

LEARNING COMMUNITY OF DOUGLAS AND SARPY COUNTIES

LEARNING COMMUNITY COORDINATING COUNCIL

March 18, 2010

A meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties was held on March 18, 2010, at the Thompson Center at UNO, 6705 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68182. Notice of the meeting, containing the date, time, place and agenda, was given in advance thereof by publication in the Daily Record on March 11, 2010, in the Bellevue Leader, Douglas County Post-Gazette, Gretna Guide, Omaha Star, Papillion Times, Ralston Recorder and El Perico between March 10, 2010 and March 17, 2010. The proofs of publication have been received and will be made a permanent part of the record of the meeting. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the Council by U.S. mail or email on March 16, 2010.

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was convened and called to order by Chair Kolowski at 6:09 p.m.

2. **Public Notice & Compliance with Open Meetings Act.** Chair Kolowski announced that the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted at the entrance to the room and that copies of materials being reviewed by the Council were available to the public.

3. **Roll Call.**

Voting Members Present: Avery, Long, Thompson, Bradley, Chang, Takechi, Jacobson, Sophir, Werkheiser, Chambers, Gray, Hansen, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Kolowski

Voting Members Excused: Burwell

Voting Members Absent: Pedersen, Wayne

Nonvoting Members Present: Krzycki

Nonvoting Members Excused: Grimm

Nonvoting Members Absent: Meradith

Staff Present: Brewer, Benzel

Also present were: JerLene Mosley, Senior Consultant, Gallup Education Practice; Valerie J. Calderon, Ph.D., Managing Consultant, Gallup Student Poll; Dr. Jon Lopez, Executive Director of Planning and Evaluation, Millard Public Schools, and Carla J. Noerrlinger, Director of Research Division, Omaha Public Schools.

4. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair Kolowski presented the minutes for the March 4, 2010 meeting of the Council. Motion made by Ms. Gray, seconded by Ms. Sophir, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on March 4, 2010 as presented. Yeas: Avery, Long, Thompson, Chang, Takechi, Jacobson, Sophir, Werkheiser, Chambers, Gray, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Kolowski. Abstain: Bradley, Hansen. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

It is noted for the record that Mr. Pedersen arrived at 6:12 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Wayne arrived at 6:18 p.m.

5. **Presentation – Gallup Engagement Surveys.** JerLene Mosley, Senior Consultant, Gallup Education Practice and Valerie J. Calderon, Ph.D., Managing Consultant, Gallup Student Poll provided a presentation on

the results of a Hope, Engagement and Well-being Gallup Student Poll. Carla J. Noerrlinger, Director of Research Division, Omaha Public Schools provided Omaha Public School results of the Hope, Engagement and Well-being Gallup Student Poll. Dr. Jon Lopez, Executive Director of Planning and Evaluation, Millard Public Schools, provided Millard Public Schools results of a Hope, Engagement, and Well-being Gallup Poll for Millard staff, Millard parents and Millard students. Two handouts were provided.

It is noted for the record that Ms. Bradley left the meeting at 7:04 p.m. and returned at 7:10 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Ms. Gray left the meeting at 7:05 p.m. and returned at 7:10 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Synowiecki left the meeting at 7:08 p.m. and returned at 7:10 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Hansen left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. and returned at 7:22 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Thompson left the meeting at 7:22 p.m. and returned at 7:29 p.m.

