

ACADEMIC STANDARDS REVIEW COMMISSION
June 15, 2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes

The Academic Standards Review Commission met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, June 15, 2015, at 1 p.m. in the State Board of Education Board Room, 301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh.

At 1 p.m., Andre Peek called the meeting to order. The following members were present:

Andre Peek, Co-Chair, Wake

Ann B. Clark, Iredell

Dr. Jeffrey Isenhour, Catawba

Dr. Laurie McCollum, Rockingham

Dr. Olivia Oxendine, Robeson

Tammy Covil, Co-Chair, New Hanover

Bill Cobey, Durham

Katie Lemons, Stokes

Jeannie Metcalf, Forsyth

Dr. John T. Scheik, Wake

Absent: Denise Watts, Mecklenburg

Jo Herrera, Commission staff

Lisa Mumma, Commission staff

Under Approval of Minutes, Ann B. Clark made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2015. Olivia Oxendine seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Under Information, Tammy Covil noted that various stakeholder groups asked to participate in the Parent Forum today. While the Commission welcomes and encourages all input, today's forum was intended for the parents. Also, these additional requests were vague but seemed to be covering established positions. Covil added, and Andre Peek confirmed, that the commission's would prefer to hear more directed feedback that can be acted upon to assist the commission's effort to identify and make recommendations for specific improvements to the standards

Under Committee Reports, Laurie McCollum of the ELA group noted the continued work of comparing NC ELA standards to those from MA and CA, with recent focused study on TX standards. Focused study on VA standards are in progress. She also noted the 990 respondents to the ELA online survey distributed through superintendents across the state. A discussion was held. She said while some districts have been unable to receive the survey links (spam folders, technical difficulties, etc.), the feedback has shown notable trends for the ELA group members to consider as they gather data to make informed recommendations.

Ted Scheik of the Math group reported that his team is also comparing NC math standards to those from MN, VA and MA (2008). A discussion was held. He noted his work group has developed a reference model for its comparisons and that members are identifying standards that seem problematic and noting the related difficulties. He said the Math group is nearly ready to draft a preliminary report.

Under Old Business, Item A, McCollum and Scheik noted that their groups will seek assistance to increase the reach of their online surveys. Each will investigate potential causes and solutions to their distribution problems to allow for greater school personnel feedback about their experience using current NC standards. A motion was made to approve with revisions. The motion was seconded.

Under Old Business, Item B, Covil noted that the timeline for Commission activities and deliverables are on track. A motion was made to approve with revisions. The motion was seconded.

Under New Business, The commissioners agreed to the need to convene regional feedback sessions. Jo Herrera will take the lead to plan and schedule these sessions with assistance from Dr. Clark and Dr. Isenhour.

Under Presentation, Peek introduced Jerry Egolf of the NC Education Coalition on ELA and Math Common Core who presented "Excellence in Academics: North Carolina Plan." He stated it's a five-year plan with a goal to replace Common Core with a set of standards that emphasizes critical thinking.

Under Parent Forum, the Co-Chairs opened the floor for public input. Of those in the gallery, 17 parents and one non-parent community representative addressed the board for three minutes each. A discussion was held. The Co-Chairs thanked the speakers for their time and input into the process.

Under Announcements, Co-Chairs publicized the following meeting:

- The next Academic Standards Review Commission board will meet Friday, July 20, 2015, 1-5 p.m. in State Board of Education Board Room, 301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh.

At 4:35 p.m., Jeannie Metcalf made a motion to adjourn. Katie Lemons seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.