

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY  
TO THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
James Monroe Building  
Richmond, VA 23218-2120  
Jefferson Conference Rooms B & C

**MINUTES**

March 12, 2015

**Committee Members**

Mr. Rodney D. Caulkins  
Dr. Marcia Gail Derrick - Vice-Chair  
The Honorable Mark L. Keam (Absent)  
The Honorable Kaye Kory (Absent)  
Ms. Annette Loschert  
Ms. Betsy Mathias  
Mr. Maurice G. Oliver  
Ms. Katharine Parrish  
Dr. Troilen Seward  
Ms. Linda K. Seyer  
Mr. E. Denton Sisk - Chair  
Ms. Mary Elizabeth White (Absent)  
Dr. Susan M. Clair (Ex-Officio)

**DOE/OAEL Staff**

Mr. George P. Bailey  
Ms. Melissa L. Dixon  
Ms. Rachel Morrissey  
Dr. C. Michael Nusbaum  
Mr. Thomas T. Suh  
Ms. Denise A. Throckmorton (Recording)  
Mr. Jurriaan K. van den Hurk

**Other Participants**

Ms. Kate Daly-Rolander

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Chairman E. Denton Sisk called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Opening Remarks and Introductions

- Chairman Sisk welcomed all present and lead introductions of the committee members.
- Dr. Clair identified members who will be completing their second and last term on the Advisory Committee. Ms. Loschert, Ms. Mathias, and Dr. Seward were thanked for their service on the committee. Chairman Sisk thanked those committee members for completing their two terms.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the October 16, 2014 Advisory Committee were approved.

## Public Comment

- No public comments were received.

## Legislative Updates - Dr. Susan M. Clair and Dr. Troilen Seward

- Dr. Seward provided updates on various proposed workforce legislation including:
  - A bill requiring quarterly meetings of the Virginia Board of Workforce Development and the creation of a leader position for this Board.
  - A bill to increase the Virginia Board of Workforce Development to 29 members passed.
  - House Bill 1320 passed – relating to teacher licensure renewal and college credit.

## PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

### Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

- Dr. Clair engaged in a conversation with the Advisory Committee members regarding WIOA. She asked that the committee members note their ideas and concerns during the conversation and stated that the members will form groups in the afternoon to further discuss their ideas for WIOA implementation.
- In a talk to the committee, Dr. Clair provided answers to three questions that help focus adult education's approach to understanding the new regulations. Those questions were:
  - Why was the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) reauthorized to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)?
  - What are the major changes to the law?
  - What is happening at the state level to drive workforce development change?

### WIOA and Career Pathways

- Ms. Kate Daly-Rolander delivered a presentation called “PluggedInVA: Expansion down the Skills Pipeline” describing the PluggedInVA model and its expansion to serve students at lower skill levels. Key points were:
  - Common elements for all levels,
  - Importance of partnerships for success, and
  - College and career readiness outcomes.

### WIOA – Progress Update on College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education (CCRS)

- Dr. Clair shared the prior adoption and discussion of standards based instruction for adults. She stated that Mr. Bailey gave a detailed discussion of CCRS at the last advisory committee meeting. Dr. Clair asked the group to note issues and advise us accordingly.

- Mr. George Bailey delivered a presentation called “College and Career Readiness Standards-in-Action.” Key points highlighted were:
  - Virginia is one of twelve states that have been accepted into this program.
  - The first national workshop for CCR implementation will be held on March 16-18, in Alexandria, Virginia.
  - As a participating state, Virginia will have access to coaches and ready-to-use training materials.
  - As a participating state, Virginia will be required to consider potential program reforms, such as managed enrollment, instructor qualifications, and program quality measures to support CCR implementation processes.
  - The second national workshop for state implementation teams will be on September 16-18, 2015, in Washington, DC.

## COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- The advisory committee broke into three groups to discuss issues focused on the following concerns.
  - The implementation of standards-based instruction.
  - Lower than expected numbers of GED® testers.
  - Limited funding for marketing and outreach.
  - No additional funding for PluggedInVA.

The groups reconvened and reported the highlights of their discussions.

### High School Equivalency (HSE) Project Update

- Dr. Nusbaum shared the history of the process that chose James Madison University (JMU) to develop a Request for Information (RFI) about high school equivalency (HSE) examinations. Dr. Diane Foucar-Szocki, Professor, Learning, Technology & Leadership Education, and Dr. Amy Dimarco-Thelk, Director of Assessment and Evaluation, JMU, are coordinating this RFI process.
- Currently there are 15 members of the HSE review committee members with representatives from the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC), the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), and members from various literacy organizations and school systems.
- Three vendors will present their tests to the HSE Review Committee and discuss their examinations and testing products. The review committee will discuss the vendor presentations and information and provide its input to JMU.
- JMU will compile the information and present it to the Advisory Committee at a meeting in June.

Chairman Sisk called for suggested dates for a special meeting to discuss HSE options, and it was decided by the group to meet on Friday, June 12, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Virginia Department of Education.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCUSSION**

- The next regular meeting of the Advisory Committee on Adult Education and Literacy to the Virginia Board of Education will be Thursday, October 8, 2015.
- Dr. Seward led the discussion concerning a motion to have more discussion about OAEL representation on the Virginia Board of Workforce Development. A motion was made and approved to have further discussion on this topic at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- Chairman Sisk called for a motion for adjournment. Ms. Parrish moved to adjourn, and Mr. Caulkins seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- The Advisory Committee on Adult Education and Literacy meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.