

MINUTES
Teacher Standards and Evaluation Workgroup
June 9, 2010, Pierre, S.D.

Members present:

Sandy Arsenault
Wayne Leuders
Tom Mead
Darlyne Dulitz
Duane Alm
Bev Banks
Kevin Lein
Alayna Siemonsma
Amelia Rose
Sue Podoll
Melissa Whipple-Riley
Margo Heinert
John Pederson
Jill Kruger
Anne Williams
Jill Dean
Mary Stadick Smith
Kira Christensen

DOE staff present:

Secretary Tom Oster
Deputy Secretary Melody Schopp
Deb Barnett, director, Office of Accreditation and Teacher Quality
Mary Stadick Smith, communications director

Secretary of Education Tom Oster welcomes the group.

Introductions

Dr. Melody Schopp, Department of Education, offers review of legislation (SB 24) that set the goals for this work group:

- 1) Establish minimum performance standards for certified teachers in public schools (based on this group's input)
- 2) Create a model evaluation tool for possible use by districts

The bill also includes requirements that districts must do teacher evaluations – at least one time for teachers in years 1-3; at least every other year for teachers in years 4 and beyond.

Outcomes for day:

- Understand performance standards – what they are
- Understand how standards influence evaluation
- Determine criteria for standards – should they look the same for beginning and experienced teachers?

Standards conversation:

Brainstorming on what South Dakota teachers should be able to know/do:

- Understand and relay the content of what they're teaching
- Planning
- Classroom management
- Student engagement
- Positive relations with students
- Understand different student needs and strategies to differentiate instruction
- Continue in professional development/eagerness to keep learning
- Assessments – formative and summative
- 21st century skills
- Technology integration
- Higher questioning skills
- Communication/feedback (with students, parents, etc.)
- Reflective practitioner
- Community involvement
- Belief that all students can learn
- Leadership
- Creating a positive learning environment

Group work:

Small groups reviewing other states' standards

- Reporting back to large group regarding likes and dislikes of these systems

Large group discussion regarding levels of teaching.

- Should teachers be evaluated differently based on their "location" in the profession: rookie vs. veteran?
- Should we use the standards as a basis for professional growth?

Small groups discuss potential language for inclusion in standards

- Work given to Dr. Schopp for collating

Next meeting:

July 13, beginning at 10 a.m.

Pierre (exact location to be determined)