

NC Driver Education Advisory Committee Meeting – May 20, 2014

Minutes

Members Present – Reggie Flythe – DPI, Connie Sessoms, Don Nail, Don Johnson, Derek Graham, Bob Lisson, Roxane Bernard, Chris Oliver, Mark Smith, Arthur Goodwin, Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin, Dr. Tina Poltrock, Barbara Webb and Allie Pezza.

Meeting was called to order at 11:03am by Chair Connie Sessoms, Jr. Derek Graham made a motion to accept the minutes of the November meeting as provided, seconded by Don Johnson. Motion approved unanimously. Chair Sessoms informed members that this was our first meeting streamed live on the internet and provided them an opportunity to briefly introduce themselves.

Reggie Flythe provided the Driver Education Consultant Report. The committee was provided a copy of the summary of the PED Driver Education Report that was provided to the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee and briefed on the meeting held May 5, 2014. As a result of this report, draft legislation (H1038) was created. A copy of the draft was provided to the members for their review.

Reggie Flythe updated the committee on the DPI/DMV Knowledge Testing Report that was submitted to several legislative committees. He reported that no action was taken in either committee to date. He acknowledged the cooperation between DPI and DMV in working together on the report. He also gave an update on his opportunity to present to LEA Driver Education Coordinators and the membership at the North Carolina Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association Conference in Clemmons, NC.

Finally, Mr. Flythe reminded the committee that the LEA Driver Education Survey Data was going to be due in July and a report would be provided to the committee at the August meeting.

Next, the committee moved to review the State Board of Education Driver Education Policy. The discussion began with the review of in-house teacher day of employment. It was moved by Derek Graham, seconded by Dr. Poltrock to eliminate the policy. Motion passed and it was noted by Chairman Sessoms that any of these recommendation will be sent to the SBE for review and final decision.

No changes were recommended for the policy on driver education contracts. On the policy regarding driver education policy as it relates to the instructional day and the SCS, Dr. Pitre-Martin moved to remove #2 and strike “and the SCS” from the policy title. Seconded by Derek Graham, motion passed.

There was some discussion on the policy on non-certified driver training instructors, especially to keep them strong, however, no action was recommended on this item.

The discussion on policy delineating driver training requirements began with item #4, and the ability of in-house programs to allow proficiency testing. Mr. Flythe stated that to his knowledge there were three school systems that were providing proficiency testing. The discussion continued with was there data available on the impact of students taking proficiency testing and crashes. Chris Oliver said the data was available, but he was not sure how much could be obtained from what data currently exists.

After further discussion, it was recommended for Mr. Flythe to gather more data from the school systems that are providing the proficiency test to help the committee with their recommendation.

It was moved by Dr. Poltrock to set the number of classroom hours to a maximum of 3 hours/day during a school day and a maximum of 6 hours/day on non-school days to align with current DMV commercial school regulations. Seconded by Don Johnson, motion passed.

There was some discussion on capping the number of students to 40 per class. There was an agreement with the group, but no vote was taken on this issue and to be done.

The policy addressing the fact that the students should be taking driver education where they attend school was presented. It is recommended that first year charter schools are provided classroom service by the LEA where the school is and the students are provided BTW in the LEA where they reside.

Reggie Flythe reminded the group that a visit from an ANSTSE technical assistance group is being scheduled. Dr. Pitre-Martin asked if they could be scheduled to come to one of our meetings and if they could meet with the Program Evaluation Division while they are here. Chair Sessoms stated that we did have some flexibility in scheduling and would look to do that.

Chair Sessoms reminded the committee of the next meeting, Tuesday August 19, 2014 at 11:00. The meeting adjourned at 1:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Reggie Flythe, DPI Driver Education Consultant