

Louisiana Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline

Friday, December 9, 2016
Claiborne State Office Building, Rapides Room, 3-230
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Official Minutes

The December 9, 2016 meeting of the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Ms. Jennifer Coco, council chair. Members present were: Ms. JoAnn Achord, Ms. Jennifer Coco, Mr. Michael Comeaux, Mr. Julie Comeaux, Mr. Shawn Fleming, Mr. Larry Gage, Ms. Liz Gary, Mr. Rachel Gassert, Mr. Kevin George, Mr. Roy McCoy, Mr. Brad Prudhomme Ms. Angela Reams-Brown, Mr. Scott Richard, Ms. Daphne Robinson, Mr. Rob Schlicher, Mr. Al Simmons, Judge Kim Stansbury, Ms. Prudence Spooner, proxy for Ms. Diane Smith, Ms. Debbie Schum and Ms. Debra Weinberg.

Mr. Greg Gauthier, Ms. Shawn McCants, Mr. Michael Ortego, and Ms. Sherlyn Shumpert, were absent.

Public comments were received from Ms. Gina Womack, Ms. Florentina Staigers, Ms. Gretchen Lampe, and Mr. Harry Francois.

- 1 A motion was made by Mr. Gage to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2016 meeting, and was seconded by Mr. Fleming. The minutes were approved without objection.

- 2 A motion was made by Mr. Comeaux to amend the agenda to add a discussion on preparing and writing the 2016 annual report due to the House and Senate Education Committees and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and to receive information from Mr. Richard. Mr. Prudhomme seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

Dr. Alan Coulter with Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center gave a presentation to the council on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports and Multi-Tiered Systems to address student behaviors. Dr. Coulter distributed an overview of MTSS/PBIS benchmarks.

Ms. Troi Bechet with the Center for Restorative Approaches gave a presentation to the council on Restorative Approaches/Restorative Justice programming in the greater New Orleans area schools.

Mr. Frank Pasqua with the Louisiana Association of Child Welfare & Attendance Personnel (LACWAP) presented to the council on the topic of "Recommendations for Revisions to LA R.S. 17:416."

3 A motion was made by Mr. Fleming to create an informal working group to study and review all applicable discipline laws and make recommendations to the full council on any possible changes to those laws. The informal working group members include Mr. Fleming, Ms. Gary, Ms. Coco, Mr. Gage, Mr. Prudhomme, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Schilcher, and Mr. Richard. The informal working group may invite persons with expertise in behavior and discipline laws to provide information and input. The motion was seconded by Ms. Robinson and was approved without objection.

A discussion was facilitated by the chair, Ms. Coco, on the council's responsibility to provide an annual report each calendar year. Therefore, a report is due by December 31, 2016 to the House and Senate Education Committees and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Ms. Coco provided a document summarizing what the council has completed to date and indicated that the information in that document would be included in the report. The council reviewed the document, engaged in discussion, and agreed that the 2016 report will be based on what has been reviewed and considered in the last three meetings. The council noted that no formal recommendations or conclusions have yet been made for inclusion in the report; however, several observations have been noted from data reviewed.

4 Judge Stansbury moved to authorize the chair, Ms. Coco, to collaborate with the subcommittee charged with writing the draft report created at the December 2, 2016 meeting, to create the 2016 report for the House and Senate Education Committees and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education on behalf of the council based on the draft information she submitted to the council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fleming and was approved without objection.

5 A motion was made by Mr. Prudhomme to add Ms. Coco to the subcommittee charged with writing the draft report at the December 2, 2016 meeting. Mr. Comeaux seconded and the motion was approved without objection.

6 A motion was made by Ms. Weinberg to authorize Ms. Coco to finalize the 2016 report, working with the subcommittee assigned to write the report at the December 2, 2016 meeting. Ms. Reams-Brown seconded and the motion was approved without objection.

Mr. Fleming read from Act 522 of 2016, noting that the council must stay on task regarding its function and asked the chair to include the language on future meeting agendas. Mr. Fleming noted that the function of the council is to submit an annual written report regarding its findings and recommendations with respect to the implementation of school master plans for improving student behavior and discipline as provided in R.S. 17:252.

- 7 Mr. McCoy made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Comeaux and was approved without objection. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.