

Urban Teacher Education Program
Policy Board Meeting

E.C. Central High School Library

11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

May 8, 2008

Minutes

Attendees: **Mr. Reid Amones** (*Principal, Clark Middle/High School*), **Mrs. Andree Anderson** (*UTEP School Liaison*), **Mike Beam** (*Advance College Project, IU Bloomington*), **Dr. Rochelle Brock** (*UTEP Executive Director*), **Ms. Becky Carter** (*Advance College Project, IU Bloomington*), **Dr. Victoria Chiatula** (*Assistant to the Superintendent, Gary Community School Corporation*), **Mrs. Maria Dalhoumi** (*Proxy for Dr. Anaya*), **Mr. Garry Graban** (*PDS Coordinator, Clark Middle/High School*), **Mr. William Kelly** (*President, East Chicago Federation of Teachers Local # 511*), **Mrs. Kathleen Kutie** (*District PDS Coordinator, Central High School*), **Mr. Ted Leahey** (*Advance College Project, IU Bloomington*), **Miss Jennifer Ooms** (*UTEP Option I Student*).

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 by Mr. Kelly.

Approval of March 2008 Minutes

There was no quorum to approve minutes.

Advance College Project

Dr. Brock introduced the staff from Advanced College Project (ACP); Ted Leahey, Mike Beam, and Becky Carter. Mr. Beam explained that ACP has been around for over 2 ½ decades, and have previously worked with Gary, Hammond, and East Chicago. Tuition is waived for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch. ACP would like to work with these districts because of the high number of free/reduced lunch students. They came to discuss how UTEP partner districts can get involved in ACP.

Mr. Leahey stated that ACP was designed after a program at Syracuse in New York. He explained that the program would be at high schools taught by the teachers in the buildings during the course of the school day. The only thing required of the district is that teachers to sign up for paid training. Travel and training will be paid by ACP. The district only needs to release the teachers for training. 3 CEUs will be given for training. ACP is copy written. Each School Board is asked to sign a document saying that ACP classes will be offered at designated schools, and is required to do so annually.

ACP classes are actual college courses that the teacher has been trained to deliver in the high school. They are listed in the course catalog, and only eligible to students enrolled in particular school. ACP students should rank in upper half of their high school class, and have a GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. ACP student retention is 90%-93%, and average GPAs are between 3.0 and 3.5. Students are usually junior and senior levels when they begin ACP taking courses. That varies depending on the course, but they are usually senior level.

Mrs. Kutie asked if equipment would be provided. Mr. Leahey replied that with IUN being a regional partner he would be speaking with them regarding equipment.

Mr. Kelly asked if there is a restriction on training for teachers. Mr. Leahey replied that all interested teachers will need to submit applications, transcripts, and have at least 3 years of classroom experience. All of that information is then handed off to a liaison who reviews the candidates. If accepted, they will be brought on for training. After they have been trained they would be certified to offer course. Dr. Brock asked what ACP is looking for in teachers. Mr. Leahey replied (with English as an example) that a solid foundation of content English, good performance record in undergraduate courses, and graduate work towards college level thinking/writing, etc. is what is taken into consideration. Teachers can take courses at any college and be fully paid if IU affiliated or reimbursed.

Dr. Chiatula asked if there is a minimum number of students per teacher. Mr. Leahey replied that there is no minimum. Mr. Amones asked the difference between 4 and 5 credit hour courses. Ms. Carter replied that 4 credit hours must be offered to parallel what is offered at IUN for M215.

Dr. Brock asked how often evaluations take place. Mr. Leahey replied that it is usually only once per semester. There are liaisons in each region to get to the schools, so teachers can expect to be observed each semester. The liaison will not report on the teacher, only the students. The teachers are the schools' responsibilities.

Dr. Chiatula asked if there is a stipend paid for teaching a course. Mr. Leahey replied that it was not because teachers are being paid through the school district. Mr. Graban inquired about retraining. Mr. Leahey replied that there is an option to retrain every 5 years.

Mr. Amones asked how textbooks would work. Mr. Beam replied that it varies with subject areas, and that he is willing to work with districts if ordering books is too costly.

PDS Retreat

Dr. Brock stated that she would like to get a group of people together to prepare a template, job descriptions, PDS workshops, etc. during a workday. She would also like to review the report from Dr. Taylor. UTEP would provide the food for breakfast and lunch. Possible Aquatorium in Miller on June 12, 2008.

Adjournment

Dr. Brock motioned to adjourn and it was seconded by Dr. Chiatula. The meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m. by Mr. Kelly.