

**Report of the State Board of Education
Ad Hoc Committee
Long-Range Plan for Public Education
October 20, 2014**

The State Board of Education Ad Hoc Committee on the Long-Range Plan for Public Education met at 8:05 a.m. on Monday, October 20, 2014, in the State Board of Education Room, #1-104, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. All members of the committee were present, as follows:

Committee Members: Donna Bahorich; Ruben Cortez, Jr.; Martha M. Dominguez; Pat Hardy; Tom Maynard; Geraldine “Tincy” Miller; Marisa B. Perez; Thomas Ratliff; Marty Rowley

Non-Committee Board Members Present: Barbara Cargill, Sue Melton-Malone; Ken Mercer

Public Testimony

Work session and ad hoc committee meetings are exempt from oral public testimony.

ACTION ITEM

1. Long-Range Plan for Public Education

The Ad Hoc Committee on the Long-Range Plan for Public Education will study the viability and utility of developing a long-range plan for public education. Statutory authority for this action is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §7.102(c).

Mrs. Cargill, Chair of the State Board of Education, called the meeting to order. She indicated that the floor was open for nominations for chair of the ad hoc committee.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich, seconded by Ms. Hardy, and carried unanimously to elect Mr. Rowley as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Long-Range Plan for Public Education.*

Mr. Rowley thanked the committee for the opportunity to serve in the capacity of chair. He noted that the first thing the committee needed to think about was why the board should develop a long-range plan, and whether this committee was going to recommend to the State Board of Education to move forward. He referred to two handouts that were distributed--(1) Long-Range Plan Ad Hoc Committee of the State Board of Education; and, (2) Statutory Provisions Related to the State Board of Education and a Long-Range Plan for Texas Public Education. He reviewed both of the documents, and asked committee members for their input.

To comply with statutory requirements, Mr. Rowley noted that the board in November 2000 approved the 2001-2006 Long-Range Plan for Public Education; and, in 2006 developed the 2006-2020 Long-Range Plan for Technology.

Discussion ensued on whether to begin work towards the development of a long-range plan, and, if so, how it would be structured. Some of the suggestions included a readable document, one with input from parents, PTAs, chambers of commerce, stakeholders, legislators, education service centers, administrators, educators and educator groups, students, professional associations and organizations. It was also suggested that the plan distinguish between challenges or goals and distinguish between large and small districts, and cover a short-, mid-, and long-range section. A committee member stated that charter schools ought to be addressed.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Ratliff, seconded by Mr. Cortez, and carried unanimously that the ad hoc committee recommend to the full board that a long-range plan for public education be developed.*

Mr. Rowley stated his belief that it would also be helpful to have a subgroup explore funding sources. He asked Mr. Ratliff to head the funding subgroup and begin to explore funding options for this project. Ms. Hardy and Mr. Cortez volunteered to be part of the subgroup.

Mr. Rowley asked about the idea of exploring an external facilitator. There being no objection from the committee, Mr. Rowley said he would take on that responsibility, and would report back to the committee.

The committee discussed a “rough” timeframe for the development, implementation, and years’ span of the plan.

Mr. Rowley commented that the committee could start soliciting comments from the public and other groups and give them an opportunity to voice their thoughts and opinions. He said it was very important to define and articulate, in order to formulate, a vision for public education, and the role of the State Board of Education, for the near and long-term future. He stated that the goal was to fulfill those ten objectives of public education as mandated by the Legislature in Section 4.001(b), Education Code.

Another suggestion from the committee was to ask Debbie Ratcliffe, director of media relations, to issue a press release or newsletter about the development of the long-range plan. Mrs. Cargill stated her belief that it would be helpful to have a document outlining major points and that it, also, be sent to groups informing them of the board’s plans.

The next meeting of the committee was scheduled for 8 a.m. on Thursday, November 20, 2014, to coincide with the SBOE meetings being held in November. Ms. Hardy stated that the Committee on School Initiatives should take the lead on this effort as it is currently under its area of oversight.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

(ATTACHMENTS)