

VIRGINIA SCHOOL UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM

December 10, 2009 Albemarle Resource Center 9:00 A.M.

Minutes

Members present: Mac Duis, Gertrude Ivory, Paula Culver-Dickinson, Dennis Keffer, Jennifer Richter, Luanne Unruh, Virginia Bowerman, Darlene Cox, Jo Ann Wagner, Dori Walk, Greg Drescher, George Craig, Martha Ann Toms-Farmer, Joy Sobel, Andy Stamp, Janice Marston

- Report on conferences and workshops- Members were provided with copies of evaluations from the following workshops:
 - October 16- *The Middle and High School Principal's Role in Creating and Maintaining Strong Literacy Programs at the Secondary Level* (Virginia Bowerman). During the meeting, Ginny presented a summary of the workshop and provided a handout.
 - October 21- *Creating Independent, Strategic Readers and Writers in Middle School and High School* (Sue Beers)
 - November 4, 5, and 6-*Guiding Your Students to Higher Achievement with the New Math SOL Workshops* (Dan Mulligan – Roanoke)
- Report on Regional Workshops –Jo Ann Wagner, Mac Duis, and Denny Keffer reported on successful VSUP Regional Meetings focusing on professional development and other current “hot topic” items from their divisions. Ginny Bowerman reported on progress toward scheduling a meeting in her region. A copy of the regional groups was provided.
- Discussion of planned spring 2010 professional development events and other professional development needs
 - *Teacher as Leaders and Coaches*- Members indicated support for the *Teachers as Leaders Workshop* Part I, tentatively scheduled for February 26. Interest in scheduling a Part II workshop for previous participants and attendees to the February 26 workshop was also indicated. Janice will contact Laurie regarding the workshops and send registration information.
 - *Blogs*- Janice noted contacts with Bowerman and Beers to provide a blog as a follow-up to the middle school literacy workshops to be available in the spring of 2010.
 - *Identification of other professional development needs for 2009-10*
 - *Race to the Top* was a topic of discussion. Members were seeking additional information regarding participation commitment and criteria. Andy Stamp will research the following questions:
 - *When and how likely is it Virginia will be approved for grant funding?*
 - *How are funds expected to be allocated as related to Title I funding?*
 - *Interest in additional workshops and training on content specific math strategies, such as teaching Algebra I.* Suggested presenter; Dan Mulligan
 - *Interest in new subject matter information as other SOL subjects are revised*
 - *Suggestion was made that partnership school division administrators and teachers share expertise as related to identified needs.*
- Update on changes regarding Summer 2010 Leadership Conference
 - Janice reported on the change in original plans for the Summer Leadership Conference initially in collaboration with Charlottesville City. Due to anticipated budget shortfalls, Charlottesville City is unable to proceed with plans to host the joint conference.
 - After discussion, members supported a one-day Summer Leadership Conference on June 25, 2010, to be sponsored by VSUP with registration costs to be as conservative as possible.
 - The recommendation was made that the conference be held in a school division. Jennifer Richter agreed to check with Greene County. Greene County is tentatively scheduled for

the conference.

- Members indicated strongly that the conference focus on leadership and be geared toward administrators and school leaders.
- Tentative keynoters are Carole Ann Tomlinson and Dan Mulligan. The identified focus is on implementing 21st century skills with a practical, relevant emphasis on the school leader's recognition of what 21st Century skills look like and what they should be doing in their schools to facilitate implementation.
- A recommendation was made that the afternoon breaks-out sessions address "The Best of What We are Doing" with a leadership focus. (Perhaps as a follow-up during the next school year, administrators could visit each others schools or participate in roundtable sessions regarding best practices in their schools.)
- The following members agreed to serve on the Leadership Conference Planning Committee. Mac Duis, Jennifer Richter, Jo Ann Wagner, Paula Culver-Dickinson, and Darlene Cox. Janice will develop meeting calendar for the planning committee.
- Andy is to contact Tomlinson to provide an overview of the anticipated presentation and to provide a working guideline of the theme to be carried out throughout the conference.

- Test Item Bank Update

- Janice reported on the meetings of the test bank workgroups with an average attendance of 40-45 representatives for Math 5, 6, 7, and 8, Us History I and II, and 3rd Grade Reading. Two training sessions were conducted for the test bank: October 8: Jacob Gibson on Using Interactive Achievement to enter and edit test items and November 18: Joan Spence Harper on Writing Quality Test Items.
- Kathy Nance is leading the Third Grade Reading Workgroup.
- Janice will look into the possibility of being able to place the rd grade reading questions and passages in IA with restricted use by VSUP school divisions only.
- The need for additional draft questions from those school divisions attending the meetings and for those not sending representatives was noted. Each school division is asked to submit 10 draft questions in all subject areas except reading in advance of the upcoming meetings on January 27 and February 18 as initially agreed upon by the partnership as part of participation in the Test Item Bank.
- Test Bank Steering Committee meets today.

- Report on Student Leadership Conference- The SLC is March 11 at Ruffner Hall.

- Central Virginia Writing Project- Jane Hansen, UVA English Professor, reported on the Central Virginia Writing Project, providing information on the Summer Writing Institute for teachers available in July 2010. Teachers may earn 6 credit hours for the training and must provide follow-up professional development in writing in their individual school divisions.

- University of Virginia Instructional Resources for Teachers Grant - Rachel Stauffer and Rich Cohen with the Asian Studies Institute at UVA provided an overview of professional development, outreach, and resources available for partnership school divisions. Information was given on the opportunity for teachers and educational leaders for a trip to China in June 2010 at a cost of approximately \$2000. Specific information may be obtained by contacting the Asian Institute.

- Sharing by school divisions on professional development activities- Martha Ann Toms-Farmer provided information from the School of Continuing and Professional Studies for the spring and summer of 2010. Information is also available on their website.

- Informal discussion of 2010-11 Plan of Work and Budgets- Further discussion of this topic will take place as a part of the 2010-11 planning process at the February meeting.

- Adjournment

Next meeting date is February 4, 2010.