

NCTE Committee C Meeting

Minutes from June 8, 2022

ATTENDEES

Sarah Brown, Dwayne Chism, Kelly Heineke, Darci Karr, Tanishia Jacobs, Jenny Jansky, Mark Lenihan, Joshua McDowell, Donna Moss, Doreen Jankovich (for Lee Perez), Dashiell Rohan, Megan Simsic

Alternates: April Buschelman, Doreen Jankovich (for Lee Perez)

Guests and General Public: Stephanie Holmes (PSC)

AGENDA

Introductions

Approval of Committee C meeting minutes

- Dash Rohan moved to approve the February Committee C minutes and Jenny Jansky seconded. Minutes were approved by the committee.

English Language arts revision

- The committee discussed the English Language Arts (ELA) Endorsement Revision. Donna explained the four actions the committee can act upon.
- There was a further explanation of what the revisions entailed; helping teachers with their struggling readers. There was a suggestion about the use of the education forum to assist EPPs to help with reading instruction; for example, the Science of Reading.
- The college representative felt there were ways to incorporate additional reading instruction into existing classes.
- Brief discussion of adding hours/classes to existing programs.
- Conversation about the barrier of adding another class/hours and the teacher shortage and the implications of adding a course to programs.
- Discussion of what the revision should entail for districts and ESUs

- Coaching and staff development
 - Teacher education forum
 - ESUs and districts should provide support to teachers and the NDE recommendations
 - Marissa and Abby assisting districts and educators
 - ELA program hours and adding class
- The committee discussed the timing and intent of the rule change. The college representative felt there needed more time to prepare the faculty.
 - Other factors include: the people teaching are not education majors.
 - Added discussion of the educator shortage in higher education. And this is the time to find resources and present resources for all educators.
 - The committee also addressed the ELA standards. It is driving the guidelines are the standard.
 - Mention of the Educator effectiveness summit next week, getting faculty at the summit, timing being the biggest issue of implementation, and having sufficient time for adjustment.
 - Discussion of the methods classes, reading in content areas, and doing a really good job teaching the foundational skills.
 - College representatives explained there are places in methodology that are already meeting the revisions, thinking about differentiation across all content areas, the guidelines, and the idea of a course being added and/or being taken away.
 - Higher education question: What changes will higher education and what is the plan? What will be different? Discussion of this not being entirely a new addition in programs, reading in the content area is a class, and learning reading strategies.
 - Explanation of guidelines including: modification and adaptations, foundations of reading and providing knowledge of the foundations of reading.
 - Other higher education concerns:
 - Faculty/professor outside the education profession teaching the courses, content experts and the challenges the new guidelines may entail.
 - Number of hours of bachelor degrees
 - Upping education hours will not recruit teachers
 - Expenses to the educator majors and teachers.

Reflection from Donna: Continue the discussion and points of clarification, logistically how to do it well at the EPP level and the district level, and discussion of the new revised ELA standards.

Our concerns: Timeline to assist EPPs, districts and ESUs to address the new ELA standards. And the question of if the ELA standards have been provided to the English staff/faculty.

Working lunch until 1:15

Task: Continuation of the ELA discussion, final recommendation for the vote, and finish discussion on the endorsement revisions.

- There were a few challenges discussed from higher education:
 - Higher ed. and academic freedom
 - Interpretation and how to build fidelity and consistency with what we are suggesting.
 - EPP level trust as professionals and not interfere with academic judgment.
 - Interpretation and how things are implemented.
 - The experiences candidates are receiving during clinical, practical and student teaching.
- Issues discussed in reference to reading:
 - Students reading below grade level
 - The knowledge of reading, comprehension and content
 - Further explanation of guidelines not being expecting faculty expert reading specialists, but to help pre-service teachers identify supports for students and Tier 1/Tier 2 interventions.
 - Suggestion of reaching out to special education teachers
 - Pandemic and social issues
- Clarification of these revisions not being a new concept and that it has already been out there for 7 years.
- Discussion of the ELA standards and adjustments and the opportunities to do it well. There was also a suggestion of staggered implementation.
- More challenges to higher education:
 - Academic freedom and conversation.
 - Being coherent across EPPs.
 - Building understanding across all EPPS.
- Discussion of secondary education, awareness of reading levels, phonics and Science of reading, and clear expectations.

