equivalent teachers are teaching out of their teaching area.

a. Massive shortage in Middle and High School in

-Special Education (45 certificates)

Have to serve both the inclusive model and the self-contained model.

80% of special education teachers are in birth to grade 6.

-Math,

-Technical Education, Engaged in certification requirements

there is a need to make the process more flexible

-Languages other than English. Need to encourage prospective teachers

to take certification in this area including bilingual speakers.

-Bilingual Education – Litigation Jose P case-huge shortages of teachers.

b. Improve Application for Teacher Initiatives.

1999 have to have competencies in particular areas.

c. Improve College preparation

What are we missing in area of competency for our teachers in area of technology?

SED brings practitioners and teacher preparation teachers together.

c. Aligning Research, Policy and the Money

How do we prepare teachers for the urban setting?

2. College readiness.

a. Have colleges in high school-we want to develop a model in our state for this initiative..

Suggested strategy: Use TAP funds in high school to fund students' education where the course work is for college credit.

3. Statewide planning for Higher Education

4. Cohesive Leadership program

Want leaders to focus on teaching and learning, working with teachers

Creating leadership academies to provide professional development for Principals

Develop a School Leader performance evaluation assessment.

5. Public Protection

Fingerprinting

Making sure programs in proprietary college are teaching what they say to prepare students to get a job or to go on to higher education institutions.

Chuck Goodwin, NYS Technology Education Association

“We need more skill sets, not just the universally accepted skills. All pre-service teachers should be required to have a Teaching Methods Course, Student Teaching assignments, a background in facilitating literacy across the curriculum, and know how to handle delicate diversity issues among others. These are current day needed skill sets”.

Streamlining Certification is a slippery slope. We should approach this area with GREAT CAUTION!

Frey: There is the issue of Quality and Supply and Demand.

Chuck Goodwin, NYS Technology Education Association
How difficult is it to re-structure a pre-service program?

Frey: We are allowing colleges to integrate more than one competency in one course, doesn't necessarily have to be one competency for each course.

Grace Wilkie, Association of Mathematics Teachers
Could we structure some school programs not covered in the colleges under the mentoring area?
Frey: Excellent idea.

Joel Ratner Music Administration Organization
Concerned with students finishing their HS early. Respects financial concern.

Frey: Education is life-long. Not a big fan of early HS model –courses may be watered down. Big fan of doing it one year of college work in high school.. Taxpayers are upset at the cost of education.

Doreen Cechnicki, NYS Association Family & Consumer Science Education
Concerned with Community College Credit being able to be transferred into a 4year college.

Her daughter is now completing 6 years of college.
Frey: Good question. Courses need to be made transferable.
Commission on higher education has brought this to public light.

George Ranieri, NYSCEA
Hamilton, Fulton, Montgomery BOCES has built their new building along side of the Fulton-Montgomery Community College and Empire State College is building a center on the Monroe Community College Campus and on a community college on Long Island.

Frey This strategy has crossed P-16 lines.
Community colleges have become 4 year schools in some instances.

David Arnone, NYS Technology Education Association
Two community colleges in Albany area will not accept credits from the other community college
Frey: He suggested David contact Dennis Gollady , Vice Chancellor Community Colleges, to let him know the problem.

Joseph Frey
jfrey@mail.nysed.gov