

DUAL ENROLLMENT FRAMEWORK TASK FORCE

Minutes

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Dr. Kim Hunter Reed called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 13, 2021, via Zoom.

The roll was taken, and a quorum was established.

Members Present	Affiliation
Dr. Janet Pope	Louisiana School Board Association
Dr. Kim Hunter Reed	Board of Regents
Mr. Ken Bradford	Department of Education
Ms. Doris Voitier	State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
Ms. Jemi Carlone	Louisiana Association of Principals
Dr. Jeannine Kahn	College and Career Readiness Commission
Ms. Denise Latour	Louisiana School Counselor Association
Ms. Carrie Griffin Monica	Stand for Children
Mr. Barry Erwin	Council for a Better Louisiana
Ms. Linda Johnson	Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools
Members Absent	Affiliation
Mr. Richard Hartley	Office of the Governor
Mr. Mike Faulk	Louisiana Association of Superintendents

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Kim Hunter Reed asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2020 meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Ken Bradford, seconded by Ms. Denise Latour, the Task Force approved the minutes.

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UPDATE ON SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE ALLOCATION & ASSOCIATED ENROLLMENT

Dr. Reed opened the meeting, recognizing a grant recently awarded by the U.S. Department of Education. This grant, led by the Louisiana Library Network (LOUIS), will support development of 25 general education courses using Open Educational Resources (OER) for dual enrollment. Dr. Reed acknowledged Dr. Teri Gallaway and the LOUIS team for securing the grant funding and indicated that Dr. Gallaway will be present at the February 2021 meeting to provide more information.

Dr. Reed then invited Mr. Ken Bradford, LDOE, to provide an update on the supplemental course allocation and associated participation in dual enrollment opportunities in Louisiana. This oral report highlighted the tiered allocation of \$17.5 million designated by the state's MFP formula. These funds are distributed proportionally to schools using 7th and 8th grade enrollment. Schools then are allowed to spend on dual enrollment courses in partnership with any public institution. In Fall 2019, there were 22,574 course enrollments by high school students, and 22,707 enrollments in Fall 2020. The number of individual students enrolled in Fall 2019 was 14,772, with a slight drop in Fall 2020 to 14,564. There have been increases in dual enrollment participation at LSU A&M, Nicholls, BRCC, BPCC and Nunez, and a decrease at SUNO. Ms. Linda Johnson inquired whether these numbers of high school students could be disaggregated by race. Mr. Bradford confirmed that additional analytics will be collected for comparison, to include more information from Spring enrollments. Ms. Johnson inquired about reasons for the drop in SUNO enrollments, and Mr. Bradford responded that students in this area may have moved to Nunez for enrollment. He added that SUNO may have engaged a different funding source for its dual enrollment services, so SUNO's reporting may be lacking some data.

FAST FORWARD – ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Reed invited Dr. Cade Brumley, State Superintendent of Education, to speak about a pilot program called Fast Forward Jump Start/TOPS Associate's Degree & High Demand Apprenticeship Initiative. Dr. Brumley emphasized this program does not negate traditional tracks for high school students but offers

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students an additional option to acquire course credit and ultimately an associate's degree before they leave their high school campus. Dr. Brumley highlighted several stakeholders who have acknowledged the importance of dual enrollment, including BoR and BESE, the Dual Enrollment Taskforce and the Louisiana Legislature. Three pathways are available to take advantage of this program: completing the first two years of a four-year diploma (TOPS University Associate's Degree), completing an associate's degree (Jump Start 2.0/Associate's Degree), and participating in apprenticeships during the student's senior year (High Demand Apprenticeship). Dr. Brumley highlighted that only 159 out of 42,650 students receive a high school diploma and an associate's degree upon graduation, with 77% of students graduating with TOPS University college prep but only 57% enrolling in college after graduation. He pointed to the need to increase these opportunities for all Louisiana students by providing alternatives. Dr. Brumley provided a timeline of the planning grant, for each district to understand how the funding could be allocated. He concluded by noting the excitement of seeing how the program will progress and the opportunities that will arise as it develops. Ms. Johnson asked Dr. Brumley how the Planning Grant in the Fast Forward program will be awarded. Dr. Brumley confirmed that this program would provide each of Louisiana's regions one \$50,000 planning grant.

EDUCATION TRUST DUAL ENROLLMENT SURVEY AND FOCUS GROUPS

Dr. Reed invited Dr. Keisha Smith of Education Trust to discuss Education Trust Louisiana's work in gathering data to identify how students/parents/counselors receive information on dual enrollment and any barriers to receiving information and gaining access. Dr. Smith provided an overview of the survey administered by Education Trust and focus group findings. The focus group participants predominantly resided in Caddo and East Baton Rouge parishes, while the survey included respondents from Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, and Orleans parishes. Dr. Smith outlined how the study was conducted and indicated that the demographics were representative of the parishes served. Dr. Smith conducted four

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focus group sessions via Zoom with 16 students, 10 parents, and 10 guidance counselors. The two principal research questions were: participants' experience and knowledge of dual enrollment and the usability of the dual enrollment website. One of the main takeaways is the importance of school counselors and ways in which they inform and influence students and parents on dual enrollment. Counselors indicated that the main barriers to dual enrollment participation are the lack of clarity and lack of information on dual enrollment courses and offerings. Dr. Smith connected this feedback to the importance of the dual enrollment website and conveyed interest from parents, counselors and students in development of a dual enrollment manual and information to be linked to the website itself. The possibility was also mentioned of tapping into social media to network further and increase knowledge of dual enrollment. Dr. Smith stated that Education Trust will continue to conduct surveys and focus groups after the website is developed. Ms. Johnson asked why there is a low number of students who are aware of dual enrollment. Dr. Smith replied that counselors serve as the primary link to this information and we can surmise that their heavy case loads, and many responsibilities likely contribute to the lack of awareness of dual enrollment opportunities.

