

**JOINT MEETING
September 8, 2014**

Present: Bob Lokken, Co-Chair; Representative Reed DeMordaunt; Superintendent Tom Luna; Alan Millar; and Don Soltman, Chair; Superintendent Gaylen Smyer; Senator Steven Thayn; Senator Roy Lacey; Representative Donna Pence; Anne Ritter; Valerie Aker; Tom Taggart; Cindy Wilson; Bill Brulotte; George Harad; Katie Graupman; Shoni Pegram (for Roger Brown); and Jacob Smith (for Cheryl Charlton) (via teleconference).

Not Present: Dr. Corrine Mantle-Bromley

Others Present: Richard Westerberg and Marilyn Whitney, State Board of Education

Co-Chair Bob Lokken welcomed the Joint Structure and Governance Committee and thanked the members for their contributions and work over the past six months. Mr. Lokken outlined the process for the day's meeting in answering last questions of the full committee in response to each subcommittee's final report. Each committee members has received and reviewed the reports of the subcommittees. The subcommittees generated a total of 40 recommendations which, upon approval of the full committee, will be forwarded to the State Board of Education for its special meeting on October 3, 2014. If approved by the State Board of Education, the recommendations will be forwarded to the Governor.

High Expectations

Tom Taggart, Chair, opened the floor to questions.

Representative DeMordaunt questioned the cost implications under Advanced Opportunities, and specifically, the recommendations to eliminate the 10 percent cap in the 8 in 6 program, remove restriction to online courses in the 8 in 6 program, and remove the requirement that students pay 25 percent of fees in the Fast Forward program.

Tom Taggart responded that an exact figure was hard to determine because of unknown factors, such as the number of traditional courses would be offered, as well as growth of the program. Tom Luna said that demand will be a factor, and more will be known following the first year of Fast Forward. Senator Thayn added that that it would take five years to fully realize these figures. The reason to eliminate the 10 percent cap is not because the program has reached that limit, but because the State Department of Education (SDE) generates considerable paperwork to track each district. Statewide, participation is approximately 5 percent. Mr. Taggart recommended that the fiscal note be rewritten as more of a general statement, without drawing conclusions. Superintendent Luna suggested that a fiscal impact statement could be based on 60% of students graduating with "x" number of credits.

Representative DeMordaunt asked for clarification of the committee's recommendation not to change from Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding to enrollment funding, because in his view, mastery based education is in conflict with ADA. Tom Taggart replied that in looking at other states who had adopted enrollment funding, their pace was fairly slow. In Maine, South Carolina and Oregon, they changed pockets of districts, not the whole state at one time. The disadvantages of the change outweighed the benefits, especially since modifications to the current ADA model could be implemented to make the system work better. Alan Millar added that the committee had assumed a link between mastery and enrollment, but found that they are separate tracks. Nothing in ADA funding prevents the move to mastery education. The subcommittee envisioned that students would stay in the system the same amount of time; if they completed core requirements sooner, they would stay in high school and participate in dual credit courses.

Anne Ritter referenced Advanced Opportunities, recommendation 2c, and asked if the state could pay colleges directly instead of districts advancing the fees and waiting for state reimbursement. Marilyn Whitney advised that the State Board staff was working closely with the SDE on the flow of reimbursement money.

Superintendent Luna questioned Advanced Opportunities recommendation 3, and asked if it included advanced placement exams. The committee agreed to eliminate the words "credit bearing" and include advanced placement exams.

There being no further questions, Bob Lokken called for a vote on the 17 recommendations of High Expectations. The recommendations were unanimously adopted. Representative DeMordaunt and Superintendent Luna expressed lingering concerns over ADA funding, but recognized that more work would need to be done.

Autonomy & Accountability

Bob Lokken, Chair, opened the floor for questions.

Representative DeMordaunt voiced concern with the recommendation to use administrative rule-making whenever possible for K-12 education rather than legislation. Bob Lokken and George Harad explained that the reason for this recommendation was to allow greater adaptability to changing circumstances. Mr. Lokken agreed to set aside this recommendation for a separate vote.

Superintendent Luna questioned word choice in discussing the 5-Star accountability system and the recommendation that the system be reviewed for weight given to growth versus proficiency. The committee agreed to modify its language.

Being no further questions, Bob Lokken asked unanimous consent to approve the recommendations of Autonomy and Accountability, with the exception of the rule-making question. Eight recommendations were unanimously adopted. Mr. Lokken asked for a vote

on the rule-making question. Representative DeMordaurdant's motion to strike the recommendation was approved 10-4.

Innovation and Collaboration

Don Soltman, Co-Chair, opened the floor for questions.

Superintendent Luna asked that the references to the statewide longitudinal data system be clarified to eliminate confusion as to its scope and intent.

Representative DeMordaunt questioned the fiscal impact relating to technology devices. The language was modified from a single figure to a per-student basis.

The committee discussed the type of keyboard needed for elementary students.

Being no further questions, Bob Lokken called for unanimous consent on Innovation & Collaboration 12 recommendations. The recommendations were adopted without objection.

Marilyn Whitney will recirculate the revised reports to the committee and prepare them for presentation to the State Board of Education.