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**Agricultural Education Commission**

***Wednesday, December 9, 2014***

***1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.***

## Meeting Summary

**In Attendance**:

**Commissioners:** Ken Bradford, Patricia Felder Dr. J. C. Bunch, Dr. Joey Blackburn, Dr. Karen Denby, Kathy Conerly, Jenee Slocum, and David Helveston.

**Guests & Staff:** Dr. Leslie Blanchard, Dr. Lisa Vosper, Martha Moore, Lisa French, Jennifer Falls,

**Invited Expert:** Sen. Ben Nevers

**Absent**: Megan Gravois, Dr. Adell Brown, Larry Boyte/Tommy Peters, Carrie Castille, Steve Monaghan, Catherine Segura, Blake Cooper and Dwayne Martin

**Meeting Notes**

**Welcome/Introductions/Meeting Objectives/Approval of Minutes**

*Ken Bradford, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Student Opportunities, LDOE*

Bradford, Commission Chair, welcomed attendees to meeting and asked for introductions by commission members, invited experts, and guests. Dr. Bunch moved and Kathy Conerly seconded adoption of minutes as written. Motion approved.

**LDOE Updates**

Bradford provided an update of the following items:

* **TOPS Tech Early Start**
* Previously limited to LCTCS campuses, but legislative changes (2014 Regular Session) expanded access at LCTCS and added private training providers thereby increasing opportunities for dual enrollment.
* Workforce Development Commission assisting with identifying high wage, high demand areas, including two aligned with agriculture
* **SCR 153 – Aligning TOPS Tech and the Career Diploma**
* Jump Start Career Diploma aligns with TOPS Tech with two exceptions: diploma requires two Carnegie credits in both social studies/science but TOPS Tech requires three Carnegie credits.
* **Jump Start Convention and Counselor Training Sessions**
* Convention is January 21, 2015 at the Baton Rouge River Center and target audience for the convention is high school principals.
* Counselor Training Sessions will occur after the convention and will be facilitated by network teams

**Dual Enrollment Presentation by Dr. Leslie Blanchard, Assistant Dean/College of Agriculture/Louisiana State University**

Shared rollout of agriculture dual enrollment at LSU beginning with three districts during the 2014-15 school year. Will encompass four courses offered through Supplemental Course Academy/Course Choice.

Senator Nevers thanked LSU for its efforts. Kathy Conerly added that ULM is offering an online agriculture course this fall, and McNeese will add an agriculture dual enrollment course to its offerings.

**Sub-committee Reports:**

* **Immersion Programs and Expanding K-20 Agriculture Education Opportunities**

Presentation: Foreign Language Immersion

Terri Hammatt, LDE Language Specialist, shared process and guidelines used for the World Languages Immersion Program. Presentation generated further discussion about how to establish, suggestion to visit James Madison High School, San Antonio, TX, and request that commission check out immersion programs in the US.

* **Agricultural Standards and Pathways to IBCs (Articulated Credit)**

Presentation: Admission vs. “Articulated” vs. “Transfer” Credit

Dr. Karen Denby, Associate Commissioner, Board of Regents highlighted similarities/differences among ways for high school student to accumulate college credit. Ensuing discussion focused on aligning transcript fees, lack of common application system among Louisiana public postsecondary institutions, and ways to recognize Industry-Based credentials.

* **Incentives and Rewards for Successful Implementation of High-Quality Agricultural Programs by Schools**

Members are preparing application for submission to Workforce Investment Commission (WIC).

**Next Steps**

* Summarize and distribute minutes of this meeting
* Poll commission members and set date for next meeting (March)
* Dr. Bunch and Dr. Blackburn will follow-up with additional information about immersion program at James Madison High School
* Research transcript fee variance among public postsecondary institutions
* Agritechnology and Biotechnology IBC

**Public Comment:**

None

**Adjourned**