6. **Reports.** Chair Kolowski reported on his activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Chair Kolowski attended National Association of Secondary School Principals Association in Phoenix, Arizona. Chair Kolowski judged the Omaha World-Herald All-State Academic Team. Ms. Bradley of the Budget, Audit and Finance Subcommittee presented the Treasurer's report. Motion made by Mr. Hartnett, seconded by Mr. Wayne, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Yeas: Werkheiser, Sophir, Jacobson, Pedersen, Takechi, Thompson, Long, Avery, Chang, Bradley, Synowiecki, Hartnett, Hansen, Wayne, Gray, Chambers, Kolowski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.** Ms. Bradley presented the 2009-2010 Budget versus Actual Report for the six months ending February 28, 2010. Motion made by Mr. Wayne, seconded by Mr. Avery, to accept the six-month Budget to Actual Report as presented. Yeas: Jacobson, Sophir, Werkheiser, Avery, Long, Thompson, Chambers, Gray, Wayne, Hansen, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Bradley, Chang, Takechi, Pedersen, Kolowski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.** Ms. Brewer, COO, reported that the State Aid was certified to school districts on March 10, 2010. Ms. Brewer indicated that work will begin on models and property tax assumption in preparation for upcoming levy issues. Ms. Brewer continues to work with a collaborative group which includes major local universities, member school districts, NDE and ESU regarding research and evaluation needs. Ms. Brewer indicated that all of the Learning Community's 11 school districts have now appointed a representative to participate in this process. Ms. Brewer has been talking with the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and other stake holders on 'out of school time' programming and service providers. Ms. Brewer reported that we received 12 architectural RFQs by the March 15th deadline. Ms. Brewer indicated they are beginning the review of proposals process. Mr. Kurth Brashear of Brashear LLP reported a brief has been filed on behalf of the Learning Community on the motion to dismiss the Sarpy County litigation. Mr. Brashear provided a handout.

7. **Public Comment.** None.

8. **Diversity Plan Task Force Implementation Update.** Mr. Werkheiser indicated the Task Force met with Papillion, Westside and South Sarpy schools districts on March 10th to discuss developing a criteria process for focus schools. They will meet with Omaha and Millard school districts to discuss this process next week.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Chambers left the meeting at 8:01 p.m. and returned at 8:05 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Synowiecki left the meeting at 8:03 p.m. and returned at 8:05 p.m.

9. **Elementary Learning Centers Discussion.** Ms. Chang updated the Council regarding the progress of the Elementary Learning Centers Task Force. Ms. Brewer indicated the deadline for the Architectural RFQ was March 15th. Ms. Brewer explained the timeline and process to evaluate the Architectural RFQ's. Ms. Brewer indicated a memo, in-take form and invitation to attend a community information meeting is being drafted for service providers. Ms. Brewer indicated a job description has been developed for the outside

consultant and she is working with Non Profit Association of the Midlands (NAM) and Omaha Community Foundation to get out the job description to potential consultants.

Subcouncil #2 ELC Plan – Mr. Wayne indicated they have met twice to formulate a budget but are awaiting the results of pending legislation to determine their budget. Mr. Wayne reported they are drafting a Grant proposal.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Avery left the meeting at 8:08 p.m. and returned at 8:10 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Hansen left the meeting at 8:26 p.m. and returned at 8:27 p.m.

Subcouncil #5 ELC Plan – Mr. Synowiecki indicated Subcouncil #5 has not met.

10. **Subcommittee Reports.** Ms. Gray of the Administration and Personnel Subcommittee provided an administrative update on insurance, the Accountant/Analyst position, the copier lease, policies/procedures and the COO evaluation process. Ms. Bradley provided a Budget, Finance and Audit Subcommittee update. Ms. Bradley indicated that they met on March 16th approved the State Auditor’s proposal to Attestation exam for the 2009 fiscal year. Ms. Brewer will provide requested materials to the State Auditor’s office by Friday, March 19th. A follow up meeting with the State Auditor is tentatively scheduled for the week of April 12th. The Budget, Audit and Finance Subcommittee is tracking how the legislature’s action will impact the budget. Mr. Synowiecki of the Legislative and Policy Subcommittee discussed legislative bills and proposed amendments.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Hansen left the meeting at 8:47 p.m. and returned at 8:49 p.m.

11. **Achievement Subcouncil Reports.** The Subcouncils reported on their activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Achievement Subcouncil #1 provided a detailed report on their meetings held at Beveridge Magnet School and Adams Elementary School.

12. **New Business.** None.

13. **Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting.** Chair Kolowski noted that the next meeting of the Coordinating Council would be held at 6:00 p.m. on April 15, 2010 at the Thompson Center at UNO, 6705 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68128.

14. **Adjournment.** Chair Kolowski declared the meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Lorraine Chang, Secretary