

LEARNING COMMUNITY OF DOUGLAS AND SARPY COUNTIES

LEARNING COMMUNITY COORDINATING COUNCIL

April 15, 2010

– Corrected Meeting Minutes –

A meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties was held on April 15, 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 April 8, 2010, in the Bellevue Leader, Douglas County Post-Gazette, Gretna Guide, Omaha Star, Papillion Times and Ralston Recorder between April 7, 2010 and April 14, 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 April 13, 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, Sophir, Werkheiser, Burwell, Pedersen, Wayne, Hartnett, Kolowski
Voting Members Excused:	Jacobson, Hansen, Synowiecki
Voting Members Absent:	Chambers, Gray
Nonvoting Members Present:	None
Nonvoting Members Excused:	Krzycki
Nonvoting Members Absent:	Grimm, Meradith
Staff Present:	Brewer, Benzel, Weddle

Also present were Mr. Kermit Brashear and Mr. Kurth Brashear of Brashear, LPP.

4. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair Kolowski presented the minutes for the March 18, 2010 meeting of the Council. Motion made by Ms. Chang, seconded by Ms. Bradley, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on March 18, 2010 as presented. Yeas: Avery, Long, Thompson, Bradley, Chang, Takechi, Sophir, Werkheiser, Burwell, Pedersen, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Kolowski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

It is noted for the record that Mr. Chambers arrived at 6:11 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Wayne left at 6:11 p.m. and returned at 6:13 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Ms. Gray arrived at 6:12 p.m.

5. **Reports.** Chair Kolowski reported on his activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Chair Kolowski, Ms. Bradley and Mr. Burwell reported on their attendance at the National School Board Association annual meeting held in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Burwell of the Budget, Audit and Finance

Subcommittee presented the Treasurer's report dated April 15, 2010. Motion made by Mr. Burwell, seconded by Mr. Pedersen, to accept the Treasurer's report dated April 15 as presented. Yeas: Werkheiser, Sophir, Pedersen, Burwell, Takechi, Thompson, Long, Avery, Chang, Bradley, Hartnett, Wayne, Gray, Chambers, Kolowski. Nays: None. **Motion carried** Ms. Brewer, COO, reported on her activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Ms. Brewer introduced Rafael Weddle, Accountant/Analyst. The Council welcomed Rafael. Ms Brewer indicated she will meet with the State Auditor on Thursday, April 22. Ms. Brewer has talked with community groups on potential I-3 (Innovation 3) Federal Government grant opportunities. Ms. Brewer has been working with Subcouncils #2 and #5 on their ELC plans, as well as the Diversity Task Force on the implementation of the Focus language for their plan. Ms. Brewer and Mr. Kolowski met with the Education Committee to provide additional information and engage in discussions regarding the Learning Community. Ms. Brewer and Ms. Benzel attended an initial training session on the Nebraska Department of Education's DRS system. Ms. Brewer indicated that they are working on the final wording of an agreement between Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and the Learning Community regarding data issues. Ms. Brewer met with Building Bright Futures and Bright Futures Foundation and has been attending the Community Engagement Task force meetings. Ms. Brewer has been working with the Evaluation Collaborative Committee. They are developing a Memorandum of Understanding, compiling data capacity worksheet information and initial open enrollment numbers to be used to compile a document for open enrollment due on September 1, 2010. Ms. Brewer presented at the Omaha Women's Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Brewer will meet with two potential consultants for ELC implementation plans. Ms. Brewer is a member of the 21<sup>st</sup> Learning Center Committee. They will hold a conference in September through NDE, which has been expanded to include 'out-of-school time' providers located in school settings. Ms. Brewer indicated that all Council members should have received an invitation to attend the NSEA Family/School/Community Engagement Summit in May. The Executive Committee has preapproved the Coordinating Council members to attend the NSEA Summit at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in La Vista. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to our office. Mr. Brashear of Brashear LLP requested the Council go into closed session to discuss litigation involving the Learning Community at the end of the meeting.

6. **Public Comment.** None.

