



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

201 East Colfax Avenue • Denver, Colorado 80203-1799
303.866.6600 • www.cde.state.co.us

Dwight D. Jones
Commissioner of Education

Robert K. Hammond
Deputy Commissioner

Kenneth R. Turner
Deputy Commissioner

Colorado Literacy Council

Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2008

Members of the Colorado Literacy Council (CLC):

Co-Chairs – Colorado Department of Education:

- 1) **Kenneth R. Turner, Ed.D.**, Deputy Commissioner, Learning and Results
- 2) **Jeanette P. Cornier, Ph.D.**, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Teaching and Learning

Staff from the Colorado Department of Education:

- 3) **Debora L. Scheffel, Ph.D.**, Director, Colorado Reading First
- 4) **Barbara Medina, Ph.D.**, Assistant Commissioner, Innovation and Transformation
- 5) **Jami M. Goetz, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, Professional Services and Licensing

Membership from the field:

- 6) **Patricia J. Hagerty, Ed.D.**, Representative from the CCIRA
Immediate Past President, Colorado Council of the International Reading Association
- 7) **Eugene P. Sheehan, Ph.D.**, Chair of the Colorado Council of Deans of Education
Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, University of Northern Colorado
- 8) **Timothy Shanahan, Ph.D.**, Nationally recognized faculty member with literacy expertise
Professor, College of Education, University of Illinois at Chicago
Director, Center for Literacy, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 9) **Nella B. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Dean of a four-year western slope college of education
Director of Teacher Education, Western State College
- 10) **Jill Ritter**, Rural district literacy representative
Elementary Reading Coach, Rocky Ford School District R-2
- 11) **Kathleen DeVries, M.A.**, Community college representative
Early Childhood Education Coordinator, Red Rocks Community College

CLC Members Present:

Kenneth Turner
Jeanette Cornier
Debora Scheffel
Jami Goetz
Patricia Hagerty
Jill Ritter
Nella Bea Anderson
Eugene Sheehan
Timothy Shanahan
Kathleen DeVries

CLC Members Absent:

Barbara Medina

Other CDE Support Staff Present:

Mary Spencer
Pam Hitt

Public Attendees

Two public attendees were present.

Proceedings:

The third meeting of the Colorado Literacy Council (CLC) was held on December 18, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at The Tivoli, 900 Auraria Parkway, Denver, Colorado, 80204.

I. Welcome

CDE / CLC member welcomed everyone.

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

The charge of the Colorado Literacy Council is to advise the Colorado Department of Education 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 for higher education;
4. Innovative literacy preparation programs (both pre-service and in-service).

The Charge and goals were read aloud to the CLC members with an invitation to edit as necessary.

Group Consensus: No edits requested at this time.

III. Review Operating Agreements for Colorado Literacy Council Meetings

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.

The "Norms for Interaction" for CLC meetings were read aloud with an invitation to revise as necessary.

Group Consensus: No revisions requested at this time.

IV. Updates and News from CDE

A. P-20 Council recommendations for educator preparation programs (see handout)

1. CLC member / CCODE Chair provided a summary of the P-20 Council recommendations.
2. The P-20 Council will be discussing high quality induction programs. The Council is also recommending the development of a state-wide literacy institute to support professional development of teachers.
3. Other discussion items included: college credits for teachers and requirements for Highly Qualified teachers.

B. Discussions with CDHE regarding the streamlining of the higher education authorization process

4. In regards to streamlining the higher education authorization process, a reauthorization committee of folks from CDHE, CDE and CCODE is currently discussing the possibility with NCATE, TEAC and other accrediting bodies.

Information regarding the re-approval / re-authorization process may be found at:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/edprepprogram/downloads/TeacherPreparationProgramReapprovalProcess.pdf>

Information regarding the initial approval process for new endorsement programs may be found at:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/edprepprogram/downloads/TeacherPreparationProgramInitialApprovalProcess.pdf>

V. 2008 Revision of the Colorado Teacher Preparation Program Approval Rubric and Review Checklist for Literacy Courses (a.k.a., “Literacy Rubric and Checklist”)

A. Review schedule for the revision of the Literacy Rubric and Checklist:

- ♦ October, 2008: Dr. Shanahan completes revisions.
- ♦ November / December, 2008: further recommendations are collected from institutions of higher education, designated agencies, K-12 administrators and teachers, and the public.
- ♦ December 18, 2008: The CLC members review input and make recommendations for revisions to CDE for consideration.
- ♦ Late January / February, 2009: The CDE completes final revision and releases to the public.

