

CITEP
February 22, 2013
MINUTES

1. ATTENDEES

List here: Laura Aboyan, Erica Bissell, Mary Ann Byrnes, Christine Christle, Rob Dedmon, Dennis Dotterer, Peter Duffy, Bruce Field, Karen Heid, Marcella Heyward-Evans, Allison Jacques, Zach Kelehear, Camelia Knapp, Sandra Lindsey, Lara Lomicka, Christine Lotter, Emmie May, Erin Miller, Lynda Nilges, Morgan Platt, Bob Pruzin, Kim Smoak, Ken Vogler, Beth White, Cheryl Wissick

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ed Dickey moved that the minutes from the October 2012 meeting be approved; Bruce Field seconded.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and Assessment: Panel Discussion.
Allison Jacques introduced the Common Core representatives and explained the purpose of their attendance. The presentation can be viewed in its entirety here: <https://breeze.sc.edu/p99wteupb4u/>

Dr. Erica Bissell from Lexington School District Two spoke about her experience relating to Common Core in relation to the SC Department of Education. Her main points were:

- Lexington Two has implemented Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in K-2. Implementation in grades 3-12 will start in the 2013-14 academic year. Smarter Balanced assessments will be fully implemented in 2014-15.
- The district has instituted Professional Development Strategies:
 - Implementation Team – trained in CCSS, report all necessary CCSS information back to their schools
 - Instructional Shift Models – demonstrate instructional practices needed for successful CCSS implementation, and the best practices to move forward.
 - Conduct CCSS mini-conferences for administrators and teacher leaders to discuss implementation plans
 - Smarter Balanced Assessment policy director brought in to teach administrators and lead teachers about new assessment methods
 - Annual summer institute is a week-long professional development opportunity to learn more about CCSS.
 - Leadership & Learning Center to focus on rigorous curriculum design
- ELA instructional shifts in practice represent a shift from narrative focus to a balance of informational and literary text, content-rich non-fiction, more complex text, and gaining evidence from text. The focus on writing is to inform, with sources of evidence.
- Shifts in Math – coherence across and within grades

- Other things to consider: Depth of knowledge, formative assessments to determine learning progression, technology integration, context over content because learning happens across content, preparation for 21st century skills
- Smarter Balanced assessment to teach beyond the test so that students are college and real-world ready

- Ms. Renee Matthews from East Point Academy provided an overview of the school's Chinese Immersion Program:
 - The mission is to provide proficiency in Mandarin by 8th grade, but proficiency in typical school subjects by 3rd grade.
 - They use a 50/50 Foreign Language Immersion model – most students have no knowledge of Chinese at the beginning and are not required to be tested in order to be admitted.
 - Because the school does not have a set attendance zone, it can serve anyone in South Carolina. Currently the school serves students from five counties.
 - This year, the school is piloting proficiency testing based on American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) assessments.
 - The curriculum focuses on self-regulation, with ten minutes of direct instruction followed by activities and inquiry based learning for the remaining time in each class.

- Sandy Avinger, the math consultant from Richland School District One, spoke about her experiences with CCSS:
 - It is vital that PE and Arts teachers take ownership of how their curriculum interacts with CCSS.
 - Jude Barrineau, a 7th grade math teacher at Hand Middle School, spoke about how she has begun to incorporate CCSS into her classroom with her student teachers:
 - Begin with the end in mind – Know what is the reality and what first year teachers will need to be successful
 - Foster the ability to teach conceptually. Many teachers are heavy on content and lack the skills of how to teach the content.
 - Teach strategies “how to solve” and provide multiple representations.
 - Create a “toolkit” to allow students to take ownership of their skills.
 - Jennifer Guest, a math teacher from Hand Middle School, talked about secondary CCSS in relation to pre-service teachers:
 - Vertical articulation is extremely important. She stressed that a combination of strong conceptual understanding and explanatory ability makes the ideal candidate because everything is interrelated.
 - Teachers are facilitators and should enrich learning in conceptual fashion.

Dr. Christle asked how we should teach our pre-service teachers to use the technology in the schools. Ms. Matthews included a teacher prep list in her packet that stressed the importance of adaptability and the evaluation of resources. The guest panel discussed the use and importance of technology in education. Technology must be used to enhance and deepen learning, as opposed to just being the only tool used because the students cannot miss out on tactile

experiences. They suggested that we need to teach “media literacy” for students to become cautious consumers—good digital natives.

- Teacher Evaluation: Dennis Dotterer, Interim Director of the Office of Evaluation from the SC Department of Education (SCDE), briefly presented on new teacher evaluation systems. The SCDE is currently beta testing TOPS (Teacher Observation & Performance Scale) evaluations this year. These were designed by reforming the existing ADEPT structure into a rubric-based evaluation tool. The intent is to keep the holistic nature of ADEPT, but also to give guidance in the evaluation process by moving to a five point scale.

TOPS is being tested as a means of providing continual improvement of instruction. The ultimate goal is to have all teachers evaluated multiple times over the course of the year. Eventually, TOPS will be combined with the Classroom Value-Added and School Value-Added ratings to provide an overall teacher effectiveness rating. The SCDE is investigating the best way to bring all three ratings together.

- Coaching Teacher Training: Dr. Christle gave an update on coaching teacher training. Cookie Winburn is putting together a workshop model to see what works best. She will provide a general information model so that it can be adapted to each program’s needs.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- Zach Kelehear led a discussion on CITEP developing annual goals and asked the committee to consider the list of possible goals to focus on and then decide at our next meeting. The group determined that we would like further information on teacher evaluation.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next meeting: April 19, 2013.** Please send items to discuss with the group to either Christine Christle or Lynda Tilley.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10.