

CMAC (Coalition of Minorities Advisory Committee)
Minutes of Meeting held, September 24, 2009
Utah State Office of Education – South Board Room

Conducting: CMAC Chair – Charlene Lui
Minutes taken by: Amanda Charlesworth
Introductions by: CMAC Chair – Charlene Lui
Cultural Reverence by: Soulee L.K.O. Stroud

- Mr. Stroud presented a timeline of Hawaiian History (please see handout) and a brief explanation of the 1993 Apology Bill which was passed in the U.S .Congress. A current bill is asking for recognition for Native Hawaiians, an indigenous people. Mr. Stroud concludes with comments on the Native Hawaiian Reorganization Act that is now in progress, and the need for support from all ethnic groups.

Comments from Superintendent: Dr. Larry Shumway

- He expressed thanks for allowing him to jump in on the agenda. He has a concern about some conversations going on around the state. Today he had a dialogue with a person about high school preparation for college.
 1. Specifically the math requirements for college degrees compared to that of high school graduation requirements.
 2. Dr. Shumway wants standards, but not the same standards for everyone. Differentiated standards for different fields and populations.
 3. He is reviewing the issue and expects high quality results.

Introduction of Title 1 staff: Karl Wilson Title 1 Director

1. Lisa Whisham: Lisa is the coordinator for 21st century schools in Utah.
2. Becky Donaldson: Becky brings leadership to the Reading 1st grant and is here to work on school and district improvement.

Comments about Title 1 staff introductions:

Richard Gomez

- CMAC took part in giving Title 1 input for the state and regional level team members for school improvement teams.
- He suggested that Title 1 be on a CMAC agenda, at some future time, to update the status of the improvement efforts, etc.

Karl Wilson

- Mr. Wilson would be happy to do a presentation or report for CMAC.
- The extra stimulus dollars are meant to target the areas with high numbers of disadvantaged populations.

Item#1: Approval of CMAC Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2009 – Charlene Lui

- Motion by Nola Lodge-Hurford
- 2nd from Aida Santos-Mattingly.
- Motion carries minutes are passed.

Item #2: Update of the 2010 CMAC nominees – Richard Gomez

1. Reference to the list that went into the board last week (Pool of nominees)
2. You are encouraged, (per USBE rep. on CMAC); submit individual letters of support for any of the nominated candidates.
3. Email letters to Twila Affleck. Richard will remind her that the letters will be coming. Richard reminded CMAC members that USBE also pulls, from this pool of nominees, names of individuals for when people resign before their appointed terms end.
4. Charlene Lui – Expressed thanks to all those involved in developing such a large candidate pool.
5. Soulee L.K.O. Stroud - asked if CMAC had reviewed attendance in consideration for nominations. Charlene explained that it had been taken into consideration.

Item #3: Region VIII BUENO Center EAC: Utah Orientations – Richard Gomez

1. The new Region VIII representative came to Utah last week and held meetings to further the project requests with Utah. During that visit there was a meeting with Deputy Superintendent Menlove. Dr Menlove shared the following with CMAC:
 - o He thanked Richard for pulling the orientations together.
 - o He indicated that the Bueno center at U of CO Boulder has been in service for a number of years, providing assistance at all levels of the education communities. They obviously have some great things to offer students and schools in Utah. He was impressed with their willingness to work with Utah. His only concern is the advisory board representative for Utah needs to come from this office. It will most likely be Richard Gomez. This is a great opportunity for resources and expertise to help Utah.

2. Richard explained that we are in competition with five other states for any services they give, so there should be collaborative dialogue among districts/charter schools that may apply.
3. Richard reviewed the following that came from this Utah site visit by Dr. Manuel Escamilla, the EAC Director:
 - A list of EAC expert and experienced staff at the EAC that Utah has access to. (See handout.)
 - The preferred points of contact format for the EAC work in Utah; i.e., the EAC will inform the USOE of all visits to Utah.
 - The USOE will submit a technical assistance request for the Utah ESL Endorsement as part of updating process.
 - There seems to be interest in a follow-up statewide Equity Conference, similar to the one that took place in year 2000, which drew over 1,000 participants.
 - From that conference, the REACH training was approved by the USBE, for use in Utah.
 - Inclusion center was launched out of the conference.
 - The initial standards for the ESL endorsement were established at that time.
 - A request for CMAC participation, on the committee to plan for such a conference, will be forthcoming.
4. Robert DePoe – asked if Richard serving on the advisory board will be a conflict of interests. Richard responded with a “No” because the EAC Board does not have anything to do with technical assistance requests to the EAC.
5. Charlene Lui – CMAC has often talked about revisiting the conference and she feels it’s appropriate that CMAC do that.
6. Debbie Corsino-Moore – since it’s being revisited will the things that came out of the first conference be taken on again? For example, update the validation/accreditation of REACH and other programs that came out of the conference.
7. Robert DePoe – would like to see a focus on other minority groups and just have a multicultural conference. “That was done in Denver and it was great!”

