

Central Carolina RESA Board of Directors Meeting

NCSBA Assembly Hall

February 9, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Minutes

Board of Directors in Attendance

Ethan Lenker (Pitt), Cindy Bennet (Vance), Stan Winborne (Granville), Steve Ellis (Nash), Keith Sutton (Warren), Eric Bracy (Johnston), Rodney Peterson (Person), Rob Taylor (Wake), Lela Baldwin (Franklin designee)

Affiliate Members in Attendance

Tony Jackson (Chatham)

Guests

Kendra King (DPI), Sneha Shah-Coltrane (DPI), Tabari Wallace (DPI), Sebastian Turner (Once), Cindy Holler (Once)

Staff

Patrick Miller, Dana Stutzman, and Katherine Chambers

Welcome

Dr. Patrick Miller welcomed the room at 9:00 AM and encouraged attendees to help themselves to breakfast, which was provided by our meeting sponsor, *Once*. He informed the group that Tarrah Taylor was not able to be here with us but Sabastian Turner and Cindy Holler are here to present for *Once* on her behalf.

Presentation by Once

Once is an early reading program designed for K-1st grade students. *Once* does not require participants to be certified school teachers; anyone with the ability to spend 30 minutes with a child five days a week can contribute. A key highlight of this program is the daily one-on-one instruction provided to students based on the science of reading and scripted curriculum. The success of *Once*

was exemplified through a pilot program conducted in Charlotte Mecklenburg, demonstrating its efficacy in fostering early literacy skills.

Approval of December 12 minutes

Patrick Miller stepped in for Lane Mills, CCRESA Board Chair, and asked the room to review the December 12, 2024, Board of Directors meeting Minutes. Dr. Keith Sutton gave a motion to approve the Minutes, Dr. Steve Ellis seconded, and the Minutes were passed unanimously.

Approval of Financial Reports

Dr. Keith Sutton presented the Financial Report to the Board. He noted that Zelle is being used internally for CCRESA staff reimbursements and the Yellow Book audit is set to be completed by March 15th, 2024. Dr. Rob Taylor gave the motion to approve the Financial Report, Dr. Ethan Lenker seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Igniting Principal Engagement

Tabari Wallace, the Special Advisor to the Superintendent for Principal Engagement, led the discussion on the Truist Leadership Institute's PD offerings. Truist Leadership Institute focuses on engaging Principals by using a personalized, in-depth approach with attendees. The Institute's one-of-a-kind learning experience empowers administrators to become better, more self-aware leaders and individuals. Participants will uncover the "why" behind behaviors and how to build better ones.

The Mastering Leadership Dynamics Program is a four-day training on the Greensboro campus, enhances awareness of thinking, feeling, and behavioral patterns, guiding leaders to use a strategic approach rather than relying on a set leadership style. The extended weekend would include all room and board, requiring only travel expenses. For those unable to commit to the full training, a four-hour session is also available. To register, contact Tabari Wallace via email - through the DPI and Truist partnership, registration is free. The institute recognizes the challenges faced by principals, including new standards, the absence of ESSR funds, lower human capital, LETRS deployment, and a multitude of other responsibilities. The institute is involved in the Assistant Principal Accelerator Academy, Early Career Principals Network, and the Regional Principals Roundtable, aiming to elevate principals' voices and well-being in North Carolina schools.

Update on Early Graduation

Sneha Shah-Coltrane, Director of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education at NCDPI, provided an update on early graduation requirements. Superintendents recently convened with Senator Lee to discuss the State Board of Education's requirements that need to be in place to allow high school juniors with a minimum of 22 hours to graduate early. Shah-Coltrane urged the Superintendents in the room not to change any of the current requirements in their respective districts, and districts will be allowed to have additional requirements to the rules set by the State Board. Current concerns are centered around unintended consequences, such as the possibility of students opting out of returning to school, potentially impacting essential services such as free breakfast/lunch programs, school counseling, nursing, and education accessibility due to ADM funding. Local Chambers of Commerce have noted that this policy seems to undercut efforts to encourage robust curriculum for students. Superintendents are urged to reach out to their legislators prior to the budget passing in the summer.

Update on Infinite Campus

Dr. Rob Dietrich, NCSIS, offered a comprehensive product overview of Infinite Campus. Infinite Campus serves as a core student information system that includes a parent and student portal, a mobile app, scheduling features, and a grade book. As districts are switching from PowerSchool to Infinite Campus, a notable difference is that the scheduling function is calendar-driven, enabling users to view different calendars, such as day-to-day and full-year perspectives. The system integrates with other Learning Management Systems, such as Google Classroom and Canvas, and provides a multi-year academic planner.

Additional products include online registration, a messenger service, online payments, a data suite, and an analytics suite. The Workflow Suite is optional for districts and incurs no additional cost. Phase 1 implementation is currently underway with districts who plan to have Infinite Campus up and running for the 2024-25 school year. Implementation involves meeting an assigned project manager, discussing processes, and utilizing an implementation planning guide. Dates have not been set for districts who would like to be part of Phase 2. NCDPI is currently working on a solution for how to manage a student who moves from a Phase 1 district to a Phase 2 district.

Hot Topics in Education: New Statutory Reporting Requirements for Schools

Dr. Brian Shaw gave updates on New Statutory Reporting Requirements for Schools. There are eight reporting requirements outlined in HB 142 - Reporting Misconduct of Licensed Employees. These requirements are similar to previous ones in effect, which still apply

Effective from September 29, 2023, as per S.L. 2023-128, this legislation mandates the filing of a report if there is "suspicion or direct knowledge that a licensed employee within the LEA has been involved in behavior encompassing physical or sexual abuse of a child, or if such behavior warrants automatic revocation of the employee's license under 115C-270.35(b)". Designated officials holding positions such as superintendents, assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, personnel administrators, or principals are responsible for reporting incidents falling under the purview of this legislation. The standard of knowledge is defined as "knows, has reason to believe, or has actual notice of a complaint" regarding misconduct leading to dismissal, disciplinary action, or resignation. It emphasizes the duty to report even if the complaint appears without merit. Individuals should err on the side of reporting even if you've concluded that the complaint is without merit.

Reports must be submitted to the State Board of Education (SBOE) within five days of dismissal, determination of disciplinary action, or acceptance of resignation. Failure to report constitutes a Class 1 felony, with potential imprisonment for up to 24 months. The legislation additionally safeguards individuals who make mandated reports by prohibiting any form of retaliation against them. It ensures these individuals have immunity and confidentiality in recognition of their reporting responsibilities. The paragraph highlights the continuity of reporting requirements from the pre-HB142 era, citing Policy LICN-007 and the NCAC, which remain in effect and necessitate reporting to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in case of suspected misconduct by licensed employees.

Executive Director Report

Dr. Miller provided a summary of the Executive Director's report, giving a brief overview of the council meetings held so far this year and an update on the incoming CCP3 Cohort 4.

Adjourn/lunch sponsored by Kloud-12

Dr. Miller thanked board members for attending and reminded the room that Kloud-12 was present to sponsor a lunch following the meeting and review items they have to offer school districts. The

Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Sutton

CCRESA Secretary/Treasurer