DELAWARE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Professional Learning Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2019
4:00pm
Collette Education Resource Center
Conference Room A
35 Commerce Way, Dover, DE 19904

Members Present: Nina Lou Bunting; Candice Fifer; Vincent Lofink; Dr. Audrey Noble; Wali Rushdan II, and Whitney Sweeney.

Members Absent: Dorcas Olatunji; Rev. Provey Powell, Jr.

Others Present: Dr. Susan Bunting, SBE Executive Secretary and the Secretary of Education; Jenna Ahner, SBE Executive Director; Kathleen Smith, SBE Administrative Assistant; Luke Rhine, DDOE.

I. Opening: Welcome and Objectives

A. Call to Order:

Ms. Sweeney called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

B. Welcome and Objectives:

Ms. Ahner provided an overview of the agenda and the objectives for the meeting.

II. Delaware School Success Framework (DSSF)

Ms. Ahner presented information provided by Dr. Chantel Janiszewski, Accountability and Performance Management, Delaware Department of Education (DDOE), on the development and ongoing implementation of the DSSF and Statewide Accountability System.

Mr. Rhine, Director of Career and Technical Education, DDOE, and Ms. Ahner facilitated a discussion on the metrics included in the statewide accountability system. Ms. Ahner and Mr. Rhine addressed the Board members' questions regarding ratings, student assessment in grades 3-8 and high school, and indicators of school and student success. The group discussed the uses of the high school assessment to support students and inform instruction.

The Board discussed the college and career preparedness metrics and the alignment with the metrics required under the Perkins V plan.

III. Perkins V and Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Mr. Rhine reviewed the impact of CTE on Delaware's youth and adult learners and provided an overview of the Strengthening Career & Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). He reviewed the scope of the State Board's CTE Subcommittee that provides guidance on the state plan development.

Mr. Rhine outlined the Perkins V implementation calendar regarding community and stakeholder engagement with the plan that is to be submitted to the Board for action in March 2020.

Mr. Rhine facilitated discussion on the programmatic aspects of the plan. The Board discussed secondary and postsecondary CTE programming. The Board discussed opportunities to align programming across institutions and opportunities to provide students and adult learners with stackable credentials linked with in-demand jobs aligned with Delaware's economic needs. The Board discussed the fiscal components of the plan, including the funding that is available for secondary and postsecondary partners and the alternate funding formulas used in other states. The Board discussed accountability components of the plan, including alignment of requirements for ESSA and Perkins V.

Mr. Rhine thanked Mr. Lofink and Ms. Ahner for their work and leadership on the CTE Committee. Dr. Bunting recognized Mr. Rhine for his work, since Delaware is acknowledged nationally for CTE.

IV. Board Processes, Communications, and Engagement

Ms. Sweeney expressed appreciation to the Board for its engagement of school and community visits, and Ms. Ahner echoed the community's appreciation for Board involvement.

Ms. Ahner facilitated a discussion on the Board's communications goals. The Board reviewed the communications materials that were created within the last year. Ms. Ahner shared data on the monthly number of website and social media interactions. The Board discussed opportunities to expand communication with the public through an increased social media presence and the development of a Facebook page. The Board also discussed opportunities to link social media communications with website and email communications. The Board discussed anticipated updates to the website.

The Board discussed the intention to continue to expand in-person meetings with constituents to build relationships and share information about the Board. The Board discussed opportunities to better highlight work happening in Kent County schools and districts. Board members also discussed the desire to highlight interesting or innovative work of students.

V. Next Steps

Board members will continue to offer their feedback to Ms. Ahner on their communications and engagement priorities. The Board agreed that productive conversations such as these should be ongoing and will further discuss availability for future meetings.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
Executive Secretary and
Secretary of Education