



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Agricultural Education Commission

*March 8, 2017
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Ken Bradford, Kathy Conerly, Donna Bailey, Gabe Patterson, Megan Gravois, Lori Cherry, Dwayne Martin, Tonisha Ellis for Dr. Karen Denby, Michelle Ribera for Dr. Bobby Fletcher, and Sadie Phelps for Tommy Peters.

Guests & Staff: Dr. Jerrick Hornbeak, SFC Rodney Griffin, SSG Davis, Cody Manuel, Jennifer Falls, and Tristen Guillory.

Not in Attendance: Patricia Felder, Dr. Adell Brown, Steve Monaghan, Dr. Susana Schowen, Catherine Segura, Dr. J. C. Bunch, and Dr. Joey Blackburn

Meeting Notes

Welcome/Introductions/Meeting Objectives/Roll Call/Approval of Minutes

Ken Bradford, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Student Opportunities, LDOE

Ken Bradford, commission co-chair, welcomed attendees and guests and requested that roll be called. Lori Cherry moved and Dwayne Martin seconded the approval of the minutes. Kathy Conerly informed the commission that Dr. Bunch would no longer be serving on the commission since accepting a university position in Florida. A new member will be appointed to replace Dr. Bunch.

Mr. Bradford reviewed the agenda and reported that due to Dr. Leslie Blanchard not being able to attend, the Louisiana Governor's School Update would be rescheduled for a later meeting. He introduced guests representing the Army reserves and national guard and provided overview of the commission, its charge and accomplishments. He requested commissioner and staff introductions for guests and commissioner proxies.

Jump Start / ESSA / LDOE Updates

Ken Bradford shared Jump Start program updates, including clarification the both courses, Agriscience I and Career Readness Agriscience/Agribusiness Natural Resources, can serve as a career readiness course. Commissioners were given copies of the LDOEs press release regarding approval of the Science Standards and informed of the July dates of the Super Summer Institute. Commissioners were also informed of opportunities to present agriculture related sessions at the Teacher Leader Conference being held June 6-8, 2017, at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

Agriculture Opportunities in the Military

Mr. Bradford introduced Dr. Jerrick Hornbeak, Education Services Specialist, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Baton Rouge, who shared his educational and military background and educational benefits available to recruits. He introduced SFC Griffin and SSG Davis, army national guard and reserve recruiters who shared agriculture related and STEM career opportunities in the military and the educational benefits available to prospective recruits 17 years of age and older. Military eligibility requirements and educational benefits were presented along with statistics that only 26% of 17-26 year olds qualify to enlist. SFC Griffin reported on reserve recruiting. Mr. Patterson, current FFA president, shared that he is currently member of the Louisiana National Guard.

Agriculture Teacher Association / FFA Updates/ IBC Process Update

Kathy Conerly, commission co-chair, informed the commission about recent FFA State Officers **Goodwill Tour** February 20-24 around south Louisiana in Areas III and IV during the week of February 20-24. On the tour, the officers visited FFA chapters, businesses, government agencies, and more to spread the FFA message and inform people of the amazing things FFA is accomplishing. She also shared logistics of the **State FFA Convention**: June 6-9, Monroe Civic Center.

Additionally, Ms. Conerly reported that the **Agriculture Tech Industry-Based Certification (IBC)** team (Fletcher, Danos, Conerly) met with Ronnie Simmons (FLA) regarding assessment costs and tracking IBCs. Districts purchase "seats" for exams at \$85/student. Exams will be proctored and administered at the same time as End-of-Course exams. Exams proctors must complete and online course be registered. She reported that Farm Bureau will work with Florida to ensure proper credentials are met. Mr. Bradford reminded the commission that student privacy issues are to be considered for Farm Bureau to provide student certificates.

Equine Science Update

Ken Bradford provided a context for the equine science update and summarized the outcome of the December 2016 round table discussion related to equine studies. Dr. Falls provided commissioners a packet including: (1) data for student enrollment in equine science from 2008-2015; (2) the Equine Care and Training IBC as included on the 2013-14 Industry-Based Certification Matrix.; (3) Canine Care & Training Jump Start Fact Sheet; (4) Continental Kennel Club Canine Care & Training Program curriculum; (5) Equine related careers; and (6) equine educational/certification programs (e.g., The Groom Elite Horsemen's Educational Program, LSU Ag Center Master Horseman, Natural Lifemanship

The commission was shown a brief Louisiana Equine Council video, which described Louisiana's multi-billion dollar horse industry and also its impact on tourism. The purpose of the council to promote the industry for all horse breeds, the welfare of horses, therapeutic equine services, and education and youth development.

As an example of job opportunities, Sadie Phelps, President-Elect of the Louisiana Agriscience Teachers Association, shared that two students in her district work for an equine therapy program which provides services for students with special needs.

Next Steps

- Send commission members *Because of the Brave* military day at the Capitol (May 25, 2017)
- Next quarterly meeting to be scheduled in August.

Public Comment: None

Adjourned

Lori Cherry moved and Donna Bailey seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion approved.