

Colorado Literacy Council

January 7, 2009

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

1575 Sherman Street

6th Floor Conference Room

Denver, CO 80203

AGENDA

Attendees: Jeanette Cornier, Nina Lopez, Nella B. Anderson, Jill Ritter, Timothy Shanahan, Barbara Medina, Cindy Gutierrez, Kathleen DeVries, Gena Feury, Ericka Carrillo, Beth Pfalmer, and Pam Hitt

I. Welcome and Introductions

MINUTES:

- a. Each attendee gave their name and the location of their work.
- b. It was noted that Ken Turner has retired and is working internationally.

II. Review the Charge and Goals of the Colorado Literacy Council (CLC)

A. The charge of the Colorado Literacy Council is to advise the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) on literacy initiatives including:

1. Systems for the review of literacy content in educator preparation programs;
2. Revision of the Program for Licensing Assessment for Colorado Educators (PLACE test);
3. Topics for research forums and professional development with higher education;
4. Innovative literacy preparation programs (both pre-service and in-service)

III. Review Operating Agreements for Colorado Literacy Council Meetings

A. The Norms for Interaction are:

1. The Colorado Literacy Council (CLC) meeting minutes will reflect summary statements of what is discussed, both agreed and not agreed upon by the group, including individual opinions.
2. The CLC members will utilize a consensus process versus a voting process when making decisions. Consensus is defined as the “will of the group.”
3. There will be an official agenda and minutes for each CLC meeting.
4. The CLC meetings are meetings held in public but do not include public participation.

IV. New Colorado Reading, Writing and Communicating Standards

MINUTES:

- a. One of the pieces of Race to the Top is to commit to internationally benchmarked standards.
- b. Colorado does have a plan to move toward common core standards
 - ~ Colorado will adopt the common core standards if they meet with high standards and rigor.
 - ~ WestEd and CDE internal staff have been participating in the common core discussions.
- c. Colorado has been asked to review the common core standards as they are developed
 - ~ Colorado has given feedback and drafted integrated suggestions
- d. 51 states and territories are part of a consortium (Texas is not included).
- e. T. Shanahan assisted with the Colorado standards and been involved with drafting the common core standards. He feels both sets of standards have a good correlation and consistency. There may be a standard or two that may not be in the common core.
- f. T. Shanahan thought the graduate core would be adopted.
- g. Colorado’s model content standards were adopted December 10, 2009. They will impact teacher preparation programs in Colorado, but not the performance based

- standards for teachers.
- h. Discussion regarding how to support teachers to make meaning, change practices, and curriculum – partner with higher education to support teachers in training.
- i. Discussion regarding common assessments, school readiness and workforce readiness, and the assessment tool to be used.
 - ~ Discussion regarding the Colorado assessment system to focus expansion on different purposes for assessments – get away from the year end focus on CSAP
- j. Financial literacy standards were woven in to two of the standards
- k. Link to frequently asked questions about standards implementation:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/OSA/standards_implementation_FAQ_12.31.09.PDF

V. Common Core Standards in English Language Arts

MINUTES:

- a. RECOMMENDATION: Give information how the new standards are going to impact the curriculum in the liberal arts and science in higher education - at what point will the new student standards impact the content?

VI. Race to the Top Update

MINUTES:

- a. Nina Lopez discussed the handout Revised Plan Summary.
 - ~ The biggest change will be found on page 2 of the handout.
 - There is a competitive grant opportunity thro the stimulus money and significant grants to a small number of states.
 - A completed/comprehensive plan for state is woven through the document.
 - How standard will be used, how to change and measure student growth and the relationship to educators (how all the pieces fit together for students, parents and educators).
 - Colorado does not have “huge” resources, use of system supports that are already in place would be a good choices
 - ~ The application has specific criteria.
 - Seven scored criteria areas in the application.
 - ~ All state applications will be published along with viewer comments.
 - ~ Discussion regarding the Colorado Literacy Council sending a letter of support
 - ~ Build an educator effectiveness center and a turnaround center.
 - ~ If application is chosen, there was some discussion regarding defending it in March.

VII. ESEA Title I A Literacy Support

MINUTES:

- a. NCLB reauthorization has been delayed by two years.
- b. Early Reading First may “go away”
- c. No Striving Reader money
- d. \$250 million for literacy
 - ~ the amount that most will receive is approximately \$2.7 million
 - 40% to the elementary age children
 - 40% to the secondary age children
 - 20% the preschool age children
- e. Build on the Reading First model and standards

VIII. Statewide Literacy Support Plan

MINUTES:

- a. Build a statewide plan

- ~ Existing initiatives will be aligned
- b. Advisory committee focusing on the struggling learner
- c. Learn Act is lined up well for the statewide plan
- d. Debora Scheffel is looking at all CDE unit documents to look at CDE's voice regarding literacy - is it consistent?
 - ~ She has also provided matrices for other states statewide literacy plans as well as phrases.
 - ~ Please provide feedback on these two items for the next meeting (see 11 phrases handout).
 - What the plan should have in it?
 - Do the phrases need to be revised?
 - ~ How will this plan align with SB 212 committees?
 - ~ The plan will be built with an advisory committee
 - The plan will also include the need for a broader perspective and an action plan
 - A communication plan will be created to get this information out
 - Texas and Arizona's roadmaps have great examples as well as benchmarks (P-20)

IX. Higher Education Collaborative Update

MINUTES:

- a. Nella B. Anderson provided a document regarding suggestions for the Higher Education Collaborative.
 - ~ the document requested the Higher Education Collaborative be renamed the Colorado Higher Education Literacy Instruction Collaborative.
 - ~ all groups were represented at the HEI Meeting
 - ~ advisory committee as well as deans approved of the document
 - ~ the collaborative would be a voluntary group
 - ~ share resources
 - ~ combination of face to face and online resources
 - ~ would a literacy coordinator position be created (half of the salary to be paid by CDE)?
 - Would the deans assist in nominating for this position?
 - Would the coordinator position assist with reauthorization (technical assistance)?
 - ~ discussion to include ELA
 - ~ discussion to create a memorandum of agreement for each partner of the collaborative
- b. CLC agreed that this project should move forward

X. Higher Education Research Forum Planning

MINUTES:

- a. Discussion to schedule a forum
 - ~ discussion to use a webinar format

XI. Future CLC Meeting Dates

MINUTES:

- a. Future CLC meeting dates need to be scheduled

XII. Other

MINUTES:

- a. Dr. B. Medina will be inviting CLC Board Members to an ELL event