7. **Diversity Plan Task Force Implementation Update.** Mr. Werkheiser and Ms. Long provided a Diversity Plan Task Force implementation update. Mr. Werkheiser indicated the Task Force has been working on the criteria and procedures for new Focus Schools and Focus programs, as well as existing Focus schools and programs. Ms. Long encouraged anyone with knowledge of the Focus Schools or Focus programs to provide input to the Task Force. Discussion was held on the Diversity Plan Implementation.

8. **Elementary Learning Centers Plan Task Force.** Ms. Chang updated the Council regarding the progress of the Elementary Learning Centers Task Force. Ms. Chang provided a handout regarding the framework for future programs and services for the Elementary Learning Centers to improve student achievement. Ms. Chang indicated the Subcouncils are examining which students and/or families would benefit from the programs and services. The Subcouncils are also determining where these programs and services will be located and what staffing will be needed at the Elementary Learning Centers. Ms. Chang indicated the Architectural RFQs have been reviewed and narrowed down five final candidates. Ms. Chang reported that consultants will be brought in on a temporary basis to provide expertise from the Health and Human Services perspective as well as an Education perspective. Ms. Brewer explained the timeline and process to evaluate the Architectural RFQ's.

Subcouncil #5 ELC Plan – Mr. Hartnett indicated they are looking at a pilot program to extend the three-week summer school for an additional two weeks at Bellevue Public Schools, with the highest Free and Reduced lunch program, as well as including an extension of ELL. Ms. Brewer indicated they are looking at grants to provide programs and services.

Subcouncil #2 ELC Plan – Mr. Wayne indicated they are looking at grants to meet their summer needs to use in the areas that will make the most impact. Ms. Brewer indicated that a joint meeting with Subcouncil #2 and #5 will be held with service providers at the Durham Museum on April 16 at 3:00 p.m. to inform them of the Elementary Learning Centers plans in order that they may prepare grants to be approved by Subcouncils #2 and #5.

9. **Subcommittee Reports.** Ms. Gray of the Administration and Personnel Subcommittee provided an administrative update on the COO evaluation process. Ms. Bradley provided a Budget, Finance and Audit Subcommittee update. Ms. Bradley indicated that they met on April 13 and discussed Flex 125 and Retirement benefits, as well as the lease extension with ESU #3. Ms. Bradley provided an update on the approval process of the UNO Engagement Center. The Legislative and Policy Subcommittee deferred to Mr. Kermit Brashear to provide a report on the outcomes of the legislative session that ended on April 14. Mr. Kermit Brashear of Brashear LLC provided two handouts and explained the outcome of legislative bills.

10. **Achievement Subcouncil Reports.** The Subcouncils reported on their activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Achievement Subcouncil #1 and #4 provided detailed reports on their meetings held at Laura Dodge Elementary School and Willowdale Elementary School, respectively.

11. **New Business.** None.

12. **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 May 6, 2010 at the Thompson Center at UNO, 6705 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68128.

Motion made by Mr. Pedersen, seconded by Mr. Werkheiser, to go into closed session to discuss with legal counsel, litigation involving the Learning Community. Yeas: Sophir, Werkheiser, Avery, Long, Thompson, Chambers, Gray, Wayne, Hartnett, Bradley, Chang, Takechi, Pedersen, Kolowski. Abstain: Burwell. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Chair Kolowski restated for the record that the Council was going into closed session at 7:21 p.m. to discuss with legal counsel, litigation involving the Learning Community.

At 7:42 p.m., Chair Kolowski state for the record that the Council had gone into closed session at 7:21 p.m. to discuss with legal counsel, litigation involving the Learning Community and that no action had been taken by the Council during same.

Motion made by Mr. Harnett, seconded by Ms. Chang to return to open session at 7:42 p.m. Yeas: Thompson, Long, Avery, Werkheiser, Sophir, Hartnett, Wayne, Gray, Chambers, Pedersen, Takechi, Chang, Bradley, Kolowski. Abstain: Burwell. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

13. **Adjournment.** Chair Kolowski declared the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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Lorraine Chang, Secretary