

**NCTE STANDING COMMITTEE 'C' MINUTES**

Standing Committee: Committee 'C'

Date: October 9, 2015

Location: The Cornhusker Marriott – Yankee Hill II

The meeting was called to order at \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

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

District	Name	Present/Absent	Designated Alternate Member Present	Guest
8	Acklie, Dee	X		
6	Bird, Dan	X		
2	Bohn, Paul	Absent		
5	Brown, Sarah	X		
6	Feinstein, Sheryl	X		
	Illich, Paul	Absent		
8	Jankovich, Doreen	X		
1	Katt, Sharon	X		
5	Kunkel, Ellie	X		
3	Lenihan, Mark	X		
7	Mihm, Linda	X		
5	Moss, Donna	X		
4	Ponec, Deb	X		
6	Rempp, Kass	Absent		
4	Tebbe, Michelle		Joey Zbylet-Birky	
TBD	TBD			
	Crotty, Janny			X
	Powell, Jim			X
	Smith, Lillie			X

**Officers: Chair – Donna Moss**

**Vice Chair – Mark Lenihan**

**Secretary – Dee Acklie**

**Business Conducted:**

**1. Introductions:** Welcome to new Committee 'C' members: Sheryl Feinstein, Paul Illich, and Ellie Kunkel

**2. Approval of Standing Committee 'C' Minutes from June 12, 2015 meeting:**

Motion by Brown, seconded by Ponec. Minutes approved.

**(Include summary of committee discussion for the various items below)**

**3. Discussion/response to Commissioner Blomstedt's Opening Message**

Progress is being made. Seems to be a step in the right direction from punitive to a continual improvement focus.

Should higher education be placing fieldwork/clinical experience in these programs? No comments have been made to this effect in the AQuESTT program to the knowledge of individuals in the room.

The 3 priority schools that will be determined for extra attention—will there be no funding? Could all 3 pilot schools be in the same area; such as urban? The number of priority schools (3) will not change until the issue is resolved. Point of clarification—are we talking about schools, and not school districts? Funding is the issue—need to be looking at funding sources including federal dollars along with current resources.

AQuESTT piece is meant to help all schools improve and look at areas where they can concentrate efforts and become a better learning environment for Nebraska's children.

Sample documents are on line in NDE website under AQuESTT. EBA for all schools under Resources. Suggest Higher Education partners attend workshops happening across the state. Information was sent out to all Higher Education Institutions by Sharon Katt.

#### **4. Discussion regarding proposed Middle Level subject endorsement**

Compromise is reflected in new middle level subject endorsement.

There was concern about the 5-9 grades designation. The 5-8 grade levels might be a better designation. A question was raised about the leeway allowed for grade levels 1 year grade above or below grades 5-9. Rule 10 Section 007 was read and discussion about this question ensued. Rule 10 changes might address this question. Consensus of the group is that we can approve the endorsement with the 5-9 grade levels.

Question was raised about the 24 hours in content beyond General Education requirements. This coursework will be determined by the college or university.

As for the 12 hours of required coursework specific to middle level—how much distinction needs to be made in those courses in middle school content/methods? These should be specific to middle grades mindset and models. Could be a combined middle/secondary but should show documentation of middle level instruction.

General agreement of support was determined for the middle level subject endorsement draft.

#### **5. Discussion regarding Early Childhood teacher supply issues / Please be prepared to report outcome of this discussion to the Full Council**

There is work to be done in this area. We are not at a point to begin changing existing endorsements. Work is on-going in multiple areas including certification permits, alternate pathways without lowering standards. Continued discussions need to be happening between higher education partners including 4 year college/university and community college partners and advocates.

#### **6. Discussion regarding School Counselor presentation – (Sign-Up Sheet was passed around for those interested in serving on the School Counselor *ad hoc* committee)**

Shortage is evident. Minimal applicants available to meet the needs. Should we take the 2 years of teaching out of the requirements? Discussion ensued. Comments were raised that this is not needed experience. Other comments were raised about the need for the individual to understand the difference between clinical and school environment.

Do we need to look at an alternative route to school counselor? There are individuals moving into our state with experience and are certified as school counselors. One university has a route for non-Nebraska residents, with strong internships in schools. CACREP is only at one university in the state for school counseling and should not be the only model examined when options are explored.

Do we need to look at pedagogy as well? School Counselors are teaching as well as performing mental health services. Could this endorsement include 2 years of teaching experience OR a strong practicum experience in schools as an option?

Currently, consideration is being given to individuals entering from outside Nebraska with certification, training, and experience. Do they meet the same standards and criteria as those who are already certified in Nebraska?

This is a complicated conversation and it could be hard road-but it is the right conversation to have for Nebraska's children.

**7. Discussion / recommendation to full council on the following Rule 24 issues:**

- **Special Education endorsement name**

Changes were made that have created other issues with the name of the Special Education endorsement and other special education endorsements. The history of the reasoning for use of the Special Education undergrad was given. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Feinstein and seconded by Kunkel to change the name of the Special Education endorsement to Special Education Generalist. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Field experience for added endorsements – Do changes need to be made?**

- **Field experience for supplemental endorsements – Do changes need to be made? (Rather inconsistent)**

**8. Brainstorm future NCTE Discussion Topics related to teacher preparation and teacher certification to move Purposes of NCTE forward and best support NCTE Membership in their role as an advisory body to the Nebraska State Board of Education.**

**9. Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE) – National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification – Volunteers needed to participate in NCTE Discussion Group**

**10. Meeting adjourned at: 2:12 p.m.**

**Standing Committee Recommendations for presentation to Full Council:**

**Minutes submitted by: Dee Acklie**