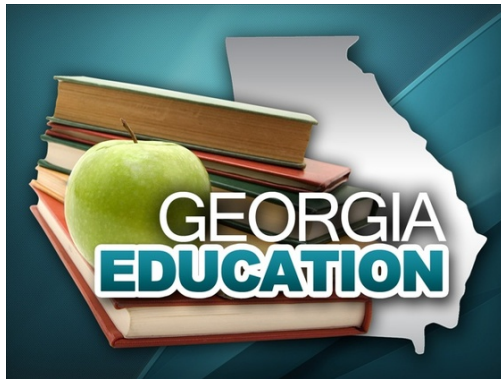


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Education Reform Commission Meeting

July 28, 2015 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

DECAL (Department of Early Childhood and Learning)

Oak Conference Room, Sloppy Floyd Building, Suite 824-East Tower

Chair Dr. Charles Knapp stated that the subcommittee must accomplish:

- How the state should allocate funding to local districts to compensate teachers and
- What earnings should be included in the new base amount and how should the weight for student characteristic(s) be determined

#1 How should the state allocate funding to local districts to compensate teachers?

- Training & Experience – general agreement amongst commission members that current teachers are protected under teaching and experience; new plan will impact new teachers
- He has received several heartfelt messages from teachers regarding training and experience
- Regarding master degrees –some make a difference and some do not
- Looking for a way to have a formula for new teachers that will send dollars to the local school system for their compensation. Districts allowed flexibility in determining which proposal more effective for their teachers
- Several compensation models presented—local chooses which framework is appropriate for system.

#2 Student weights in the base

- Staff shared spreadsheet indicating current elementary items to be weighted (included in proposed new base)
- K-3 9-12 CTAE

| | | |
|----------|---------------|-----------|
| SWD-Cat1 | SWD-Cat 2 | SWD-Cat 3 |
| ESOL | Econ. Disadv. | Gifted |

- Items to be added separately: T&E, teachers retirement, and State Health Benefit

Other Issues:

- Equalization – overhead issue for smaller districts
- Transportation – cannot see a vast increase in spending for transportation
- Sparsity
- Schools for Deaf and Blind
- Department of Juvenile Justice Schools
- Virtual Schools

- Charter System Supplement
- State Charter Schools
- Residential Treatment Centers
- GNETs
- RESAs

Early Childhood Subcommittee

(Subcommittee charged with expanding access to pre-K; increasing access for all children from birth to kindergarten)

- Increase class start ups
- Develop a pay structure based on pre-K lead teachers, years of experience, and accreditation
- Retention of lead teachers
- Address the way pre-K teachers are paid
- Increase assistant teachers' salary
- Reduce class size to 20 children with a lead and assistant teacher
- Provide more flex time to pre-K classrooms
- Pilot project to expand Georgia's pre-K classes in public schools where the need is greatest

Increase Access to Quality Child Care Program

- Tax credits for families when their child is enrolled in a quality rated program Business investment tax credit for child care
- Occupational tax credit based on teacher credentials, for teaching experience
- Tiered reimbursement for quality rated child care program
- Private dollars to incentivize programs matched by state dollars
- Investing in early childhood results in a big return on investment

Move on When Ready Subcommittee

(Committee charged with creating a seamless system to move students to next level when they are ready.)

Proposed Actions:

- Students begin school based on when they're ready
- K-3rd grade cross grouping – preparing students where they are
- Opportunities for all students to learn
- Home schooled students taking courses in a high school
- Competency based education
- Flexibility with end-of-year assessments
- Autonomy to move on when ready
- Do away with seat time

Three Pathway Options: College and career ready; Double-purpose option; Career-ready certification program

- Student explore college and career options – provided a broad-based education
- Expect all students to graduate college and career ready
- Support career pathways teachers
- Every high school student have at least one college course – literacy and math
- Redesign career pathways around real world situations and problems and critical thinking skills
- Turn abandon school buildings into technical schools
- Extend school year

Website: <https://gov.georgia.gov/education-reform-commission>

Next Commission meeting **August 25, 2015, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, DECAL Oak Conference Room, Sloppy Floyd Building, Suite 824-East Tower

Move on When Ready Subcommittee Meeting

July 28, 2015 – 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol – Room 416



Chairman Matt Arthur, Deputy Commissioner, Technical College System of Georgia

Subcommittee brainstormed on action statements:

- Competency-based education
- What happens to students who are ready to move on? Where do they go? What happens when they get to the end of the course before the course is over?
- Move away from boxes of grades – flexibility
- Ungraded flexibility – move on in tiers of context – move on when you are ready
- Incentive to schools willing to adopt “Move on When Ready” concept
- Innovative grants made available to schools
- Get rid of 180-day school year – let local systems decide
- Assessments
- Eliminate seat time and days
- Great power of choice at local school level
- Define skill needs for college and career
- It’s all about the student
- Graduation requirements archaic
- Provide a mechanism for local school systems to share some of the innovative things they’re doing Henry County is requiring an IEP for every student

House Education Chair Brooks Coleman announced that he is setting up meetings in August to meet with parents in school districts that are on the Governor’s list of failing schools. He invited the Move on When Ready Subcommittee to be a part of that effort. The schedule will be forthcoming.

Next subcommittee meeting is August 10.

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