

Central Carolina RESA Board of Directors Meeting

NCSBA Assembly Hall

September 24, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Minutes

Board of Directors in Attendance

Valerie Bridges (Edgecombe), Eric Bracy (Johnston), Cathy Moore (Wake), Frank Creech (Greene designee), Rhonda Schuhler (Franklin), Lane Mills (Wilson), Eric Cunningham (Halifax), Alisa McLean (Granville), and Ethan Lenker (Pitt). Joining via Zoom: Steve Ellis (Nash), Keith Sutton (Warren), and Juliana Thompson (Roanoke Rapids).

Affiliate Member Representatives in Attendance

Art Rouse (ECU), Jennifer Jarrett (NCCU), and Lakisha Rice (NCCU). Joining via Zoom: Barbria Bacon (ESDB), Frank Riddick (NC State), and Freda Hicks (NCCU).

Guests

Leanne Winner (NCSBA)

Staff

Ed Croom, Dana Stutzman, Lisa Sonricker, and Kathy Saunders

Call to Order

CCRESA Executive Director, Ed Croom called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

NCSBA Update

Leanne Winner, Executive Director of NCSBA requested feedback for areas where they could improve and help district school boards.

- The NCSBA Law Conference will be held in Asheville and reminded Superintendents that today was the last day to reserve a room through the room block. Currently there is not a virtual option, but they are exploring possibilities. Covid protocols will be in place at the face-to-face meeting.
- Buy Board: purchasing co-op complies with all NC bidding laws.
- Webinars will be open to be viewed more than once.
 - Open to more topics. Let us know and we can put those together
- Superintendent feedback on most valued services
 - Appreciate the Friday Update – keeping board members up to date.
 - Policy work is very helpful – takes pressure off districts
 - Board members like the webinars to earn their CEUs
 - School Board 1 on 1 condensed to two days over the summer. Next round will be in December
- Spring Law Conference will be held virtually. There was more attendance than face-to-face.
- Areas of improvement?
 - Sessions can be lopsided at regional meetings. Some topics are hard to get into to.
 - NCSBA plans to do 3 regions and rework breakout sessions
 - Something new for video campaign
 - Current situations add additional struggles for all districts to take a position. Don't want silence to be the response and try to find neutral sources to share information. Like to hear both sides of an issue.
- Superintendents are asked to keep NCSBA up to date on pressing issues.
- NCSBA does not recommend changing public forum policy. Focus on implementing, to the letter, your current policy. Hand out the policy at every meeting.
- Quarterly roundtable discussions are regional, but there is low participation. Next one is scheduled for January, but if attendance is low then these will no longer be held.

IHE Affiliate Member Update

Dr. Lakisha Rice and Ms. Jennifer Jarrett – NC Central University

- CCP3 Update – 100% of students are meeting/exceeding academic requirements and have a 93% attendance rate for all professional development sessions offered by NCCU and through the Principal Fellows Grant.
 - Recruitment for 2022 Cohort: Application open until December 1st. Thank you to those districts who have allowed us to come and talk to your staff. We would still like to visit all districts in the CCRESA, please reach out to Dr. Rice to schedule a time. We are advertising through social meeting and getting good traffic through those outlets.

Dr. Art Rouse - Eastern Carolina University

- Mursion Lab – interactive work with preservice and in-service teachers/principals where they can practice and get direct feedback from virtual students, peers, and professors. ECU has the ability to pipe this to your district.
- ASTP/AATP community college agreement. Hours will transfer over.
- Partnership Teach Program just graduated 1,000 students
- Alternative Pathways – 1,709 students. Educational Residency Model is now an 18 hour program (ERM). Teach for America has about 200 students. Working to eliminate barriers to get teachers into the classroom.
- Certificates available through ECU
 - Racial Equity Studies – 4 course sequence
 - Dual Language Immersion – 4 course sequence
 - Teaching Children in Poverty – 4 course sequence
 - Education Research, Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics – 4 course sequence
- Teacher Recruitment
 - Ask Superintendents to identify underrepresented students and bring them to campus. Support students to explore a college education pathway.

- Working on funding to support students and help them navigate the application system.
- ECU is doing a deep dive into their curriculum and will focus on culturally responsive teaching, diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- ECU is here to serve you and appreciate the partnerships and look forward to supporting your districts.

Dr. Fran Riddick – NC State University

- In process of a national search for a new Dean, Paula Sztajn named interim Dean.
- New scholarship program – Transformational Scholars. 20 students receive \$10,000 a year for 4 years, based on need from Eastern Carolina students who will return to their home district to teach.
- Enrollment is highest it's been in the last decade. Teacher prep programs increased by 30% since 2016. 40% of doctoral students are people of color.

