

MINUTES

College and Career Readiness Commission
Monday, December 1, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.
Room 136C, Thomas Jefferson Room
Claiborne Conference Center
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The College and Career Readiness Commission met in Room 136C, Thomas Jefferson Room, of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, at 10:08 a.m.

Welcome and Roll Call

Chair Jim Henderson welcomed the members and the roll was taken:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Ernise Singleton (proxy for Dr. Cade Brumley)
Mr. Preston Castille
Mr. Ronnie Morris (proxy for Ms. Ashley Ellis)
Ms. Shelly Gaydos (proxy for Ms. Angelina Drago)
Mr. James Garvey, Jr.
Dr. James Henderson, Chair
Ms. Cheramie Kerth
Ms. Elizabeth “Beth” O’Quinn
Ms. Kayla Pagel
Ms. Suzanne Harris (proxy for Dr. Fredrick Pinkney)
Ms. Bambi Polotzola
Ms. Debbie Schum (proxy for Dr. Janet Pope)
Ms. Cynthia Posey
Dr. Tristan Denley (proxy for Dr. Kim Hunter Reed)
Dr. Nathan Roberts
Ms. Kellie Taylor-White
Dr. Belinda Davis (proxy for Ms. Doris Voitier)
Dr. Lisa Vosper

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Robert “Paul” Baker
Dr. Keith Courville
Mr. Michael Faulk
Mr. Darren Rutledge
Mr. Jason St. Pierre
Dr. Monty Sullivan
Ms. Jamie Tindle
Mr. Bryan Trahan

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Board of Regents

Ms. Mellynn Baker
Ms. Allison Vicknair

University of Louisiana System

Dr. Jeannine Kahn
Ms. Carol Slaght
Ms. Katelyn Wilkerson

YouthForce NOLA

Ms. Cate Swinburn, Co-Founder and President
Ms. Paris Woods, Chief of Programs
Mr. Nathan Stockman, Director of Learning Design
Mr. Rahmel Fuller, Program Manager

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Presentation YouthForce NOLA

Dr. Henderson introduced Ms. Cate Swinburn, Co-Founder & President of YouthForce NOLA, and her team, Mr. Rahmel Fuller, Program Manager; Mr. Nathan Stockman, Director of Learning Design; and Ms. Paris Woods, Chief of Programs. Ms. Swinburn described the purpose, strategies, and impact of the organization, which is “an education, business, and civic collaborative that increases economic equity by preparing New Orleans public school students for successful pursuit of employment in industries with good wages and growth opportunities.”

The importance of soft skills was emphasized. Ms. Swinburn also showcased a few success stories of young people who had taken advantage of the opportunities provided by the organization.

Four recommendations that were given to the Commission were to (1) be visionary; (2) be specific and transparent; (3) define benchmarks; and (4) be nationally and internationally competitive.

Finalization of Definition of College and Career Readiness

Dr. Henderson led a lengthy and rigorous discussion about the proposed definition of college and career readiness. Even after several suggestions to amend the draft, a final definition was not decided, and it was agreed to continue to work on a comprehensive definition to share with the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) in the very near future.

In addition, Dr. Tristan Denley, Board of Regents Deputy Commissioner of Academic Affairs and Innovation, discussed the Academic Affairs Policy 2.18 Gateway Mathematics and English Course Placement Requirements and corequisites.

Adjournment

At 12:35 p.m., upon motion of Dr. Belinda Davis, seconded by Mr. James Garvey, the Commission voted to adjourn.