

AESRP Meeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 1:40 p.m. PDT
Meeting Minutes

Present: Walt Blomberg, Ralph Brown, Jim Conaghan, Kathy Hall, Jana Iverson, Amy McQueen, Ken Peterson, Robert Rayborn, Linda Samek, Art Anderson, Theresa Levy, Steve Slater **Visitors:** Ron Smith, Bill Stewart

Facilitators: Tony Alpert, Barbara Wolfe

- I. Introductions and Overview of the Morning Agenda.** Tony reviewed the agenda. At the request of the group, the item on Panel Attendance was moved forward on the agenda to allow those in the morning session to have input. It was discussed in the afternoon also.
- II. Discussion of Panel Membership/Absences Per Year.** Tony showed the group a draft proposal from ODE that members who exceed 3 absences per year be dropped from the AESRP panel. Discussion followed and members expressed concern that a one month notice of a meeting might still mean that individuals would have previous commitments that could not be changed. The issue of emergency duties also came up. Finally, the group discussed what constituted an “absence” – is it missing the entire meeting or a portion? What about meetings via Web-ex that have a morning and afternoon session? Further suggestions included coordinating meetings within ODE to avoid multiple meeting conflicts for panelists and considering opportunities for a back-up person to attend and report back to the absent panelist. This person would not have voting privileges, but would be able to fill in the absentee member on issues discussed. Tony suggested that staff take the comments into account and send out a revised proposal via e-mail for response.
- III. Review of Reading Scoring Guide and Field Test strategy.** Barbara reported on the accomplishments of the reading scoring guide steering committee this year in developing and piloting a scoring guide and performance assessments and conducting a field test of 6 tasks. The Field Test will be scored this summer and the raters will be given training to become regional trainers.

Future tasks include development of training materials and exemplar papers with commentary. Depending on resource availability, future work may extend to interview protocols for reading assessment. The group endorsed the work so far and will conduct an in-depth review and discussion at the fall 2009 meeting.

- IV. Review of Data Collection Recommendations.** Bill Stewart reported on work he did earlier in the year to outline the needed data that districts would want to have available as part of assessing essential skills and including that information in awarding a diploma. Discussion and suggestions from the group helped to

confirm and provide additional details for this work. The group encouraged Bill to develop the preliminary information into a component for the Assessment of Essential Skills Toolkit. At the conclusion of the morning session, Tony showed the group the ADM collection information geared toward the Essential Skills and discussed how this data would be collected by the state.

V. Demonstration of web-based resource, Assessment of Essential Skills Toolkit. Barbara walked participants through an overview of the Assessment of Essential Skills Toolkit which is based on work the panel began in December 2008 when they first reviewed a project of a similar nature on Rhode Island's website. Although the web-ex format made the presentation a little difficult to follow, the group expressed interest in the project and general support for it. A more polished presentation of a product nearing completion is planned for the October 2009 meeting.

VI. The morning session was adjourned at 11:30.

VII. The meeting resumed at 1:00. Tony gave an overview of the afternoon agenda.

Present: Walt Blomberg, Allan Bruner, Jim Conaghan, Kathryn Hall, Susan Iversen, Jana Iverson, Amy McQueen, Ken Peterson, Robert Rayborn, Bob Reeves, Linda Samek, Art Anderson, Jackie Burr, Theresa Levy, Steve Slater **Visitors:** Ron Smith

Facilitators: Tony Alpert, Barbara Wolfe

VIII. Discussion of Panel Membership/Absences Per Year. Tony led the group through a brief review of the issues discussed in the morning session. The group concurred with earlier suggestions and pointed out that if next year's schedule only calls for 3 meetings, that the number of absences should probably be reduced from a total of 3.

IX. Report on State Board Actions on Test Scores. Tony reported that the State Board was very impressed with the panel's work in developing the recommendations for standardized test scores and adopted the proposal unanimously. Crystal Greene, the new communications person in OAS, will be working to present the new information clearly. Tony encouraged suggestions from the group on how they would like to see the information shared.

X. Report on anticipated Board actions on AESRP proposals. Tony reported briefly on several items. The ELL/LEP proposal made to the Board is still under legal review and action is unlikely until the fall. The Board will likely discuss the issue of delaying proficiency requirements for one or more of the essential skills at their June meeting. Watch for information from the Board meeting. Tony also raised a concern about changes to the High School Math Content Standards and the impact on students in the class of 2012 and beyond. In general, the group

felt the changes would not create severe penalties for students, but agreed that further discussion is needed at the fall 2009 meeting.

XI. The draft minutes from the April 29, 2009 meeting were approved.

XII. Future meeting dates were set as follows:

- a. October 1 & 2, 2009 – In Salem
- b. January 8, 2010 – via Web-Ex
- c. May 7, 2010 – via Web-Ex

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.