

Central Carolina RESA Board of Directors Meeting

NCSBA Assembly Hall

December 10, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Minutes

Board of Directors in Attendance

Alisa McLean (Granville), Cathy Moore (Wake), Cindy Bennet (Vance), Pascal Mubenga (Durham), Lane Mills (Wilson), Steve Ellis (Nash), and Rhonda Schuhler (Franklin).

Virtual Attendees

Patrick Miller (Greene), Eric Cunningham (Halifax), and Keith Sutton (Warren).

Affiliate Member Representatives in Virtual Attendance

Fran Riddick (NC State) and Freda Hicks (NCCU)

Guests

Jeni Corn (NCDPI), Michael Maher (NCDPI), MariaRosa Rangel (Wake) and Monica Colin (Mexican Consulate).

Staff

Ed Croom and Dana Stutzman

Call to Order

CCRESA Executive Director, Ed Croom called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He welcomed those in attendance and those streaming in.

Loss of Instruction

NCDPI's Office of Learning Recovery & Acceleration Executive Director, Michael Maher and Jeni Corn, Director of Research & Evaluation presented on the Research and Evaluation Agenda.

Intend to visit all RESAs and speak with all Superintendents across the state. NCDPI has never had anyone think proactively on state's priorities of research and evaluation – have always been reactive. Because of relief funds, DPI can be intentional about data system and how we partner with researchers and Superintendents to make sure we are tracking things we care about.

- Priorities for measuring and studying things over the next 4 years
- SBE amended SAS EVAAS to do impact study of learning loss for K-12 students
 - Thinking about report at the other end. What information do we want from this study?

Have not done something like this since Race to the Top, and after funds ran out, DPI had to riff over 500 people. OLR is an office of 7 to prevent the major layoffs – hiring to researchers to find evidence-based solutions.

Pandemic Recovery Studies – will be huge over the next four years. OLR will be aware of and try to manage these studies and think on how we can leverage this information. Placed call for quantitative research to elevate the student, teacher, administrative, and parent voices.

Next steps for OLR are to gather input on priorities, coordinate research and evaluation statewide, support local efforts, hire analysts, fellows, and interns, and allocate proportion of ESSER III for continuous improvement.

In response to COVID 19, funds have been given to 29 vendor/groups to provide services to districts. Superintendents are concerned on how to choose these interventions. How can we get information across the state for what is working? Alexis Schauss' team put together info sheets and the CCRESA will share with Superintendents.

382 schools maintained or showed growth over the past 2 years – let's find out what they did. Intention is to let Superintendents see data before it's released. Also working on making publicly available data more accessible. If any research or research group comes in, OLR will receive that information. There is a new Joint Legislative Committee on Governmental

Operations which has replaced the Program Evaluation Unit. Their staff has been reaching out directly to school districts, often bypassing the Superintendents. CCRESA will share names of staffers reaching out and let district employees know they can refer them back to Michael Maher and Jeni Corn.

Major Research/Evaluation Questions:

1. Implementation: How were state-funded learning recovery and acceleration strategies implemented? What were the most promising local learning and recovery and acceleration practices? What are the costs associated with the strategies?
2. Impact: What were the near- and longer-term outcomes of the state local learning recovery and acceleration strategies on students, educator, and families by subgroup and contextual variables.
3. Improvement: What strategies should be considered for continuation, expansion, and targeting of the programs? What is our ROI/Cost-Benefit?

Logic models have been created for successful implementation and outcomes.

Superintendents voiced concerns over data collected and its reliability in regard to public versus charter schools. Wake County Schools can offer support on data that they have already collected while reviewing SAS/EVAAS.

Mexico's Teacher Visitor Program

Dr. MariaRosa Rangel is the Board Chair of Governor Cooper Council of Latino Affairs. While in meeting with the Mexican Consulate she learned that many other states use the Teacher Visitor Program and wanted districts in North Carolina to know that this program existed. There is a growing Hispanic/Latino population and there is a need for districts to be intentional about recruiting educators to reflect the diversity of their student population.

Monica Colin, Consul for Community Affairs at the Mexican Consulate in Raleigh, presented more details on the program. This program is to improve the quality and extend the teaching of academic programs in Spanish with multicultural understanding of families in the United States. There is an exchange program but focus today will be on the Visitor Program. Visiting

Teachers are hired for one academic year and can be renewed up to 3 years. Districts determine salaries and wages so they will be earning the same amount as other teachers in the state. Teachers will hold a bachelor's degree in education and have a minimum of three years of teaching. Once the teacher's participation in the program is concluded, 1 to 3 years, they must return to Mexico.

School Districts' responsibilities include designating representatives to evaluate the English language proficiency and the ability of the candidate to teach in the schools and facilitate the licensure process required by the state and assist the selected Mexican teachers in obtaining the DS-2019 form and the J-1 Visa.

Many districts are interested in taking part in the program and as soon as the state authorities in North Carolina and Mexico have given the green light, they would like to hire teachers.

Approval of the October 22nd Minutes

Dr. Schuhler gave Board Minutes a moment to review the Minutes from the October 22nd meeting and ask for a motion to approve. Cathy Moore motioned to approve, Pascal Mubenga seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of the Financial Report

Board Secretary/Treasurer Alisa McLean introduced the Financial Report and gave the overview of funds available in all CCRESA accounts. Motion to approve the Finance Report was brought forth, and the motion was approved unanimously.

The future of CCTI was discussed, with the possibility of a group of member districts taking over the facilitation of the program and how the transition would affect the RESA's financial responsibility to Cohort 5 and the Wake County On-Loan Employees. The Board reviewed the CCTI revised budget for FY 2021-22

Executive Director Report

CCP3 received nearly 70 applications and the Tier 1 review of candidates has taken place. Names have been sent to districts for initial approval. Interviews will be conducted over the next week and half, and we will determine the 17 teachers chosen for the Fall 2022 cohort. Superintendents will need to give formal written support of teachers in the program.

Dr. Croom encouraged members to read the report to get an overview of what has been discussed in the Council Meetings.

The CCRESA will be requesting mailing addresses for us to send a small holiday gift. Please keep an eye out for the Google Form.

District Updates/Issues

Quarantine Draft Letter – created after the last meeting to have a collective response to the date coming back regarding positive COVID tests out of quarantine. Districts would like to see loosening of the restrictions, especially if schools decide to go mask optional. Would like to see an option for testing or quarantine, tying it to the ABC Collective “Test to Stay”. The Emergency Order may be lifted in January which would place more of the policy decisions on local health departments.

Book Challenge Process – districts need to have their policies fully outlined, may choose to include student information to maintain privacy. Districts are encouraged to review how their media centers are choosing books and communicating with parents. There are higher levels of concern regarding banning books and how that can set an undesirable precedent.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Alisa McLean

CCRESA Secretary/Treasurer