

Standards of Learning Innovation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Assessment 2.0 Subcommittee Meeting

Patrick Henry Building

Conference Room 3

1111 E. Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219

July 30, 2015 – 10:00am – 1:00pm

Attendees

Present Committee Members:

Dr. Billy Cannaday, Dabney Carr, Dr. Jared Cotton, Dr. Jenny Sue Flannagan, Sarah Gross, Meg Gruber, Dr. Roger Hathaway, Secretary Anne Holton, Dr. Brian Matney, Dr. Laurie McCullough, Dr. Stewart Roberson, Dr. Steve Staples, Dr. Chriss Walther-Thomas, Wade Whitehead, Ben Williams, and Renee Zando.

Dr. Tara Lateef was present via conference call.

Absent Committee Members:

Dr. Kim Dockery, Dr. Sue Magliaro, Dr. Alan Seibert, and Karen Thomsen were absent.

Scribe

Eric Steigleder/Lisa Jackson

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **SOL Testing from a Teacher's Perspective**
- **Background on the SOL Assessment Program**
- **Review of Assessment Design Principles**

- **Tuning Protocol**
- **Next Steps**
- **Adjournment**

Welcome and Introductions

- **10:05am** – Dr. Jared Cotton called the meeting to order.
 - Provided an overview of agenda.
- Secretary Anne Holton congratulated and introduced Dr. Billy Cannaday, as the new ex-officio member who replaced Chris Braunlich as the President of the State Board of Education. Introduced the VCU doctoral student who will be assisting the SOL Innovation Committee over the next year, Stefani Thachik
- Update from the Virginia Department of Education provided by Superintendent Steve Staples.
 - Provided an overview and update of the work of the Department and the Board of Education.
 - Providing an overview related to several items including the revisions of the Standards of Accreditation, implementation of expedited retakes, and a comprehensive review of state accreditation.
- Updated from the State Board of Education by Dr. Billy Cannaday.
 - Discussed the need to focus on college and career readiness, and what is needed for state to certify that graduates are ready for college.

SOL Testing from a Teacher’s Perspective

- Wade Whitehead presented on a teacher’s perspective on state testing (See Dropbox).
 - Discussed his concerns regarding fairness, developmental appropriateness of test, lack of timely access to scoring data for teachers, and questions related to scaled scores and how they are derived.

Background on the SOL Assessment Program

- Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent of Student Assessment & School Improvement, provided background information on several SOL test development and administration items. (See PowerPoint).
 - There was significant discussion and several questions regarding federal requirements and testing of students with disabilities.
 - There was also discussion regarding the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and potential impact of reauthorization.

Break

Review of Assessment Design Principles

- Jared had the subcommittee members get into small groups to discuss the Assessment Design Principles (See Dropbox) that were derived from previous meetings.
 - Design Principles included group beliefs related to effective assessment and an effective assessment system. Jared asked the group to provide feedback regarding what needed to be revised, added, or removed.
 - Subcommittee provided feedback that included adding a statement related to interdisciplinary assessments, emphasizing the need to give students more autonomy and choice during writing assessments, adding an explicit statement regarding the reduction of testing, and emphasizing on the importance of teacher involvement in the assessment process.
- Steve discussed the need to consider other states such as New Hampshire and their new state accountability system that was implemented recently. Their new system allows teachers to create, assign, and score performance assessments.
- Other feedback included the importance of creating developmentally appropriate tests, test length for all levels, not only elementary, assessment format, and the desire for partial-credit for technology enhanced items (TEI).

Tuning Protocol

- Subcommittee was unable to get to this agenda item; however, Jared provided a copy of a proposed assessment model for discussion purposes.
- Discussion related to the proposed assessment model will be continued during the August 19, 2015 teleconference call.

Next Steps

- Next Full Committee Meeting Dates:
 - August 19, 2015, 10:00am – 1:00pm
Call-in details will be sent out as the date approaches.
 - August 26, 2015, 10:00am - 1:00pm
Patrick Henry Building, West Reading Room
1111 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219
 - October 29, 2015, 10:00am - 1:00pm
Patrick Henry Building, West Reading Room
1111 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219

Adjournment

- Jared closed the meeting out at 1:18pm.