CCTI Update – Lisa Sonricker and Kathy Saunders

- Kathy and Lisa both alternative entry teachers. Kathy was teaching and learning in central office, Lisa worked in Human Resources. Both have business degrees and worked in the business world prior to teaching.
- CCTI is your community Educator Preparation Program. The program began as the Local Alternative Teacher Preparation Program, which relied heavily on district staff and district financial support.
 - Plan set up to use curriculum from another district
 - CCRESA would fund \$50,00 a year
 - Districts would enroll 100 teachers
 - 15,000 hours of coaching provided by district staff
- CCTI Quality and Care
 - Teachers stay in their schools and districts at a higher rate than other EPPs
 - Developed and implemented an effective coaching model/program. Teachers, in a pandemic year, have given great feedback on the support CCTI offers them

through the coaching program. Coaching team care and passionate about supporting beginning teachers.

- Offer both distance online and in-person learning options
- 100% pass rate for edTPA portfolios on the first try. 50% considered “highly qualified”.
Offer an exclusive CCTI edTPA website and workshops for portfolio support.
- CCTI only regional EPP put in place to grow our own teachers.
- Teach.org data: CCTI, compared to one other for-profit EPP has a 95% completion rate opposed to 7%
- CCTI is your local, homegrown EPP, and one of the best that needs help from districts to support our community.
- As we consider the future in this community, there are 2 options:
 1. Support our current cohort till its end as our final cohort.
 2. We get a solid commitment from our districts for teachers as set up in the original program.

Approval of the May 14th Minutes

Dr. Schuhler asked Superintendents to take a look at the Minutes from the May 14, 2021 Board Meeting. Lane Mills moved, and Alisa McLean seconded a motion to approve the Minutes. It was noted that members joining via Zoom should put their vote in the chat. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Approval of the Financial Report

Dr. McLean presented the current financial status of the CCRESA as laid out in the Financial Report provided to all members. Board action was requested on the future of the 36-month CD held with FirstIB. After discussion, Ethan Lenker moved, Eric Cunningham seconded, and the Board approved to transfer \$100,000 in funds to the CapitalOne Savings Account and renew the remaining amount of \$127,519.17 for 36 months. There were no questions brought forth regarding other items of the report. Ethan Lenker moved, and Cathy Moore seconded the motion to approve. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Overview of 2020-2021 Audit

On September 22nd, members of the Audit Committee, Steve Ellis and Rodney Peterson joined CCRESA staff Dana Stutzman and Ed Croom in a virtual meeting with the independent auditor Deidra Simmons from Maddison & Caison to review the audit findings. Steve Ellis stated an area of concern from the auditor was the amount of funds the CCTI program was losing. All other areas were fine, however, there should be a discussion around CCTI funding. Dr. Croom asked Board Members to look at page 2 of the audit to see the functional expenses of RESA programs and noted, as per the auditor, if there was not improvement in enrollment in the CCTI program then finances would be a growing concern for next year, and as per Ms. Sonricker's presentation today, the Board will need to make a decision.

Executive Director's Report

There is a written CCTI and CCP3 update in attached to the report that goes over what was presented today. The Principal Lead and Learn program, under Anna Brady, is doing a phenomenal job and we continue to receive great feedback. She has also included an update attached to the Report. This is a program that the RESA would love to see grow and something we can incorporate with CCP3.

Teacher PD sessions with BetterLesson, while they are quality PD, are not well attended. Teachers are simply overwhelmed this Fall and not able to attend voluntary PD sessions. While registration was high for the September session, actual turn out was between 0-10 for each of the 5 sessions. The upcoming October session has low registration. After feedback from Superintendents, the RESA will narrow the offerings to two sessions in October, see how well those are attended and gauge whether we need to postpone the remaining PD sessions. Superintendents noted many teachers are feeling overworked and exhausted with current school climate.

Jack Hoke brought to our attention, a free opportunity from Education Elements for Superintendents. A flyer is included in the folder, and this would be a series of session workshops for Superintendents to collaborate about the future design of districts and education. We do not need an answer on this today but let us know if you are interested in this option.

Dr. Croom reiterated the need to have a discussion around CCTI and Superintendents on the Zoom call will need to be included in the conversation. The affiliate members in attendance who do not have a voting position will not be participating in the discussion. As such, the Board Meeting adjourned at 12:00PM and CCRESA members transitioned into an Executive Session.

Summary of Executive Session

Due to the financial situation of the CCTI program and the effects of the pandemic on teacher shortages, Superintendents came to a unanimous decision to cease to offer the CCTI program for future cohorts through the CCRESA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alisa McLean

CCRESA Secretary/Treasurer