

Meeting Notes
Quality Education Commission
Oregon Department of Education
255 Capitol St NE Salem, OR 97310
Wednesday, June 11, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

QEC Commissioners Present

Sarah Boly
Beth Gerot
Colt Gill (by phone)
Ana Gomez (by phone)
Greg Hamann
MaryAlice Russell
Julie Smith
Judy Stiegler
Doug Wells

ODE Staff

Stephanie Parks
Brian Reeder
Chelsea Clinton

Guests

Laurie Wimmer, OEA
Morgan Allen, OSBA
Dr. Kristine Chadwick, EPIC

QEC Commissioners Absent

Hanna Vaandering

Member Updates and Information

- Brian Reeder introduced Chelsea Clinton, Research Analyst. She is a new employee with ODE, and is working in Brian's department.
- Greg Hamann said that Linn-Benton Community College received a federal grant to build a virtual college, and that the challenge is redefining faculty work in a world that isn't seat time based but instead is proficiency and competency based. They are excited about what this might do for students.
- Sarah Boly attended the QEC presentation to the OEIB subcommittee. She thought it was a good presentation as evidenced by the animated discussion that followed. She said there were two points brought up: the evolving QEC/QEM work and the P-20 continuum. She commented that members of the OEIB seemed "to be hungry" for evidence-based research on making budgeting decisions.

Sarah said that she will be sending out the first draft of the best practices research literature review within the next 2-3 weeks.

- Beth Gerot talked about the work she has been involved in with OEIB, looking at a vision of what education could look like in 5, 10, 15, 20 years from now and how we might get there.
- Judy Steigler talked about Central Oregon and the Cascades expansion. She said "everybody is for the expansion; it's just a question of where."

- Colt Gill, on the phone, reported that there was a lot going on with it being the last week of school.
- Ana Gomez, also by phone, said that there were 7 seniors in the Juntos plan, and all seven graduated and were planning on going to college. “It was a big and beautiful success.”
- Doug Wells, QEC Chair, felt it was appropriate to recognize the tragedy at Reynolds High School, saying it was “too close to home.”

He also said that the Early Learning Council has awarded \$4M in grants in the kindergarten readiness partnership fund that his organization helped advocate for. There is a lot of movement in the state around the relationship between early childhood and K-20.

Update on Best Practices Work

Dr. Kristine Chadwick of EPIC gave a PowerPoint presentation ([Attachment 1](#)) going over results of the matched pairs work. It was agreed that at this point conclusions cannot be drawn concerning the differences between higher performers and lower performers as it was an exceptionally small sample of two pairs of schools. When we have all five pairs of schools where we have a variety of locales and can look at a greater variety of socio-demographic characteristics we will be able to draw more appropriate conclusions.

Cost Model Update

Brian Reeder discussed an alternative strategy for incorporating student performance into a cost model, where he used the same cohort and interim measures. He looked at attributes of students and predicted the frequency/probability at which they graduate from high school. “If you follow a cohort over time through the different grades, you have a better understanding as to which attributes influence high school graduation.” Brian explained that in the past models were used to connect resources with performance, and we didn’t look at how these resources were used, or what sort of programs or practices were used. This model predicts impacts of specific types of interventions and how they play over time and ultimately impact the high school graduation rate. It is still in the early stages, and will take some time to refine.

The real challenge now is to use this kind of information in a model that says, “If we invest in these kinds of programs how does that translate into high school graduation?” Based on recent discussions with the governor and his staff, that is what would be very useful. It allows us to have several scenarios, interventions, and how they impact high school graduation rates.

“Predicting high school graduation based on something that happens in third grade is not that cut and dried, but it is encouraging that these coefficients are statistically significant and consistent over time, and are not jumping in magnitude either positively or negatively,” Brian said.

QEC Report Outline

Doug Wells asked Commissioners to review the proposed table of comments for the QEC Report ([Attachment 2](#)) and email feedback to Brian as soon as possible. Doug said we will have to rely on email and electronic communications to get this done, and asked everyone to participate.

Public Comment

Laurie Wimmer, Government Relations Consultant, Oregon Education Association, read prepared comments ([Attachment 3](#)) regarding the Quality Education Commission's mission as set in statute.

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.

The next meeting of the Quality Education Commission will be July 9, 2014.