

Governor's Teacher Advisory Committee
Quarterly Meeting
January 29, 2018
BB&T Headquarters-Greensboro, NC

Attendees:

LaTanya Pattillo, Teacher Advisor and Chair

Tomika Altman-Lewis
Michael Bonner
Lara Brickhouse
Deborah Brown
Bobbie Cavnar
Christine Conley
NaShonda Cooke
LeAnna Delph
David Diamont
Lisa Godwin
Demetria Grissett

Mark Jewell
Denise McCoy
Julio Morales
Elyse Cannon McRae
Kimberly Perry-Sanderlin
Juandalynn Ray
Bradley Rhew
Mireya Ruiz
Nicole Sikes
Kimberley Strickland
Mark Townley

Absent: Keana Triplett, Tasha Martinez, Betty Brown

Welcome & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Ms. Pattillo called the meeting to order at 9:10 and read the Conflict of Interest statement.

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Ms. Pattillo asked for a motion to approve both the minutes from the October 6, 2017 meeting and the agenda for the day. Mark Jewell made the motion and Denise McKoy provided the second. The minutes and agenda were approved.

Review of the Governor's Priorities & Initiatives

Ms. Pattillo read a statement from Governor Cooper thanking the committee for their work. She shared Governor Cooper's priority of making North Carolina a Top 10 Most Educated state to include recruiting and retaining teachers, improving the graduation rate, and increasing investments in early education. Ms. Pattillo then reviewed the expectations of the committee and provided updates on the North Carolina Education Cabinet and Governor Cooper's Commission on Access to a Sound Basic Education.

Ms. Pattillo then shared information about the Girls Go CyberStart cybersecurity challenge, a high school contest introducing girls to the field of cybersecurity.

Each committee member then gave a brief introduction of themselves.

NC Business Committee for Education

Ms. Pattillo introduced Ms. Ashlie Bucy of the North Carolina Business Committee for Education (NCBCE) who gave an overview of the organization. She indicated the purpose of the organization is to connect industry to classrooms incorporating relevance and rigor. Ms. Bucy discussed the NGA Work-Based Learning Policy Academy. She explained that the "Core Team" leading the work of the Policy Academy includes representatives from NCBCE, the Department of Public Instruction, the Community

College System and representatives from the Department of Commerce. She indicated that benefits that will arise from the work of the academy include career awareness, career exploration, career experiences for students and opportunities to work with students on the Autism spectrum. The work will also result in the development of a work-based learning tool-kit for schools and businesses. Ms. Bucy then asked for the committee's help. Members were asked to be part of the review team for the policies developed by the academy, and to connect with colleagues who could expose students who would benefit from participating in work-based learning initiatives.

Ms. Bucy also spoke about the Navigator, an online resource where educators can "shop" for resources to engage businesses in their work to enhance students' learning experiences. She suggested that the committee could test for the functionality of the platform.

Finally, she shared information about the "emPowering STEM" conference on March 8. The conference is co-sponsored by GSK and the Kenan Fellows.

Review and Discussion of Areas of Focus

Ms. Pattillo began the discussion on teacher recruitment and retention, the area of focus for the meeting. She informed the Committee that Governor Cooper met with ten large district superintendents to hear their concerns and thoughts around issues facing their districts. Flexibility of and increased funding to hire the teachers that they need, reciprocity, and retirees returning to the classroom were some issues of particular interest to the superintendents. Ms. Pattillo then asked the committee to begin to think about this area for their work sessions.

Professional Education Preparation Standards Committee (PEPSC)

Ms. Pattillo introduced Andrew Sioberg, Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and staff member to the Professional Educator Preparation and Standards Commission (PEPSC). He gave the committee members an overview of the commission work, explained the legislation that drives the work of the commission, and reviewed some of the policy updates and changes made by the PEPSC. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Sioberg answered questions from the group.

Advanced Roles

Ms. Pattillo then gave the floor to Mr. Tom Tomberlin, Director of District Human Resources, also from DPI. Mr. Tomberlin gave an overview of his role and provided information about the advanced roles pilot program across the state. The committee engaged in discussion about the purpose of the pilot as a solution to retain, recruit, and reward leaders in the classroom. Committee member Elyse McRae mentioned that her school is part of the pilot program in Pitt County Schools. Committee member Juandalyann Rae mentioned the Future Teachers of NC program. Mr. Tomberlin concluded his presentation by answering questions from committee members.

Working Lunch/ Breakout Session Share-out

During lunch, the committee divided into three groups tasked with brainstorming possible strategies around the focus area of teacher recruitment and retention. After bringing them to the larger group, they determined a set of priority areas to develop as formal recommendations to the Governor.

The priority areas are:

- ❖ **Increase communications to teachers about issues that impact the profession.** Develop a social media/communications and advocacy campaign to inform other teachers. Create a beginning of the year PSA that would act as a vehicle to advocate for educational needs.
- ❖ **Restore teacher support programs and initiatives.** Expand the teaching fellows program. Develop programs that target future educators from rural areas and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- ❖ **Reinstate Master's Pay, due process rights, and Career Status.**
- ❖ **Create a culture of community and inclusion for teachers.** Seek, promote or create opportunities for new teachers to integrate into the communities in which they live. Ex. Work with partners to provide housing to new teachers, provide teachers with benefits, and communicate what is available in districts (e.g. teacher passports, local benefits, etc.)

Committee Action Items and Next Steps

The Committee discussed the process to develop formal recommendations and scheduled the next meeting for April 16, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

