



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Agricultural Education Commission

Monday, May 6, 2019

9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Claiborne Building – Iowa Room (1-153)

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Lisa T. French, Dr. Lisa Vospers for Dr. Karen Denby, Dr. Joey Blackburn, Dr. Eric Smith, and Kellie Taylor-White.

Guests & Staff: Casey Phillips, Mitchell Provensal, Ken Bradford, Marcia Speed, Jason Dedon, Heather Stefen, Meredith Jordan, Martha Moore, and Ted Holmes.

Not in Attendance: Patricia Felder, Dr. Kristin Stair, Dr. Adell Brown, Brooklyn Hampton, Sadie Phelps, Catherine Segura, Megan Gravois, March Mahler, Susan Schowen, Donna Bailey, and Larry Carter

Meeting Notes

Welcome/Meeting Objectives/Roll Call/Approval of Minutes

Lisa T. French, Chief of Staff, Louisiana Department of Education

Ms. Lisa French, commission co-chair, welcomed attendees and guests, requested that the roll be called, reviewed the agenda and requested that Jump Start 2.0 Update be added to the agenda. Those present agreed to add Jump Start 2.0 to the agenda. With no quorum present, the minutes were not approved.

2018-2019 YTD Credential Attainment Update:

Dr. Eric Smith, PhD., State FFA Advisor

Dr. Smith shared information about efforts to enhance the Louisiana Agriculture Education program and the status of Louisiana Agritechnology and Forestry IBC attainment by both educators and students.

Ms. French shared results reported in the Student Transcript System (STS). According to credential data earned as of May 3, 2019, fourteen (14) students have earned the Louisiana Agritechnology and zero (0) have earned the Forestry credential. The certifying agency has reported that four hundred (409) students have taken the Louisiana Agritechnology exam

this year, and one hundred and ninety-five (195) have passed that assessment. The discrepancy may result from delays in local reporting to STS. However, this information has not been uploaded locally to STS. Nationally and locally, there are discussions about how to support real-time reporting as move forward with connecting secondary and postsecondary students with recognized credentials.

Since 2016, the numbers have grown from the initial two (2) teachers and eleven (11) students who earned the credential to three hundred and sixty-five (365) students and one hundred and ninety-three (193) teachers, both active and pre-service, who have earned the credential. For the Forestry credential, twenty-six (26) teachers and fifteen (15) students earned the credential this year.

FFA programs are revitalizing around the state, and industry partners are supporting our efforts. For example, the Beef Check-off Council purchased a set of posters for every FFA chapter. As revitalize the agriculture and FFA programs, the connections with the agriculture industry are widening as well.

Baton Roots Community Farm at Howell Park (Baton Rouge, La):

Mitchell Provensal, Program Coordinator for Baton Roots Community Farm
Casey Phillips, Director of The Walls Project

Mr. Provensal and Mr. Phillips shared purpose and focus of the Baton Roots Community Farm and its efforts to support community efforts to expand access to healthy food choices. The farm is affiliated with the Walls Project whose efforts focus on building community across barriers. Central to efforts by Mr. Provensal and Mr. Phillips is bringing the source of food to the consumer by providing a garden to encourage community building while growing fruits and vegetables for sharing.

Animal Science Specialist IBC

Marcia Speed, Special School District

Ms. Speed shared the vision for the DREAM Academy whose focus is on “ensuring that every student has a clear path to success and that every graduate of LSD and LSVI leaves prepared to conquer his or her next adventure.” With this school year, the DREAM Academy will offer ten (10) Jump Start Pathways to enrolled students with focus on moving barriers for students to access skills in areas of interest. Agriculture is one of those areas in which students have identified an interest. To that end, the Special School District is requesting that the Animal Science exam be added to the current Agricultural Technology pathway as a regional credential.

The assessment and how it aligns with Agriscience I, II, and III standards was discussed. However, without a quorum, the commissioners were unable to act on the request that the Animal Science Assessment be combined with Louisiana Agritechnology assessment and be presented to the Workforce Investment Council for recognition as an Advanced credential.

Electrical Training Alliance IBC

Jason Dedon and Heather Stefan

Mr. Dedon and Ms. Stefan shared information previously presented to the Workforce Investment Council at which it was recognized an interim credential. No formal action was taken on the request to recommend adding this credential to the Agritechnology Pathway.

Jump Start 2.0

Lisa T. French, Chief of Staff, Louisiana Department of Education

Ms. French shared information presented at the April Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) meeting. According to survey responses, there were three (3) focus areas: Work-Based Learning, Diplomas, and Stakeholder

Public Comment:

None

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned