

NCTE STANDING COMMITTEE 'A' MINUTES

Standing Committee: Committee 'A'

Date: October 3, 2014

Location: Country Inn & Suites – Board Room

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 _____ by Mark Adler _____.

Secretary: Please take attendance and indicate any absences, alternates, or guests.

District	Name	Present/Absent	Designated Alternate Member Present	Guest
8	Adler, Mark	X		
TBD	TBD			
5	Bork, Ron	X		
2	Casey, Diana	X		
7	Coe, Travis	X		
3	Evanich, Sue	X		
3	Freese, Debra			
5	Marymee, Fran	X		
6	Mathews, Katie			
1	Peters, Kevin	X		
8	Schnabel, Becky	X		
	Schweiger, Barb	X		
3	Spethman, Phyllis	X		
1	Stake, Susan	X		
3	Vlach, Jim	X		
1	White, Denise	X		
	Edwards, Sarah	X		
	Jansky, Jenny	X	For Ed Scantling	

Officers: Chair – Mark Adler

Vice Chair – Diana Casey

Secretary – Denise White

Business Conducted:

1. Introductions

2. Approval of Standing Committee 'A' Minutes from June 6, 2014 meeting

Moved to Accept Minutes, Ron Bork; Second, Becky Schnabel: Passed

3. Discussion regarding 'Statewide Vision of Education in Nebraska.'

- **Mark Adler gave overview of main ideas.**
- **Statement on equity was important. Caution regarding what is put into legislation – some good, some could be in regulation instead. It’s easier to modify if needed. Thinking through where you want to go and the ramifications.**
- **Goals mentioned: (Some of the elements under the various goals discussed)**
 - **Two early childhood elements**
 - **One higher Ed**
 - **Equity**
 - **Graduation rates**
 - **Public students have opportunity to take college entrance test**
 - **College readiness**
 - **Keep students in college**
 - **Assist parents with expectations**
 - **Safe & secure learning environments**
 - **Support for bullying and harassment instruction**
 - **Community engagement**
 - **Help overcome barriers to education**
 - **Increase shared use of facilities and staff**
 - **Increase collaborations to bring research and best practices into schools**

Some of these items are currently occurring in various districts and areas. Perhaps some are the result of special interest groups speaking. Some are educationally placed, some not.

Those locally have a more clear idea what is needed in each area – and these needs vary from place to place.

Concern: The Senator was unaware of this organization and the function.

Question: do we have a pipeline full of those who can go into pre-K for all children?

New Rule 11 that requires the teachers to be certified for pre-K (early childhood)

Some institutions are developing additional programs, which involves planning, finances, and additional considerations. Many are still 2-4 years away from going into the classrooms.

How can we get “our education story” out? Some stories of those without current or correct information are told and the “fence sitters” have a tendency to listen.

Some communities donate and provide resources to make certain they have the early childhood programs in conjunction with the district.

- ✓ **Why are the hearings and other meetings held at times (middle of the afternoon) when educators (teachers, etc.) encounter difficulty attending? Scheduling could be more effective for encouraging attendance.**
- ✓ **Focus on PK-20 should look at and expand - current initiative, PK-16.**
- ✓ **Telling our story better – focus on accurate information**
- ✓ **Still have local control when advising schools.**

- ✓ Idea: Mark Adler suggested the Director of P-16 as a potential resource for a voice.

4. August 22, 2014 Executive Meeting Report – Adler:

Discuss change in SPED requirement:

Change is an excellent idea – students with just the 3 hour course would not be enough.

Hard to justify to parents that SPED teacher is not equipped to teach SPED child.

Worst nightmare is 11 years – 3 isn't the answer.

Develop person who is a go-to person for special needs – not necessarily a resource teacher.

5. Discussion regarding issues/challenges/opportunities for NCTE.

Make certain that we are able to get “our story” out

Appreciate hearing about what is happening in 9 colleges and universities. – Perhaps a regular rotation. Perhaps the board members could come prepared with information such as positions available that would be beneficial.

Would like to be able to experience the college campus – it was good to visit some of the campus' in other locations.

6. Standing Committee 'A' suggestions for the good of the organization.

7. Actions Items:

8. Meeting adjourned at 1:30__.

Standing Committee Recommendations for presentation to Full Council:

Minutes submitted by: Denise White