

P-20 Council
Educator Licensure Steering Committee
June 14, 2012
Illinois Education Association
Bloomington, IL

Minutes

Co-Chairs: Erika Hunt and Audrey Soglin

Attendees: Angie Zarvelli, Brad Hutchinson, Jan Fitasimmons, Cindi Klickna, Walter Taylor, Vicki Chou, Carlene Lutz, Nancy Lathan, Gillian McNamee, Christine Robinson, Kellee Sullivan, Melissa DeBartolo, Amber Kirchhoff

9:00 a.m.– 9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions (Audrey Soglin and Erika Hunt)

Audrey and Erika provided an overview of the charge of the committee, which will look systemically at many of the initiatives which are impacting licensure. Dr. Koch, Superintendent of ISBE, requested that the P-20 Council convene this steering committee to provide input due to the P-20s work in gathering and facilitating a wide range of stakeholders. The plan is for this Steering Committee meet as a whole group about every 6 weeks and for subgroups to meet in the interim via webinars to work on specific topics. This committee is under the auspices of the Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness Committee which did similar work in the past such as advising on the teacher leadership endorsement and program dashboard. In the past they've extensively used webinars, member surveys, research and other tools to discuss and make recommendations as a group.

9:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. Overview of Current Work on Educator Licensure Restructuring
(Vicki Phillips, ISBE)

Kellee Sullivan from ISBE provided an overview of the new licensure system and work underway. Please see the PPT on the P-20 Council website. Erika reviewed the results of the Grade Span configuration meeting on June 8th and those minutes and recommendations will also be available on the website. There was quite a bit of discussion around the new licensure requirements and its impact in light of other initiatives such as evaluation. The timelines of all the initiatives would be very helpful. ISBE and P-20 is currently working on this and Melissa will check where this is at. The group expressed concern about data, how it is being collected and used, in relation to the LDS. There is a LDS Governance Group as part of the P-20 Council. There was also articularly focused programs, what that might look like and why universities might not offer them. In addition, the group discussed, as the teacher performance assessment does, starting to focus more on outcomes and defining higher-level skills. It was also discussed how to measure them with students who access multiple programs in terms of accountability.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Topic Areas and Research Questions (Erika Hunt)

She reviewed with the committee draft topic areas for discussion by the Steering Committee which the group will discuss next. These include Candidate Selection, Student Teaching and Clinical Experience, Diverse Pipeline, Program Partnerships, Assessments/Pathways and Articulation. These open for the discussion by the Committee, however we have specifically been asked by the P-20 Council to look at diverse pipeline. The plan will be for the Committee to discuss whether or not these are the right topic areas and what questions the Steering Committee should be addressing. There was significant discussion of an overall concern of the overall “value proposition” for new teachers in entering and staying in teaching in Illinois given the new standards, constraints and evaluation systems, as well as the current environment for teachers and if that will have a negative effect on our ability to identify, attract and retain high-quality teachers. There was some questions about the scope of this committee and potential redundancy/overlap between other committees and the necessity of having the right stakeholders involved in these meetings so we can maximize effectiveness. As we also develop these models, how do we collect data that will be able to evaluate these models and address outcomes. Erika encourage all to reach out to other stakeholders to ensure we have the right representation. This group will have input into the rules-making process through the working committees with a timeline up to about October

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Working Lunch

The group decided to consider each topic as a whole group. The group discussed whether or not the topic was appropriate, what questions the group should consider, the priority and what else was not on the list that should be considered. The committee started with some of the concerns addressed above, and in thinking about what teachers we want to have in Illinois, how Illinois can be a leader nationally, how we use data for continuous improvement and how we can further incentive partnerships. We should look at end goals, backwards map and scaffold so that programs can have the most effective outcomes.

The Committee considered these core areas:

- Candidate Selection
 - Group felt that recruitment was just as important a topic
 - How do we attract teachers and provide resources, financial and otherwise to build that pipeline given current restraints
- Student Teaching and Clinical Experiences
 - Length, when it occurs, what it should look like
 - How does it support outcomes
 - Consistency in experiences
- Diverse Pipeline
 - Recruitment and Retention Strategies
 - What obstacles are there to the pipeline
 - Need for accurate supply vs. demand data
 - Why are some programs more successful?
 - Alternative pathways to look for diverse candidates
 - Promotion in diverse communities of education as a career
- Program Partnerships

- Who should be involved? Created, supported and monitored
- Partnerships with Districts that strength teacher preparation, elevating the profession and student achievement
- Partnerships with Communities and other organizations
- Assessments/Pathways (deferred)
- Institutional and Program Articulation (deferred)(2-4 year colleges, in colleges, courses in different departments)

12:30 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Wrap Up and Next Steps Forward

Based on the discussion, and wanting to not have groups overlapping the same issues, it was decided to redefine the working groups into two comprehensive areas. These include

- *Educator Pipeline Subcommittee*: Will include recruitment, selection, and diverse pipeline
- *Partnerships Subcommittee*: Will included partnerships with districts/community organizations and clinical experiences.

We will also reach out to the members of the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Committee. We will do webinars and surveys to get perspectives. August will be the next meeting of the whole group.