SHOWCASE OF LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Reed called on Ms. Wendi Plants (designee for Dr. Jayda Spillers) to provide an overview of the Bossier Parish School for Technology & Innovative Learning (BPSTIL). Ms. Plants serves as the CTE coordinator for BPSTIL. Its program, with an average enrollment of over 1,000 students, provides access to more than 26 dual enrollment courses, the majority of which lead to industry-based credentials, with business, industry and postsecondary partners driving equipment and credential needs. Representatives from BPSTIL promote the program through visits to and informational sessions at local schools. This program prides itself in its partnerships with postsecondary institutions as well as local businesses, allowing linkage of dual enrollment to applicable career opportunities to further promote the success of their students. Mr. Barry Erwin inquired whether they are able to track former students' progress into

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higher education or careers. Ms. Plants informed the Task Force of the existence of a database to promote information and local job postings to graduates, but added that she is interested in producing a survey to gather additional information on the success of graduates.

Commissioner Reed called upon Ms. Cate Swinburn, president of YouthForce NOLA, to discuss this program. Ms. Swinburn informed the Task Force that YouthForce NOLA aims to prepare New Orleans public school students for promising careers through training, workshops and other opportunities.

YouthForce NOLA highlights cross-sectional collaboration among key stakeholders including educators, business and civic partners. The program emphasizes and trains students in soft skills, technical skills and work experience. YouthForce NOLA course offerings focus on five high-wage careers: skilled crafts, health sciences, digital media/IT, business services and HVAC. They are excited to align with K-12 career pathways along with postsecondary credentials of value to pinpoint industry needs, pair students with a pathway best suited to them, and reduce barriers to securing funding for technical dual enrollment courses in order to allow equitable access to all students.

Ms. Claire Jecklin, executive director of New Orleans Career Center, then outlined opportunities for juniors and seniors to attend the Career Center for a half-day to explore career paths of study. The Center serves close to 300 students and partners with 16 New Orleans high schools. Ms. Jecklin highlighted partnerships with LCTCS and Delgado as well as a pilot program conducted through UNO and Delgado, in which professors are allowing students who were previously unable to attend because of ACT limitations to audit classes. Ms. Jecklin then spotlighted two students who attended this program and have seen success in their post-graduation efforts, with one student working towards her Certified Clinical Medical Assistant license and another taking courses for AutoDesk Inventor/Mechanical Design and 3D CAD software.

Finally, Ms. Patrice Strickland, counselor from Warren Easton High School, discussed the success of Warren Easton, her work with dual enrollment, and the importance of these opportunities for high school

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students in Louisiana. She highlighted students from her graduating classes of 2018 and 2020 who chose to participate in dual enrollment courses and earned certificates by utilizing these courses. She noted that over 5,000 college credit hours have been earned through Warren Easton since 2008 via a partnership with Delgado and the curriculum and courses aligned with Jump Start Pathways.

Mr. Erwin asked how the internship program at YouthForce NOLA works since employers emphasize that they do not want these applicants' first jobs to be with their companies. Ms. Swinburn responded that the internship program includes technical training and career exposure, with over 60 hours of training in soft skills and other workplace instruction. Commissioner Reed inquired whether there is a charge to students who enroll in the Warren Easton programs. Ms. Strickland stated that there are no charges to the students, and that SCA and TOPS Tech funds pay for these classes. Ms. Jecklin added that the biggest challenge for the technical courses offered is the cost of materials, but that the Career Center budget is able cover these.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Mellynn Baker, BoR, informed the Task Force that there were no public comments.

NEXT STEPS AND ADJOURMENT

It was announced that the next meeting is set for February 10, 2021, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. There being no further discussion, Dr. Reed adjourned the meeting at 3:01 p.m.

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ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES & GUESTS

Name	Affiliation
Anthonise Banks	Warren Easton Charter High School
Claire Jecklin	New Orleans Career Center
Wendi Plants	Bossier Parish Schools & Principal, Bossier Parish School for Technology & Innovative Learning
Rep. Ken Brass	LA House of Representatives
Cate Swinburn	YouthForce NOLA
Patrice Strickland	Warren Easton Charter High School
Dr. Keisha Smith	Education Trust
David Shepard	YouthForce NOLA
Dr. Cade Brumley	LDOE
Adam Lowe	ESG
Lupe Lamadrid	BoR
Karthik Poobalashubramanian	BoR
Hannah Rogers	BoR
Cara Landry	BoR
Mellynn Baker	BoR
Susannah Craig	BoR
Dwayne LaCombe	BoR