Item #4: Update on Indian Education – Dr. Harold (Chuck) Foster

1. Dr. Foster explained his handouts:
 - a. Assessment and Accountability of American Indian Students Booklet (Discussion of several items)
 - b. American Indian FY 2008-2009 Report
2. Nola Lodge-Hurford - Since the draft was approved by the state board, will it have to be readdressed by the board?
3. Robert DePoe - can we solidify that relationship with all five tribes through the USOE? It would help them be apart of the group but still be their own too.
4. Charlene Lui - wants to go back to what Nola brought up. She would like to go back into the board minutes and find out if it was ever approved. The development and support of a strategic task force was approved by USBE; however, the plan was not approved at that time.
5. Dr. Foster – made reference to the USOE/Indian Education website
 - a. Robert DePoe asked if the “We Shall Remain” series is tied to the USOE website, Dr. Foster said it was.
6. Debbie Corsino-Moore – explained that SLCC hosted a conference and Synapse was created. Synapse and SLCC have recently been recognized, on a national level, for the work that was done specifically with American Indians at the conference. SLCC is sending 29 students to the next conference.
7. Dr. Geo Ja-Ja – indicated that some of his students are doing research on Indian education, specifically on:
 - a. What happens after the students have left high school?
 - b. What is the best way to integrate Indian youths into the system and help them get to college?
 - c. Lillian Tsosie-Jensen – had a few questions re: Title VII Indian Education formula grant applications. Of the five districts to the north – which ones are applying? Is Ogden included? Answer: Ogden School District attended the EAC orientation, and expressed interest in submitting a technical assistance request.
 - d. Also could the EAC work with USOE/Richard/Counselors-Dawn Kay to really push for this?
8. Richard Gomez indicated that Dawn Kay- Stevenson, the CTE Guidance and Counseling Coordinator, also attended the EAC orientation, and kept Dr. Escamilla busy with questions after it ended. He also reminded CMAC that Tom Saches position, CTE, Guidance and Counseling Specialist, has been open, and that qualified applicants should be encouraged to apply.
9. Charlene Lui – When Dr. Escamilla visited he reminded her that EAC funds could be used to provide Professional Development in that area.
10. Soulee L.K.O Stroud – with the Federal Gov. there are many resources to help with the Native Hawaiian populations in the United States.
 - a. On item # 8 and #13 of the American Indian FY 2008-2009 Report, Soulee suggested to include Native Hawaiians in federal grant applications.
11. Charlene Lui - asked if is there a one page summary of Dr. Foster’s booklet? She really feels as though we need to produce a booklet of each group’s stats so we can use that data as a better resource. We need to present this to the board. This is a challenge she presents to CMAC members.

Item #5: Update on Utah’s MESA – Mr. Jeffery Ojeda

1. Jeff Ojeda –Expressed his appreciation for the time on the agenda. At the last CMAC meeting Mr. Ojeda gave CMAC a brief rundown, but today he will discuss further in depth.
2. On Sept. 12, 2009 Mr. Ojeda and his team had their annual MESA conference.

- a. At the conference they gave out “goody bags” they contained:
 1. Manual from NASA for classroom activities
 2. Classroom set example books
 3. Change is possible stories of women and minorities in mathematics
 4. Pens/pencils/calculators
 5. A 2 GB flash drive stamped with the MESA logo and corresponds to the logo on the bag and website.
 - i. The mentor program was up loaded on to all of the flash drives.
3. Mr. Ojeda explained that his team is working to follow a group all the way to college to get the hard data that shows that MESA really is making a difference.
4. USU has a few doctoral students there who want to specifically look at MESA Data to decide the trends, success etc. from a quantitative data point of view.
5. MESA at the end of last year they had just shy of 6000 students participating with 140 advisors.
6. MESA is being viewed and used as a vehicle for other programs that support these kids.
7. Mr. Ojeda has a bag for each CMAC member, along with the up loaded flash drives.
8. Referenced the MESA Website on the USOE web server.

Follow up comments regarding Utah’s ESL endorsement:

1. Mr. Ojeda - There has been a lot of work done. It is not to say there is not good and rigorous training going on. There are some very wonderful things happening. What they are hoping to achieve is to really set some standards so that everyone can achieve the same level of quality. Mr. Ojeda doesn’t want CMAC thinking that the endorsement is really out of wack, because it’s not. They just want state wide quality and to be aware of where the quality ESL endorsement work is going on.
2. Dr. Geo Ja-ja – The refugee kids receive less ESL help than the other kids. Can the task force address that issue directly?

Item #6: Chair Report – Charlene Lui

1. Please pay attention to her bulletin this month and especially the “Promises to Keep” document, as it is a full document now.
2. If you have any input please send it via email to Charlene.
3. RTTT means Race to the Top grant.
4. Read through all handouts and reply with questions.
5. Common core standards – 47 states have bought into the common core standards. This December that will be in affect. The window for feedback is through Oct. 21st, for those of you who have the time review it entirely and comment.

Additional Item: Ike Spencer

1. Ike brought handouts for the multicultural expo coming up. This information was forwarded from Charlene this week.

Additional comments from Chair: Charlene Lui

1. Charlene’s assignment for CMAC is for each one of the committee members to work with their ethnic groups and develop a one page summary of that groups data and suggestions for possible solutions. This will be on the next agenda.

Item #7: State Board Comments – (Charlene Lui invited comments from Dr. Menlove in Denis Morrill’s absence) Dr. Menlove

1. Two items:
 - a. The Utah Race to the Top application is for 400 million dollars. Dr. Menlove asked to be on a future CMAC agenda to talk more about RTTT.
 - b. Potential Legislation – it would be wonderful if we had some legislative proposal that comes out of CMAC. That will require being on the CMAC agenda. Reminder that asking for a fiscal note will make it a harder proposition. Consider what impact CMAC input could have.

Item #8:

Adjourned at 2pm, next meeting is set for October 22, 2009. RSVP attendance to Amanda Charlesworth.