- More clarification:
 - The intent is not how to address reading difficulties in readers or to prepare pre-service teachers to teach all situations.
 - Want teachers to know how to identify the right supports.
 - Give teachers foundational knowledge.
 - How to support a reading coach/interventionist.
- What's different? (in the ELA revisions)
 - New ELA standards.
 - Building awareness and foundational knowledge.
 - Grade level change, now 6-12
- Discussion of the Road show and better communication with districts and EEPs
- Other suggestions:
 - EPPs need to see the data at all levels.
 - Trainings and support.
 - Looking at data, numbers, and state scores.
- Discussion of the approved ELA standards being broader and allowing more flexibility.
- Donna provided guidance on the two choices of the committee:
 1. Accept and move to second reading
 2. Recommend to hold the final vote until the next full council meeting in October.
- Point of clarification: Voting 'no' reopens the ad hoc committee.
- Committee members agreed EPPs need communication from ESUs.

Motion

- Kelly Heinkeke moved to approve the current 6.23 ELA endorsement with the grade level change and field endorsement from the field 6.5.1 in subject areas. Doreen Jankovich (for Lee Perez) seconded.
- 10 votes for and 3 votes against. The motion was approved.

Break

- Discussion points include:
 - Teacher shortage
 - Officers election
 - State board
- Officers election- Elect individuals for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

- Chair of Committee C: nominee Jenny Jansky
 - Darci Karr moved to nominate Jenny Jansky as Chair for Committee C. and Kelly Heinkeke seconded.
 - Jenny Jansky accepted the nomination.
 - Jansky was voted in by acclamation.
- Vice Chair of Committee C: Darci Karr and Tanishia Jacobs
- Darci Karr withdrew her nomination.
 - Tanishia Jacobs was nominated as vice chair for committee C.
 - Jacobs was voted in by acclamation.
- Dawn has been reaffirmed to be secretary of Committee C.
- New terms begin Aug 1, 2022 once approved by the August board meeting.
- Point of clarification: it is common practice for the committee chair to attend Executive committee meetings.
- Suggestion: a non-voting member to be the secretary of Committee C.
 - There will need to be a change to the organizational policies. Kelly Heinkeke will add the question/comment to the executive team agenda.

Key points from the Committee C discussion:

3+ ways to celebrate how the shortage is being addressed

- Reciprocity
- Removing barriers
- Alternative pathways
- Being seen by other states

3+ challenges that continue to exist

- Statistics of how many teachers are coming from this process
- Understanding the timelines and process and the impact for teachers, students, schools
- Public perception of profession and teacher shortage not just K-12 teachers, the education system (P-20)
- How to attract people to the field of education when education isn't seen as positive
- Governor appointing the state board
- Education staffing shortage
- ESSER funds ending
- EPP preparation for enrollment cliff for 2025
 - John Hopkins reported

- By 11% due to birth rate
- Fewer kids graduating from high school
- Fewer kids entering college
- Loan forgiveness (LB 1218)
- Rule 21

3+ items to address to the State Board

- Once it's approved the impact of Rule 24
- Power, influence and impact on the public
- Things we can do without the governor
- Unified effort and ongoing communication
- Impact to the students/kids

***Rule 21 workgroup, support from board to keep work going**

Teacher shortage wrap up

- Parallels between Summit Task Forces' work and the current state of the shortage (what is happening across the state in regard to the Summit Task Forces' work?)
 - Action plans? Who is moving these plans forward?
 - Certification and regulatory changes (praxis, basic skills)
 - How do we keep the momentum going?
 - All parties at the table talking, not in silos
 - Recruit and retention
 - Elevating the profession

Other ideas

- Posters advertising for teaching going into education
- Nebraska broadcasters association
- Draw to the profession
- Marketing elevating the position
- Students seeing themselves in the profession
- Educators Rising
- If a student goes on a career website, 4-yr degree salary and look at other careers making double.
- Salary increase, but it is not about the money

- National issue with the education profession (school shootings, what we have in place, books, parents)
- Recognition and relationships
- Talk about our successes
- Marketing and recruiting
- Sponsors for teacher shortage, beyond the education sector, positive images of education
- Include community beyond education community