

Family Engagement Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes: January 29th 2013

Present: Robin Adams, Maria Cristina Betancur, Annette Bourne, Susan Donovan, Kathy Fielder, Maureen Greaves, Virginia Harnois, Roy Seitsinger, J. David Sienko, Diane Tourangeau, Blythe Berger and Deb Meiklejohn

Welcome

Deb Meiklejohn welcomed the members of the committee and reviewed the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes from the December 5th 2012 meeting. Roy Seitsinger made a motion to approve the minutes Robin Adams 2nd the motion. The members voted to approve the September 19, 2012 minutes.

Announcements

- Abby Swinton, Deputy Director of Policy, from the Governor's office will be FEAC's new contact
- Staggered terms for members would require a change in legislation
- Governor's office recommends keeping FEAC by-laws flexible
- Potential speakers/topics for our group: RTTT (Race to the Top), ESEA waiver (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) and school transformation

By laws Discussion

The members reviewed and discussed the following:

- Treasurer was added, as a place holder, until we need the position.
- Annual Meeting and the Election of Officers: "the election of officers will occur on or about the time of the annual meeting with proper notice (30 days)."
- Question: can we include an alternate mode of voting in the event we do not have a quorum? Can Assistive technology be used for members, other than individuals with disabilities?
- "For the pursuit of purpose, the Leadership committee has certain rights to act on behalf of the committee in between full member meetings, with the exclusions of financial actions."
- It was agreed to remove the language "Board of Regents", since it no longer exists and replace it with "state education board."
- Basic Education Plan is state law-remove "by RIDE"
- Remove all members shall be staggered
- Parent term clarification: "Parent/guardian members may continue and complete their term regardless of the educational status of their child."
- Roy moved to approve the by-laws with said changes, Sue seconded the committee voted to approve

- Sue D will look up regulations on assistive technology and access for individuals with disabilities.

The by-laws workgroup volunteered to stay on as the By-laws & policy sub-committee, Roy & Deb volunteered to serve on the Nominating sub-committee. Sue D will reach out to Mary P for a third person on nominating. Deb M. will reach out to member who responded by email to help.

Election of Officers

The Nominating sub-committee intends to have a slate of officers to present at the next meeting. Anyone interested in serving as an officer should email Deb Meiklejohn at Meiklejohn@ripin.org

Other

Members were asked again to send short Bios to Mary Pendergast (mpendergast@rideaf.net). Mary will compile a list for distribution to the membership. In the bio please include any relevant past experience, personal and professional. Also please include a list of any other committees, advisories, or professional organizations you belong to or whose meetings you attend regularly that might have relevance to the work of the FEAC. To date Mary has received bios from Deb M., Maria Cristina B, Leanne T., and Jason M.

Next Meeting Date and Time - TBD Deb will send out a meeting wizard request.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Donovan