

## NEW MEXICO PARTNERSHIP FOR MATH AND SCIENCE EDUCATION MINUTES

DATE: December 8, 2000, 1-4PM

PLACE: 1418 El Portal NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque

Participating: Pleddie Baker, Susan Brown, Steve Brugge, Rockford Burris, Pat Cleaveland, Bob Cormack, Garry Davis, Doug Earick, Claire Fenton, Michael Garcia, John Glaser, Wanda Guzman, Jack JeKowski, Mary Jo Daniel, Julie Johnston, Barbara Kimball, Rick Kitchen, Tish Morris, Richard Nygren, Rick Scott, Debbie Scruggs, Lisa Snow, Kurt Steinhaus, Marisa Wolfe

I. NASSMC Report (National Association of State Science and Math Coalitions): Vicente Llamas was attending the Board of Directors meeting. The state directors meeting will be February 9-11 in Maryland.

II. Coalition for Science & Math Education (CESE): Steve Brugge reported that they are becoming a partner with State Education Board and have been exploring a collaboration with Albuquerque Interfaith a group to bring communities together to improve education.

III. RETA project: Rick Scott (for Carmen Gonzalez) repeated the request that the Board of NMPMSE could be the advisory board for the different math/science/tech projects that need advisory boards.

IV. AP New Mexico: Pat Cleaveland reminded us that \$549,000 was awarded for AP programs, another \$357,000 from state general funds, and a little bit of Eisenhower money for teacher training. They are

- a. Experimenting with distance education and AP. APEX learning is providing 10 courses online; these courses were offered to small schools (18 schools 106 kids) this year. Eight of the schools had never offered AP before. Online AP exam review to be offered to all New Mexico students starting in March at no cost. Five courses have class tools available to teachers; more will come online soon. Studying how to make these online courses more successful very difficult, and need lots of support at the student's site to help.
- b. Providing more teacher training - summer institutes at no cost to NM teachers.
- c. Incentive Awards for new and revised AP courses - \$1000 for materials.
- d. Exam fee reduction for low-income kids. \$5 vs. \$76.
- e. Resolving conflict between concurrent enrollment and advanced placement.
- f. Working with Senator Bingaman's office to bring in community business to help with AP.
- g. Trying to develop a way to track AP students as they move through higher ed.
- h. Working with Hobbs schools as they work on school improvement effort. They're using Advanced Placement as the framework of the improvement of their high schools. Their goal is that most kids will take some AP classes. This past year over 400 exams were taken at Hobbs high, only second to Albuquerque Academy.
- i. AP and the block November Issue of Phi Delta Kappan has an article about this, written by teachers at Mayfield High School in Las Cruces.

V. Northern New Mexico Council for Excellence (NNMCE): Kurt Steinhaus reported that the Math and Science Academy in Espanola, Chama, and Mora had a parent night recently, and that a report on the State of Education in Northern New Mexico will be released soon.

VI. Rural Systemic Initiatives (RSI): Debbie Scruggs reported that UCAN just finished Phase I and that two of the original coalitions have applied for separate funding for rural and tribal schools. She pointed out that among the problems to be addressed are that tribal kids were getting lost lots of movement and missed days. Also, upper schools are far removed geographically and socially from the feeder schools. Getting teachers together and doing alignment among their feeder schools.

VI. New Teacher Mentorship Programs: Bob Cormack gave some background on this is a supplement to the alternative licensure program and his concern of lack of funding as they are very rigorous and lengthy for the school to institute, but without it the alternative licensure program is at risk because alternative licensure will expire without mentorship. Dr. Cormack's concern is that the mentorship requirements are too strenuous and will hinder alternative licensure. Rick Scott gave a summary of the hornet's nest that is the current state of the alternative licensure programs of higher ed institutions in the state. Claire talked about the vocational licensure program, granting licensure for some college courses and work experience. Candidates must either take 12 credits or be put on a specific professional development plan. Rick proposed the idea of AP in Education, to address the national teacher shortage issue. Riverside high school in El Paso has something called the Socratic Institute. Also schools in Phoenix and South Carolina. It is assumed that Representative Picraux will continue legislative efforts with respect to new teacher mentorship.

#### VII. Upcoming Legislative Session:

A. Jack JeKowski is developing a Consensus Matrix showing how various organizations in New Mexico are supporting the New Mexico First Town Hall on K-12 Education Recommendation Priorities, as well as supporting various random acts of improvement. (A copy of the matrix will be emailed to Partnership members.)

B. One of the hot topics may be school governance. One bill eliminates the CHE and SBE, creates one body, governor selects a State Secretary of Education, etc. A very radical departure from our current system, pushing toward a more centralized school governance system.

VIII. Status of nominations for the Board of Directors of NMPMSE. Claire Fenton reported that she Mary Neikirk and Michele Diel so far have confirmed the following nominees for the Board:

- a. Jane Abbell NM Museum of Natural History
- b. Mary Jo Daniels NMSTA and APS
- c. Richard Nygren Sandia Labs
- d. Elwyn Hulett ENMU
- e. Michael Garcia MESA
- f. Barbara Kimball UNM
- g. Rockford Burris NMMATYC
- h. Susan Brown NMSU
- i. Julie Johnston at large
- j. Mike Silva PNM
- k. Thomas Gruska WNMU
- l. Vicente Llamas - at large
- m. Mary Savacheck NMSTA
- n. Kurt Steinhaus LANL
- o. Rick Scott NMSU
- p. Rick Kitchen UNM
- q. Carol Howald NMCTM

r. Betsy Yost NMHU

The Board will be reconstituted at the next meeting, elections held, then officers elected.

#### IX. Future Directions for NMPMSE:

A. Although some of the NASA Linking Leaders project funds were used for the Professional Development Summit, funds do remain for additional initiatives.

B. Legislative session - research and put out support initiative; Claire made the point that this needs to be a continuous process, not just at this crunch time.

C. Magnet school/charter schools in the state establishing links

X. Data for SBE on Science and Math Requirements for Graduation. What are the effects of increased math and science course requirements? No one has the data. Focus on middle school, endorsements for math and science in the mid. Input of data/questions that need to be answered from this group.

#### XI. Announcements:

A. Jack JeKowski: Magnet school for Math, Science, and Technology in the Albuquerque school system. Want to be up and running by August. Will put out RFP to high schools for suggestions on curriculum, etc. Also look at Virtual High School.

B. Jack JeKowski: Gates Foundation grant for \$1,000,000 for training of principals, but we have to find equal matching funds. Perhaps put a call out to local businesses to sponsor their principals. Give them a laptop, have them learn how to crunch data, start working off that.

C. The Museum of Natural History is reaccredited (only 10% of museums in the country are). Working on new physical science areas.

D. Barbara Kimbell has cut back her hours for CETP to work on other NSF projects: AGEF and EPSCOR. Doug Earick will assume some of her CETP duties.

E. LANL Foundation scholarships if you want to start up something like that, contact Julie Johnston ([juliej@lanl.gov](mailto:juliej@lanl.gov)). Julie can also provide copies of LANL publication on Cerro Grande Fire, careers.

F. Johnson Space Center has a program for flying on a jet, where schools compete for spots. Pleddie Baker ([pbaker@wstf.nasa.gov](mailto:pbaker@wstf.nasa.gov)) has New Mexico participating in this now. February 16-18 is the Mars Habitat design contest for high schools. Future Educators of America clubs starting in LC middle schools.

XII. Next meeting: 1:00, Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Radisson, 750 N St. Francis Dr, Santa Fe.