

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on Instruction
July 1, 2020**

The State Board of Education Committee on Instruction conducted a virtual meeting at 9:17 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2020. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Sue Melton-Malone, chair; Pam Little, vice chair; Aicha Davis; Georgina C. Pérez; Marty Rowley

Public Testimony

The Committee on Instruction heard public testimony on agenda items #1, #2 and #3. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter A, Required Curriculum, §74.1, Essential Knowledge and Skills, and §74.3, Description of a Required Secondary Curriculum
(First Reading and Filing Authorization)**

(Board agenda page II-I)

[Official agenda item #3]

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Carol Fletcher
AFFILIATION: CS4TX

NAME: Hal Speed
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: David Edmonson
AFFILIATION: TechNet

NAME: Caroline Joiner
AFFILIATION: Amazon

NAME: Paul Fishwick
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Tania Curry
AFFILIATION: Project Lead The Way

NAME: Alexis Harrigan
AFFILIATION: Code.org

NAME: Jey Veersamy
AFFILIATION: The University of Texas at Dallas

NAME: Jill Schott
AFFILIATION: College Board

Shelly Ramos, senior director, curriculum standards and student support, stated that the current proposal would update the rules to align with recent legislation, with the new Texas State Plan for career and technical education (CTE), and with changes to the technology applications and CTE Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Monica Martinez, associate commissioner for standards and support services, explained that the proposed rules reflect previous direction from the SBOE to address requirements for technology applications courses in a manner comparable to all other CTE courses in the required secondary curriculum in TAC §74.3.

MOTION: *It was moved by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mrs. Little to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter A, Required Curriculum, §74.1, Essential Knowledge and Skills, and §74.3, Description of a Required Secondary Curriculum.*

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Ms. Davis, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education amend §74.3(b)(2)(I) to require school districts and charter schools to offer at least one introductory level computer science course from the following options: Fundamentals of Computer Science, Computer Science I, or Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles.*

VOTE: *A vote was taken on the original motion to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization the proposed amendments 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter A, Required Curriculum, §74.1, Essential Knowledge and Skills, and §74.3, Description of a Required Secondary Curriculum, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.*

2. Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 120, Other Essential Knowledge and Skills, Subchapter A, Character Traits

(First Reading and Filing Authorization)

(Board agenda page II-8)

[Official agenda item #4]

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Ankita Ajith
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Nitant Patel
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Claudia Di Bonaventura
AFFILIATION: Self

Ms. Ramos explained the requirement to integrate positive character traits into the essential knowledge and skills. She also explained that the recommended implementation of the proposed standards is the 2021-2022 school year in order to give districts time to prepare.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mrs. Little, seconded by Mr. Rowley, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed new 19 TAC Chapter 120, Other Essential Knowledge and Skills, Subchapter A, Character Traits.*

3. Proposed Approval of Innovative Courses

(Board agenda page II-16)

[Official agenda item #5]

Ms. Ramos explained that there were eleven innovative courses recommended for approval that do not fall within any of the subject areas of the foundation or enrichment curriculum: Civic Discourse; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level I; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level II; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level III; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level IV; Path-College/Career I; Path-College/Career II; Path-College/Career III; Path-College/Career IV; Peer Assistance and Leadership® (PAL) I; and Peer Assistance and Leadership® (PAL) II. One course, Rock and Roll Academy: Social-Emotional Learning through Music, was presented for the committee's consideration without a recommendation from staff due to the cost of the course.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Mrs. Little, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for a period of five years the following innovative courses that do not fall within any of the subject areas of the foundation or enrichment curriculum: Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level I; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level II; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level III; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Level IV; Path-College/Career I; Path-College/Career II; Path-College/Career III; Path-College/Career IV; Peer Assistance and Leadership® (PAL) I; and Peer Assistance and Leadership® (PAL) II; and approve for a period of two years a new course titled Civic Discourse.*

4. Update Regarding Origo Education

(Board agenda page II-20)

[Official agenda item #6]

Melissa Lautenschlager, director, instructional materials and implementation, provided an update regarding Origo Education. The liquidated damages assessed by the SBOE were paid by Origo Education and distributed to districts. Von Byer, general counsel, explained options the SBOE can take to strengthen the rules related to administrative penalties. The committee requested that staff present proposed amendments to the rules at the September meeting.

The meeting of the Committee on Instruction adjourned at 11:13 a.m.