

MINUTES
2017-18 College and Career Readiness Commission
Claiborne Conference Center
1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Thomas Jefferson Room – 136A-B
March 15, 2018

The College and Career Readiness Commission met on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 9:15 a.m. in the Thomas Jefferson Room of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The roll was called.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert “Paul” Baker
Ms. Emily Broussard
Dr. Keith Courville
Mr. Michael Faulk
Mr. James Garvey, Jr.
Dr. James Henderson, Chair
Ms. Cheramie B. Kerth
Ms. Melinda Mangham
Ms. Kim Mims
Ms. Elizabeth “Beth” O’Quinn
Ms. Bambi Polotzola
Dr. Janet Pope
Dr. Karen Denby (proxy for Dr. Joseph Rallo)
Dr. Nathan Roberts
Dr. Monty Sullivan
Ms. Christal Sylvain
Ms. Jamie Tindle
Dr. Lisa Smith Vosper
Mr. Ken Bradford (proxy for Mr. John White)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Angelina Drago
Dr. Gary Jones
Ms. Nicole Learson
Mr. Todd McDonald
Senator Dan “Blade” W. Morrish
Mr. Jim Randels
Mr. Thomas Roque
Mr. Jason St. Pierre
Ms. Kellie Taylor-White
Ms. Doris Voitier

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

BESE Member

Ms. Holly Boffy

Department of Education

Jill Cowart

University of Louisiana System Staff

Dr. Jeannine Kahn

Mrs. Carol Slaght

Welcome, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

Chair Jim Henderson welcomed the members and other attendees to the meeting. Included in the folders for review were copies of the following:

- Draft minutes from the November 27 meeting of the Commission;
- Board of Regents Minimum Admission Standards for First-Time Freshmen;
- Board of Regents Academic Policy 2.18, Minimum Placement Requirements for Entry-Level, College-Level Mathematics and English;
- Board of Regents 2018-19 Minimum Admission/Placement Score Guides (supplement to Academic Policy 2.18); and
- Board of Regents Academic Affairs Policy 2.22, 2018-19 Minimum Dual Enrollment/Placement Scores.

Upon motion of Dr. Lisa Smith-Vosper, and seconded by Ms. Melinda Mangham, the Commission voted to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2017 meeting.

Overview and Discussion on Changes to Louisiana Higher Education Policy/Admissions Policy

Dr. Karen Denby, Board of Regents Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, explained the recent changes to the Minimum Admission Standards. Revisions to Policies 2.18 and 2.22 were approved by the Board of Regents at its December 2017 meeting.

Creating an Integrated Cyber STEM Learning System for Louisiana's Elementary/Secondary Schools, Community Colleges, and Colleges/Universities

Mr. Carrick Inabnett, Vice President for Economic Development-CenturyLink, presented a powerpoint *Education/Workforce Development Plan for Headquarters Area*. The presentation highlighted public/private partnerships that are being created between local government, business, public safety, education, and CenturyLink. He stated that part of the mission of the plan is "...to recruit and retain top employee talent and draw vendors to the area" and the vision is that "other companies make the decision to locate in Northeast Louisiana."

Emerging Thoughts on Developmental Education and College Readiness

Dr. Monty Sullivan, President of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, compared 2005 data on educational attainment of Louisiana's workforce with the 2016 data. He also presented the 2016 skills gap comparison among Louisiana, the Southern Region, and the nation. Dr. Sullivan said that the focus must be placed on adults in the state who have not yet completed a degree.

Ms. Holly Boffy, member of Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, gave a public comment. She thanked Dr. Sullivan for eliminating the requirement of a high school diploma for admission to a community college, thereby providing important access to many students.

Discussion on Points of Emphasis for CCRC Work

Dr. Henderson summarized that Louisiana has made some progress in the last decade, but the state continues to lag behind the Southern or National averages.

Some continuing challenges that were voiced by members include:

- Need for forward-thinking degrees preparing for future technological changes in the workplace
- Difficulty to complete education because of affordability issues and desire not to incur student debt
- Difficulty in persuading adults to further and complete their education
- Barriers to those with physical disabilities
- Barriers for those who encounter language barriers
- Lack of a clearly defined state attainment goal

It was unanimously recommended by the Commission that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and Board of Regents together develop a comprehensive state education attainment goal.

Dr. Henderson also encouraged Commission members to inform and encourage their legislators to make the investment in people – by investing in education and higher education in Louisiana.

At 11:24 a.m., upon motion of Ms. Mangham, and seconded by Ms. Emily Broussard, the Commission voted to adjourn.