AccelerateED Instruction Subcommittee

Monday, June 1, 2020 (meeting 7)

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Instruction Subcommittee

Patrick Kelly, Chairman
Tonya Addison
Katherine Coleman
Katherine Lee D'Andrea
Latoya Dixon
Abbey Duggins
Sherry East
Anna Hall
Hollie Harrell
Tommy Hodges
Rainey Knight
Sandra Linder
Rich O'Malley
Tommy Hodges

SC Department of Education (SCDE) Staff

Ryan Brown
Rebecca Davis
Crystal Dennis
Stephanie DiStasio
Elizabeth Ann Jones
Angel Malone
David Mathis
Bradley Mitchell
Quincie Moore
John Payne
Brian J. Pratt
Anne Pressley
Laurie Traywick

Minutes

Agenda: Fall 2020 Recommendations

The Instructional Subcommittee continued to review, discuss, and make recommendations to the fall recommendations working document.

Step 4: Structuring and Scheduling Learning

Ensuring a Well-Rounded Education

- The Arts (visually performing, performing arts),
- Physical Education (including ROTC), and
- Media Centers and Media Specialist
    - Make a strong statement of support.
    - Ask professional organizations to give us their thoughts on what it should look like in their areas for the subcommittee to use as appendices.
    - Discuss the recommendations, the need to evaluate existing resources in arts and PE, potentially use CARES funding to provide the equipment necessary to meet health guidelines/requirements (CTE, high school science labs, etc.).
    - Encourage the professionals to plan for how to execute via eLearning.

Districts should enter the new school year with a clear communication strategy to implement in the event of a return to full distance learning due to a resurgence of COVID-19.

- Career and Technology Education (CTE)
    - Recommendation for a hybrid plan in the event of resurgence so that districts/ CTE centers have an opportunity to give students the hands-on skills they need.
    - Need for Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) guidance for students in courses that need guidelines to be prepared on day one to walk into a facility. The DHEC guidelines should rest in the Safety area, but be referenced in Instruction.
    - Recommendations on how to use CARES funds for CTE, encourage districts to consider needs.

Ms. Malone will meet with CTE directors to flesh out guidance/recommendations for various courses (appendix from Construction Trades, Engineering, and Architecture (CTEA)).

- Special Education
    - Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams will need to answer:
        - What are the needs of a student that resulted from the closure vs. what are the needs that resulted from the disability? Districts determine how programs are administered.
        - What is the student going to need in order to work on his/her IEP goals? Intensifying the services already in place? Adding additional services?
        - Parents and IEP teams need to consider compensatory services for those students will the most pronounced needs that cannot be delivered via distance learning (medical homebound, etc.).
        - CARES funding could be used for salaries.
    - Recommend districts have clear plans for students with IEPs.

Ms. Davis will provide guidance.

- English Learners
    - Encourage hiring additional staff, increase individualize instruction, as available
    - Need for additional resources of translators, software, etc. for family engagement (look at NIET recommendations).

Ms. Duggins will research for guidance the ratio, etc.

- Teacher Evaluations
    - Fold in resurgence recommendations. SCDE to be ready to address extensions to teachers, extending 4.0 timelines for administrators, etc.

- Field Studies (groups of students)
    - Refer to recommendations of Safety to establish what the criteria for what “safe” is. Check with Operations Subcommittee to see what they have come up with.
    - Leave to districts due to liability, locations, buses, social distancing, community support, etc. putting safety of students and staff first.
    - Recommend districts have a plan for how to address field studies in the event of resurgence of COVID-19. Put this into the contingency section.

- Emergency Drills
    - Ask for Safety/Operations to ask DHEC for guidelines.

- Class Size Caps
    - Safety and Operations Subcommittees will take the lead from DHEC guidelines.

- Recommendations for what schools should do if someone in building is found to have COVID-19
    - Districts, with guidance from DHEC, must engage in clear and consistent communications about processes/procedures in the event of COVID in the building.

- Recommendations for what districts should do in the event staff is unable to report due to COVID-19
    - Recommend that districts have a plan for what to do in the event of a substitution shortage in a building within the requirements of existing health/safety requirements.

- Substitutes
    - Recommend that districts have a plan for what to do in the event that a teacher is ill for a sustained period during distance eLearning.

Next Steps

- Full Task Force Meeting – Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 10 a.m.

- Next Subcommittee Meeting – TBD

Instructional Subcommittee is asked to refer to the draft recommendations working document to make any revisions, comments/suggestions, or add questions within the Draft Recommendations Google form.