

## MINUTES

### 2017-18 College and Career Readiness Commission

Claiborne Conference Center  
1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Room 136 C - Thomas Jefferson Room  
October 10, 2018

The College and Career Readiness Commission met on Wednesday, October 10, 2018, at 10:05 a.m. in Room 136C, the Thomas Jefferson Room of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The roll was called.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Emily Broussard  
Dr. Keith Courville  
Ms. Angelina Drago  
Mr. Michael Faulk  
Mr. James Garvey, Jr.  
Dr. James Henderson, Chair  
Ms. Shannon Howard  
Dr. Gary Jones  
Ms. Cheramie B. Kerth  
Ms. Melinda Mangham  
Ms. Meredith Trahan (proxy for Todd McDonald)  
Senator Dan "Blade" W. Morrish  
Ms. Elizabeth "Beth" O'Quinn  
Ms. Bambi Polotzola  
Dr. Kim Hunter Reed  
Dr. Nathan Roberts  
Mr. Darren Rutledge  
Dr. Monty Sullivan  
Ms. Kellie Taylor-White  
Ms. Doris Voitier  
Mr. Ken Bradford (proxy for Mr. John White)

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dr. Robert "Paul" Baker  
Ms. Kim Mims  
Dr. Janet Pope  
Mr. Jim Randels  
Mr. Thomas Roque  
Mr. Jason St. Pierre  
Ms. Christal Sylvain  
Ms. Jamie Tindle  
Dr. Lisa Smith Vosper

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Office of the Governor

Mr. Donald Songy

Louisiana Senate

Cheryl Serrett

Department of Education

Dr. Erin Bendily

Mr. Raphael Curtis

IBM

Ms. Sarah Walsh

Board of Regents

Mr. Matt Adams

Ms. Meg Casper Sunstrom

University of Louisiana System

Dr. Jeannine Kahn

Mrs. Carol Slaght

**Welcome, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes**

Chair Jim Henderson welcomed the members and guests to the meeting. The minutes of the March 15, 2018 meeting of the Commission were unanimously approved.

The following handouts were distributed:

- McKinsey Global Institute's *Jobs Lost, Jobs Gained: Workforce Transitions in a Time of Automation* - December 2017
- Lumina Foundation's *A Stronger Nation-Learning Beyond High School Builds American Talent* - Louisiana Report 2018

**Conversation on Attainment**

Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Commissioner of Higher Education, described Louisiana's progress in higher education over the past years. She said that it is important to value a variety of pathways to advance the lives of Louisianans, including four-year university degree programs, two-year community and technical college settings, high-quality certifications, traditional education, non-traditional education, and all types of post-high school learning opportunities. She stated that there is "honor in all pathways."

There was significant discussion, including the following thoughts:

- All sectors of the educational community must be engaged.
- High school is a setting in which to build skills, transfer knowledge, and identify and develop creative and critical thinking skills.
- A holistic approach to education is necessary.
- Value must be placed on all levels and styles of education.
- Opportunities and options must be enhanced and be adjusted to each student's needs.
- The aim is to educate students so that they can realize their goals in life.
- Rural schools often are challenged to meet educational goals because of "skeleton crews."

### **Update on P-TECH Schools**

Ms. Sarah Walsh, Program Manager-Education, IBM Corporate Citizenship & Corporate Affairs, and Ms. Beth O'Quinn, Local Talent Manager, Baton Rouge Client Innovation Center at IBM and Commission member, gave an update on Pathways in Technology (P-Tech) Early College High Schools initiatives. They explained that IBM has partnered with the Department of Education, East Baton Rouge Parish Schools, and Louisiana Community and Technical College System to help high school students develop skills that will jumpstart their careers in the technology field. The highlighted program was Cy-TECH Academy, a six-year model housed at Tara High School. This program allows students to graduate between four and six years with both a high school degree and an associate degree in computer science as part as the program.

### **Discussion on Points of Emphasis for CCRC Work**

Dr. Henderson again expressed gratitude to Governor John Bel Edwards for his commitment to education. For the next year, Dr. Henderson indicated that he would like to include an attainment goal and master plan for discussion by the Commission. Cognitive disabilities and higher quality high school counseling were also mentioned by members.

At 11:55 a.m., upon motion of Ms. Mangham, and seconded by Ms. O'Quinn, the Commission voted to adjourn.