B. CLC Members discuss and reach consensus on revision recommendations to be submitted to CDE.

Discussion items included:

1. CDE / CLC members reviewed historical context for the revision of the Colorado Teacher Preparation Program Approval Rubric and Review Checklist for Literacy Courses (a.k.a., Literacy Rubric and Checklist), including (1) the acquisition of Dr. Timothy Shanahan’s suggestions for revision, (2) the distribution of Dr. Shanahan’s suggestions to the public, and (3) the collection of additional revision suggestions from deans and faculty, and PK-12 educators via two focus groups, one webinar and an online forum.

Colorado Teacher Preparation Program Approval Rubric and Review Checklist for Literacy

Courses (original version): <http://www.cde.state.co.us/edprepprogram/downloads/Rubric-Checklist08.pdf>

2. CDE / CLC member reminded the CLC group that if the CDE moves forward with the revision, that CDE is proposing to provide flexibility to institutions of higher education and designated agencies in the form of an option to (1) utilize the original Literacy Rubric and Checklist (through December, 2009) or, (2) utilize the new Literacy Rubric and Checklist (beginning in January, 2009). CLC members were invited to provide suggestions / feedback on this proposal.

Group Consensus: CDE should provide this flexibility option.

3. CDE / CLC member invited the CLC group for their feedback and suggestions in regards to Dr. Shanahan's suggestions for revisions. No suggestions were provided. CDE / CLC member called for group consensus on accepting all of Dr. Shanahan's suggestions.

Group Consensus: Dr. Shanahan's suggestions were accepted as the CLC's recommended revisions.

4. Group Consensus: There will be 2 versions of the Literacy Rubric and Checklist. One checklist will be used to review the following endorsement programs:

8.01 Early Childhood Education

8.02 Elementary Education

8.22 Linguistically Diverse Education

8.23 Linguistically Diverse Education Specialist: Bilingual Education

9.02 Special Education Specialist: Visually Impaired, for Ages Birth to 21

9.03 Special Education Specialist: Deaf/Hard of Hearing

9.04 Early Childhood Special Education Specialist

9.06 Special Education Generalist

9.08 Early Childhood Special Education

11.08 School Speech/Language Pathologist, for Ages Birth-21

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/edprepprogram/downloads/LiteracyRubricChecklist1-09.pdf>

A second version of the Literacy Rubric and Checklist will be used to review:

8.09 English/Language Arts Education

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/edprepprogram/downloads/EnglishRubricChecklist1-09.pdf>

Note: All endorsement programs are reviewed to (1) ensure that the Performance Based Standards for Colorado Teachers are addressed, and (2) ensure that the content standards delineated in the Rules for the Administration of the Educator Licensing Act are addressed.

5. All public comments submitted via the two focus groups, one webinar, and the online forum were reviewed by the CLC members.

Group Consensus: The needs of English Language Learners are significant and will be acknowledged in the introduction sections of the two new Literacy Rubrics and Checklists.

Group Consensus: Modest wording changes (submitted by the public) that increase specificity of given elements in the Review Checklist for Literacy Courses, but do not detract from the main idea of these elements may be incorporated into the revisions.

6. The CLC members discussed the idea of tracking the elements (i.e., of the Review Checklist for Literacy Courses) most commonly addressed in teacher / educator preparation programs. Discussion ensued around whether teacher student identifiers could be linked with these elements.

VI. Higher Education Research Forums

On this date (1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Dr. Shanahan presented at the fourth higher education research forum on the findings of the National Literacy Panel on Language Minority Children and Youth (Developing Literacy in Second Language Learners, 2006). http://www.cal.org/projects/archive/nlpreports/Executive_Summary.pdf

Group consensus: Dr. Shanahan will present at the next research forum (April / May, 2009) on the findings of the National Early Literacy Panel (released January, 2009).
<http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/publications/pdf/NELPSummary.pdf>

VII. Program for Licensing Assessment for Colorado Educators (PLACE test)

A. Assessing Teacher Knowledge: Best Practices discussion

This discussion item was “tabled” for the next CLC meeting.

VIII. Innovative Literacy Preparation Programs

A. Discussion and generation of ideas

This discussion item was “tabled” for the next CLC meeting.

IX. Concluding Items Needing Consensus

No remaining items were in need of consensus.

X. Future CLC Meeting Dates

1. Thursday, January 22, 2009, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Cancelled)
2. Wednesday, April 22, 2009, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Rescheduled to April 30, 2009, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

XI. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.