



MINUTES
BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE
OCTOBER 6, 2011

The Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence conducted their first meeting for 2011-12 on **Thursday, October 6, 2011**, at the Louisiana Municipal Association Building, 700 North 10th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The following members were acknowledged as present by the sign-in sheet:

MEMBERS

Glenny Lee Buquet, Co-Chair
Jonathan Augustine
Fran Crochet
Margaret Goode
Walter Lee
Frank Neubrandner
Victor Schneider
Tara Soudelier
Victor Stelly

Charlotte Bollinger, Co-Chair
Sametta Brown
Wayne Fetter
Rosalind Hale
Derrick Manns
Kenneth Rae
Kyle Scott
Jacqueline Smith
Ollie Tyler

STAFF

Jeanne Burns, Co-Director
Andrew Vaughan, Co-Director
Scott Norton
Catherine Pozniak
Linda Marino

SPEAKERS/GUESTS

Allison Jones

Co-Chair Glenny Lee Buquet called the meeting to order, introduced herself, welcomed members and guests, and provided background information about the Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence. She introduced Co-Chair Charlotte Bollinger who provided information about herself and requested that members introduce themselves and their affiliations.

Co-Chair Buquet introduced Co-Director Jeanne Burns who discussed the structure of the Blue Ribbon Commission meetings, Rules and Operational Procedures for the Commission, and Guiding Rules for Meetings. She provided a brief history of the creation of the Blue Ribbon Commission. She noted that each year a new charge was identified for the Commission, national and state experts were identified to meet with the Commission to deepen their knowledge to address the charge, and Commission members developed a set of recommendations that were presented to the Board of Regents (BoR) and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) at a joint meeting during May of each year. She indicated that the charge for the Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence for 2011-2012 is: To prepare students who are career and college ready as new Common Core State Standards and PARCC assessments are implemented in Louisiana. Glenny Lee Buquet indicated that the Blue Ribbon Commission has played an integral part in reforms that have occurred within the state. She noted that recommendations from previous years were instrumental in implementing new certification requirements for teachers and leaders and the redesign of all teacher preparation programs in universities around the state.

Co-Director Andrew Vaughan identified the outcome of the meeting which was the following: To identify additional information that will be needed by the Blue Ribbon Commission about the Common

Core State Standards and PARCC assessments. Commission members were informed that they would be required to address two questions during the afternoon during the interactive portion of the meeting. The questions were: (1) How will the Common Core State Standards and PARCC assessments help students become prepared for careers and college entry-level credit-bearing courses? (2) What additional information will Commission members need about the Common Core State Standards and PARCC assessments to successfully respond to the Blue Ribbon Commission Charge and questions?

Co-director Vaughan introduced and welcomed Allison Jones, Senior Fellow for Postsecondary Engagement with Achieve, Inc. Mr. Jones provided background information about the creation of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career Readiness (PARCC), provided a brief overview of the Common Core Standards and how they impact K-12 and higher education, discussed the structure of the new PARCC assessments, identified timelines for the implementation of the new assessments, and identified important roles for stakeholders. Members listened to the presentation and asked questions while interacting with the speaker.

During the afternoon, Scott Norton with the Louisiana Department of Education presented information pertaining to work that is occurring in Louisiana to prepare schools and districts to implement the Common Core State Standards, transitional assessments, and PARCC assessments. Dr. Jeanne Burns with the Louisiana Board of Regents presented information about efforts being made by higher education to be involved in activities pertaining to the PARCC assessments and the alignment of the teacher preparation programs with the Common Core State Standards. Commission members were provided time to ask questions about the state efforts.

Following the presentation, Commission members had further discussions about the PARCC Assessment, the Common Core State Standards and the impact they may have on K-12 and higher education. They were provided time to reflect on the information presented during the meeting and respond in writing. Members discussed their responses within small and large groups.

Co-Chair Buquet requested public input and there was none. With there being no further business, Co-Chair Buquet adjourned the meeting.