Agricultural Education Commission

Charge and Rules

Charge: to provide “guidance and advice to the state superintendent of education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) regarding agricultural education programs and activities in elementary and secondary schools.”

The Commission shall:

* Program Evaluation - Assist the state superintendent of education in the ongoing evaluation of agricultural education programs in elementary and secondary schools.
* State Plan Review - Review the state action plan for agricultural education and make recommendations to the state board regarding changes in policy or curricula deemed necessary to ensure that the state's agricultural education programs and initiatives are responsive to the needs of students and the agricultural community.
* Delivery System Continually review the state's agricultural education delivery system and provide advice and guidance to the state superintendent of education regarding content standards and curricula, development of agriculture-related industry-based certifications, professional development opportunities for agricultural educators, and other strategies designed to promote agricultural literacy and student awareness of the wide array of educational and career opportunities in agriculture-related fields.
* Assist in the development of partnerships and alliances with agriculture-related industries and other stakeholders.
* Provide advice and support in the development and creation of agriculture immersion programs in elementary and secondary schools that allow students to develop an understanding of the importance of agriculture and agriculture-related fields and occupations to the state, the nation, and the world.

BESE shall create a pilot program to provide for the establishment of agricultural education immersion programs that

* Provide students with a high-quality educational program that integrates agriculture-related instruction throughout all disciplines included in the curriculum.
* Provide an articulated, sequentially-structured, total agricultural education program that prepares students for entrance into a postsecondary educational program or other certification that leads to a career.
* Provide each student with an academically rigorous curriculum, work-based learning experiences, and student leadership opportunities within an agricultural context.
* Integrate agriculture throughout the curriculum in a systematic manner that prepares students for successful careers in a wide array of agriculture-related industries and occupations, including food and crop science, soil science, animal science, fiber production, farm production, renewable resources, agricultural research, and agribusiness management and marketing.
* Provide dual-enrollment opportunities that allow students to earn college credit hours that can be transferred to a postsecondary institution and industry-based certifications that qualify a student for employment upon graduation from high school.

Meeting frequency - quarterly beginning no later than 9/1/14

Commission Composition: 17 members including representatives from the K-12 and postsecondary education and state agencies and organizations related to agriculture and agriculture education.