

NCTE STANDING COMMITTEE 'A' MINUTES

Standing Committee: Committee 'A'

Date: March 20, 2015

Location: Country Inn & Suites – Board Room

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 by D. Casey.

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

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

Officers: Chair – Mark Adler (absent)

Vice Chair – Diana Casey

Secretary – Denise White

Business Conducted:

1. Introductions

2. **Approval of Standing Committee 'A' Minutes from October 3, 2014 meeting:** Motion by Bork, seconded by Marymee. Minutes approved.

(Include summary of committee discussion for the various endorsements below)

3. Discussion regarding proposed Rule 24 endorsements:

Art – field (proposal includes eliminating General Art endorsement) The endorsement reflects National Art Standards. Art field endorsement recommendation to move to full council action for

final reading at the Second General Session— motion by Coe, seconded by Spethman. Motion approved.

Music – field No discussion

Vocal Music – subject (proposal includes eliminating Instrumental Music endorsement) No discussion

Middle Level – field (new name: formerly called Middle Grades)

Middle Level Discussion in General: There were two schools of thought on the endorsement. There were some questions about including grade 5, but that does reflect some of the practices in the state. Discussion followed. Supplemental may be an issue for institutions who are in a position to provide candidates that are qualified. Rural schools many times have to spread teachers over many grade levels. Concerns about grade 9—curriculum is accelerated and the teachers may not be prepared to teach grade 9. Curriculum is becoming more complicated and instruction is “stepped up.” Teachers need a solid foundation. On the other hand, Grade 9 might provide for more flexibility for schools to meet the changing needs of students. What is the fallout if students in 5th grade do not have the foundations (i.e., STEM)?

Middle Level – supplemental (proposed new endorsement) It may be difficult to add it to Elementary. To add it to Secondary, the depth of content is already there. The content is not here. Could a secondary history teacher actually be qualified to teach grade 5?

As a committee, there was a strong preference to remove grade 9 from the Middle Level language.

As a committee, there was a discussion about the supplemental content, the efficacy of adding this to Elementary or Secondary endorsements, and the difficulty in preparing quality teachers with the high demands of the profession.

ACTION ITEM: Recommendation to move Art field endorsement to full council action for final reading at the Second General Session.

Please include summary of committee discussions for number 4 – 8 below in the space provided—written notes on these topics are needed from each committee answering each of the questions.

4. The Buffett Early Childhood Institute proposal discussion:

a. What is the consensus of the committee (approve or disapprove) and why?

This is a difficult question to answer at this time. More information or time may be needed. Can this be applied to all areas, small and large? There was concern about getting a certificate out of an associates degree. We don't accept community college preparation as part of certification. This was a huge concern for the committee. Is this a DHHS issue or a teacher certification issue? Profit vs. non-profit? Faith-based? How do we move people to highly qualified?

We are not clear on what the proposal actually is at this time.

Discussion about early childhood needs to be an accelerated discussion—as soon as August 2015. What is the minimum standard a college would accept for an Early Childhood Permit?

There is a difference between daycare and preschool.

What do we do about someone with less than a bachelors degree? Is the salary going to be the same as other teachers?

How do we provide training for a 'mom and pop' daycare/preschool to afford the training?

A person with a two-year associates degree will not be the same as a person with a full endorsement. There is a sense of confidence with students who come from educational settings with certified teachers.

What is the intent and what are the expectations for the daycare providers?

b. Are there alternative recommendations from the committee regarding this proposal?

We would like to see more discussion on the issue. There are serious questions about people who do not have full certification with a four-year degree. Perhaps begins with DHHS? We are not sure that the state has the right to say that daycares must become a pre-school.

5. Discussion and recommendations regarding Rule 21 – Teacher Certification revisions:

Adding the permit may take 4 to 5 years to shift our paradigm. The permit is not finite. We can add or remove permits if needed. It might be difficult for a non-educator to understand the difference between a certification and a permit. Current certificate holders would not have to change over until renewal. The permit may clarify the issue for many candidates and teachers.

Appreciate the lowered fee for fingerprints.

Clarification about the two groups leading to an Alternative teaching permits.

Some concern about institutions being responsible for the success of these teachers? Will there be an NDE column for these individuals?

6. Discussion and recommendations regarding Statewide Equity Plan:

We would prefer more time to examine the data.

Economic disparity plays a tremendous role in the success of our children. Focus on the NeSA scores seems a priority.

Possible solutions:

- Provide parenting classes
- Advocate for reducing the poverty gap
- Advocate for smaller class size
- Advocate for highly qualified teachers in the high poverty buildings.

7. Other Committee Discussions:

8. Meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Standing Committee Recommendations for presentation to Full Council:

Art field endorsement was recommended moved to full council action at the Second General Session.

Minutes submitted by: Diana Casey