

LEARNING COMMUNITY OF DOUGLAS AND SARPY COUNTIES

LEARNING COMMUNITY COORDINATING COUNCIL

February 18, 2010

A meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties was held on February 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 February 11, 2010, in the Bellevue Leader, Douglas County Post-Gazette, Gretna Guide, Omaha Star, Papillion Times, Ralston Recorder and El Perico between February 10, 2010 and February 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 February 16, 2010.

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was convened and called to order by Chair Kolowski at 6:04 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, Burwell, Pedersen, Wayne, Hansen, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Kolowski

Voting Members Excused:

Voting Members Absent: Chambers, Gray

Nonvoting Members Present: Krzycki, Grimm, Meradith

Nonvoting Members Excused:

Nonvoting Members Absent:

Staff Present: Brewer, Benzel

4. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair Kolowski presented the minutes for the February 4, 2010 meeting of the Council. Motion made by Ms. Chang, seconded by Mr. Takechi, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on February 4, 2010 as presented. Yeas: Avery, Long, Thompson, Bradley, Chang, Takechi, Jacobson, Sophir, Werkheiser, Burwell, Pedersen, Wayne, Hansen, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Kolowski. **Motion carried.**

It is noted for the record that Mr. Chambers arrived at 6:08 p.m.

5. **Reports.** Chair Kolowski reported on his activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Chair Kolowski met with Ms. Jacquie Estee of the Westside School District to discuss Focus schools. Chair Kolowski provided two presentations in Millard area. The Task Force work has been continuing. Chair Kolowski presented an action item for the Executive Committee replacement from Achievement Subcouncil #5. Council Member, Mr. Hartnett, to be replaced by Council Member, Mr. Synowiecki. Motion was made by Mr. Wayne, seconded by Mr. Pedersen, on Executive Committee replacement from Achievement Subcouncil #5. Council Member, Mr. Harnett, to be replaced by Council Member, Mr. Synowiecki. Yeas: Werkheiser, Sophir, Jacobson, Pedersen, Burwell, Takechi, Thompson, Long, Avery, Chang, Bradley, Synowiecki, Hartnett, Hansen, Wayne, Chambers, Kolowski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Burwell of the Budget, Audit and Finance Subcommittee, provided handouts on the 2009-2010 Service Plan and Premium Summary by Harry A. Koch Company. Mr. Burwell made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hartnett, to maintain Harry A. Koch as our insurance provider of record and renew insurance products as detailed in the handout (Property, General Liability, Automobile, Workers' Compensation, Umbrella, Crime, Executive Package) Note: Public Official Bond was renewed 12/31/09. Yeas: Jacobson, Sophir, Werkheiser, Avery, Long, Thompson, Chambers, Wayne, Hansen, Hartnett, Synowiecki, Bradley, Chang, Takechi, Burwell, Pedersen, Kolowski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Brewer, COO, reported on her activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Mr. Brewer provided an update on the Accountant/Analyst position, policies and benefits. Ms. Brewer gave an update on audit preparation with Seim Johnson. Ms. Brewer gave an update on state aid certification and the Joint School Fair recap. Ms. Brewer indicated that notification has not been received on the UNL Seed Grant, and she has been working with UNO, UNL, UNMC, Creighton, ESU, NDE and others regarding research and evaluation needs. Ms. Brewer introduced Mr. Richard Schoonover, who has been designated as our primary contact for the Nebraska Department on Education. Ms. Brewer has been working with Subcouncils 2 and 5 regarding the Elementary Learning Centers implementation phase. Ms. Brewer reported that WOWT provided a year in review story on levies and the election cycle.

Mr. Brashear of Brashear LLP had no report.

It is noted for the record that Ms. Gray arrived at 6:21 p.m.

6. **Nebraska Department of Education Commissioner, Dr. Roger Breed – Presentation.** Chair Kolowski introduced and welcomed Dr. Roger Breed, Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education. Dr. Breed presented a Race to the Top application update, as well as a Nebraska Department of Education update. Dr. Breed provided a handout to coincide with these presentations.

7. **Public Comment.** None

8. **Diversity Plan Task Force Implementation Update.** Mr. Werkheiser provided an update on the Diversity Plan Task Force implementation plan. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 24 to discuss strategies for associated with plan implementation. Ms. Long provided an update on the Joint School Fair recap. Ms. Long encouraged Council members to provide input on the Joint School Fair.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Hansen left the meeting at 6:59 p.m. and returned at 7:01 p.m.

It is noted for the record that Mr. Pedersen left the meeting at 7:01 p.m. and returned at 7:03 p.m.

9. **Elementary Learning Centers Discussion.** Ms. Chang updated the Council regarding the progress of the Elementary Learning Centers Task Force. They met on February 10 with Lisa St. Clair about education with respect to the Elementary Learning Centers. Ms. Brewer provided an update regarding out of school time programming.

Subcouncil #2 ELC Plan – Mr. Wayne indicated that Subcouncil #2 had a meeting on February 12, 2010. Mr. Wayne indicated that Subcouncil #2 will have a joint meeting with Subcouncil #5 on February 23 to discuss implementation of these plans. Another meeting is scheduled on February 26 to discuss the budget.

Subcouncil #5 ELC Plan – Mr. Synowiecki indicated the insurance providers, etc. are reviewing the lease agreement and after this process has been completed, they will be ready to meet with the City of Omaha. Mr. Harnett continues to have discussions with the Omaha Public School District and Bellevue School District regarding the physical venue and programming. An agreement is being developed as a more formalized approach as to what the schools' roles will be in terms of the development of programs and services.

10. **Subcommittee Reports.** Ms. Gray advised the Council that the Administration & Personnel Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on February 19, 2010 on the Turning Point Campus. Ms. Gray provided an update on the Accountant/Analyst position as well as an administrative update.

Ms. Bradley, chair of the Budget, Finance and Audit Subcommittee, provided an administrative office location review. Motion made by Ms. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Gray to negotiate an extension of our lease agreement with ESU#3 and continue exploring opportunities with the UNO Community Engagement Center. Yeas: Thompson, Long, Avery, Werkheiser, Sophir, Jacobson, Hartnett, Hansen, Gray, Pedersen, Burwell, Takechi, Chang, Bradley, Kolowski. Nays: Wayne. Abstain: Synowiecki, Chambers. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Synowiecki of the Legislative and Policy Subcommittee indicated the legislative bills are still in committee.

11. **Achievement Subcouncil Reports.** The Subcouncils reported on their activities since the prior meeting of the Council. Achievement Subcouncil #2 provided an update on their meeting held at Franklin Elementary with principals of Franklin and Conestoga Schools regarding their reading programs. Discussion was held on the Reading First K-3 and Read Write 3-6 reading programs. Reading First is provided by a grant program in which the funding is being discontinued at some locations.

12. **New Business.** None.

13. **Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting.** Chair Kolowski noted that the next meeting of the Council would be held at 6:00 p.m. on March 4, 2010 at the Thompson Center at UNO, 6705 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68128.

14. **Adjournment.** Chair Kolowski declared the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Lorraine Chang, Secretary