

# Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel

## Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2017

**Friday, April 14, 2017**

**Panel Members Present:** Garret Apland, Danial Ayala, Lori Cullen Brown, John Bouchard, Ralph Brown, Robin DeLoach, Melissa Glover, Shaun Gross, Kathy Hall, Doug Nelson, Krista Nieraeth, Jill Sumerlin, Larry Susuki, Marilyn Williams

**Facilitating:** Cristen McLean

### **Welcome and Agenda Overview**

Cristen McLean called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and reviewed the agenda.

#### **I. Review of Minutes**

Krista Nieraeth motioned to approve the minutes from January 13, 2017. Robin DeLoach seconded the motion. Majority were in favor. None were opposed. Motion passed.

#### **II. Essential Skills Report**

Cristen McLean shared a summary of the Essential Skills Report from 2015 to provide new members with information around the percentage of students who demonstrate proficiency on the Essential Skills using each of the assessment categories and to provide information about data collection for the Essential Skills. A panelist asked when the 2016 report would be produced and Mary Anderson reported this would be completed by July, 2017.

#### **III. Essential Skills Option for English Learners**

Cristen McLean shared a summary of the Essential Skills for English Learners policy work since the transition from ELPA to ELPA21. Mary Anderson explained that the upcoming steps include looking at the data and administration experience from the second administration of the ELPA21 and engaging in additional conversations with the State Board around whether there is still interest in retaining the English proficiency policy. The estimated timeline is that AESRP would be updated about the work in the fall and, possibly re-engaged in the winter meeting to set an achievement standard on the ELPA21, if there is a decision to retain the English proficiency policy.

#### **IV. GED**

Josh Rew provided an update about the status of conducting the analysis to identify Essential Skills achievement standards on GED. He explained that he and Jon Wiens have been working with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to conduct a linking study between GED and Smarter Balanced Assessment. He shared that they will be looking at several factors to determine if a linking study is viable and these include: Smarter Balanced score distribution among those with GED scores; time between assessment administrations as well as test-taking sequence; N-size among those that meet criteria (e.g., appropriate time between assessments, etc.). Once these factors have been considered and the answer is satisfactory, then a linking

study could be conducted. The goal is that by the fall meeting they will know if the linking study is viable and they will have the preliminary linking done.

## **V. SAT Writing**

Cristen McLean explained that since the recommendation of the revised SAT assessment as an assessment option for the Essential Skill of writing, ODE has learned that the essay portion is optional and not included in the achievement standard that was adopted for the purpose of demonstrating proficiency in the Essential Skill of writing.

## **VI. Evaluating Other Standardized Assessment Requests**

Mary Anderson explained the need to build a standardized process for evaluating assessment requests. She described that there are two bodies of work ODE would like to engage in, including inventorying the assessment options currently available in terms of accessibility supports and gathering more information from schools about which assessments they are using. This information will inform the work of evaluating new requests. In addition she described a process for standardizing how to evaluate new assessment options and that this process would build from the process for recommending new accessibility supports. For assessments that are not a new request but rather an update to an already approved test, the process would be more expedited because the request process would be bypassed. Mary described that each of the points when information about the assessment is brought to AESRP, it is a point for AESRP to make a decision about whether to move forward with evaluating the assessment option or to discontinue evaluating the assessment option.

## **VII. Updates**

Mary Anderson explained that across ODE there has been a push to make sure all workgroups and advisory panels have charters that clarify the role and expectations of the group. Since AESRP was established nearly 10 years, developing a charter will provide an opportunity to look back upon all that has been accomplished and look forward to find the right scope at this point in the Essential Skills policy. She described that at the fall meeting ODE would be presenting this charter for discussion with the panel.

## **VIII. Membership**

Cristen McLean posted the AESRP membership list and provided a brief acknowledgement to the panelists for their commitment to AESRP and asked for them to notify ODE if their role changed so that we can keep the records accurate. In addition, there was a brief discussion about scheduling the 2017-18 meetings.

## **IX. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.