

P-16 Educational Leadership Steering Committee Minutes

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2013, Erie 1 BOCES

Present:

Colleen Adams (WNYCC), Jane Burzynski (ECASB), David Cantaffa (UB), Cindy Crandall (CA BOCES), Steve Harvey (WNYCC), Chris Holoman (Hilbert), Sharon Huff (Pioneer), Pam Lalley (WNYCC), Scott Payne (Alden), Marie Perini (Lancaster), Patti Wrobel (NU).

Welcome

This meeting is the first time the Steering Committee has reconvened since the April summit. Steve Harvey noted that the college presidents and funders are happy with the initiative. He has reviewed skills gap research, and there is nothing being done anywhere compared with what this group is doing. We now shift from planning stage to implementation stage. He has an Aug. 29 meeting with web developers to test the partnerships database website. Also, all P16 info will be migrated to that site.

Review of Post-Summit Online Survey Feedback:

Jane Burzynski reported results of an online survey conducted post-summit last spring. Responses indicate that most participants feel there is a clear mission and vision for the P-16 Consortium and its Task Forces. The mission/vision is seen as: providing clear objectives for school to college to workforce, creating a seamless educational experience for all students, and to improve communication and work together, from P-16.

Most (75%) ranked the groups progress at a 3 or 4, on a scale of 5 (being highest).

What's going well with the Consortium is seen as everyone being at the table, positive attitude, and shared resources and information, with momentum building in terms of interest and involvement.

What's going well with the Task Forces is seen as better understanding the pre-service to inservice teacher education continuum, inauguration of the database of partnerships, learning more about the needs of P12 and higher education, networking, getting a shared understanding of APPR and edTPA demands, and having core dedicated members of the Task Forces.

What could be done better included more time, more meetings, more communication, more awareness, more specificity, more action. Responses also indicated more dialogue is needed about Common Core and testing initiatives and getting education's voice heard by policy makers. Also cited were the need for parent and business/industry involvement, Pre-K (birth on) and legislative involvement, and expansion of the effort beyond our region.

Slightly more than half of the respondents felt the P16 effort has been a productive use of time, about 40% found it at least somewhat productive.

Most, particularly Task Force members, felt they were part of the team. Among the Task Force teams, 96% said they were willing to continue their involvement with the Consortium, and 91% were willing to continue their involvement with the Task Forces. Among the April Summit attendees overall, 76% said they would continue involvement with the Consortium, 58% would continue involvement with Task Forces.

Next steps for the initiative were seen as addressing Common Core, partnerships, continued collaboration and dissemination of information, and completion of the partnerships database.

What's Next and Task Force Direction

The Steering Committee agreed that a new Task Force should be added: Birth-PreK (or up to 3rd grade). Steve Harvey noted this would probably be largely community-based organizations tied to colleges and universities.

Also, employer representatives should be added to each Task Force.

Partnerships Task Force

The work of the Partnerships Task Force should be to complete the database and populate it with information.

Steve suggested setting up ELA/math/science groups, similar to the college faculty councils. They could create long-term plans and continue to move forward. Or perhaps just focus on ELA, to keep it manageable.

We need two things:

- 1) Create impact with something tangible
- 2) Create a sense of acknowledgement that what we are doing is valuable (A Compact that all can sign).

Sharon Huff and Patti Wrobel noted several items re: Partnerships Next Steps:

Tracking outcomes (are people using the database), business connections, an age 0-5 focus to show how early childhood efforts help with costs and learning, cultivate business/STEM awareness.

Sharon is willing to continue as a Partnerships Task Force chair. Higher Ed co-chair?

Common Core Task Force

Speaking on the Common Core Task Force, Chris Holoman suggested moving toward more curriculum director involvement, broadening the effort from just college ready to social ready (bring in counselor involvement), and being more explicit about career ready than college ready. Suggests there may be some overlap with Say Yes; it was noted that is Buffalo-only.

Would librarians group fit with the ELA group?

Chris would like to continue participation, but not as a Task Force chair. Suggests Mark Hiljah may step up. Also will need a P-12 co-chair.

Teacher Prep Task Force

Scott Payne spoke on the Teacher Prep Task Force and the goal of finding something tangible that addresses expectations of P-12 and higher ed. (NOTE: Will need co-chair from higher ed to work with Scott Payne on Teacher Prep Task Force.) He suggested creating best practice exemplars of what good teaching looks like, to make sure both levels are on the same page. The concept of good instruction in higher ed is not always good practice in P-12, he noted.

Suggested the Instructional Development Advisory Board (IDAB) get people trained in Adaptive Schools, so they would be modeling instructional techniques. Noted it's not just about teacher prep but also how to support the veteran teacher in Common Core. Mentioned studying APPR documents and having higher ed look at them so they can teach students what's out there and what they must know and do when they get to a school district.

Discussed data teams and data systems and how to develop a general protocol of what they look like, and how to package so it is understood in both P12 and higher ed.

Regarding partnerships, what about higher ed participation in P12 conversations, like at IDAB or a network rollout?

What about creating opportunities for higher ed and P12 to work on curriculum maps, so understand both sides?

Who Does What

(Consortium, Taskforce Leads, Members, Financial and Staffing Support)

It was noted that each Task Force must find something that can actually be accomplished. What is the infrastructure for continuation? What is common among all is BOCES ... can we get mini-workshop or mini-consortium opportunities?

Right now, teachers are overwhelmed and K12 is under tremendous duress, but we need people who can bring excitement and people with energy to drive the initiative forward.

Patti Wrobel will share a matrix of edTPA and APPR, gives clearer picture of how to fold those things in. She notes the 15 private universities already have a working group, we could bring others into that. David Cantaffa noted there are regional centers of pedagogy ... money has been distributed through the SUNY system toward teacher prep. Other \$ to arts and sciences. Not all institutions are involved, however, because of the way SUNY distributed the funds.

Steve noted that the WNY College Consortium has financial resources for this initiative. He, Pam and Colleen will work on this initiative. Some of the grant money also will be dedicated to fund Jane's work through Promoting Partnerships in Public Education to support this initiative.

Summation

The group asked for approximately six consortium meetings (think of these as “Base Camp”) per year, to open with general overview/sharing, then allowing time to break off into Task Force work.

Meetings to start late Sept./early Oct., continue through mid-May.

Suggest holding Steering Committee meetings prior to or immediately following consortium meetings.

This year’s focus will be impact, next year’s will be sustainability.

Next Meetings (pending Lynn & Steve OK):

1. **Consortium**, Tuesday, Oct. 8
Steering: Tuesday, Nov. 5

2. **Consortium**: Tuesday, Dec. 3
3. **Consortium**: Tuesday, Jan. 7
Steering: Tuesday, Jan. 21

4. **Consortium**: Tuesday, Feb. 11
5. **Consortium**: Tuesday, March 4
Steering: Tuesday, March 18

6. **Consortium**: Tuesday, April 8
7. **Consortium**: Tuesday, May 6 (IF NEEDED)