

Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Dec. 12, 2023

Members Present: Patty Lansink, Josh Bowar (virtually), Brian L'Heureux, Donna Bishop, Natasha Havercamp (virtually)

Others in Attendance: Kim Buryanek, Rachel Bosovich, Dennis McClain (virtually), Wanda Steuri (virtually), April Gosselink-Lemke (virtually)

Agenda Item	Person	Notes
1. Welcome and Review Agenda	Patty Lansink	Reviewed the agenda. No additions were made at this time.
2. Background Checks and Fingerprinting	Rachel Bosovich	<p>Rachel Bosovich discussed HF 682 that added expressed language requiring non-public schools to follow the same background checks and fingerprinting that public schools follow. She stated the law does not allow for anyone to be grandfathered in and substitute teachers are required to go through standard background checks. She stated code 272.2 subsection 17, 279.13 and 279.69 for reference. She also mentioned that the Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE) can be contacted on the topic. She brought up a few contacts within BOEE that would be helpful, including Danielle Brooks who specializes in background checks and Beth Meyers, the attorney, for historical precedent.</p> <p>Patty Lansink asked about individuals who are already working and whether they would need to have their background checks done immediately. Rachel mentioned there is no retroactive language and to her knowledge it means they would be background tested upon initial hire and renewal for licensure. She recommended touching base with Beth Meyers for questions on when finger printing would need to be completed.</p>
3. Cybersecurity Licenses	Patty Lansink	Patty Lansink had questions about the cybersecurity licenses provided to public schools and whether nonpublic would have access. Kim Buryanek stated that the Department does not provide free cybersecurity licenses. The Department of Management's IT department has a program. The Department was asked to share with public school superintendents so they knew it was a legitimate resource. It did not go through the Department of Education.

<p>4. LETRS Courses</p>	<p>Kim Buryanek Wanda Steuri April Gosselink-Lemke</p>	<p>The Department has been working for months on a literacy initiative. The Department utilized ESSER Relief funds to enter into a contract with Lexia for LETRS for training. There will be an amendment to the contract to allow non-public schools to participate in LETRS. An email will be going out soon to announce this.</p> <p>Donna Bishop asked if this is a different version of LETRs than the current version being offered by the AEAs. Kim Buryanek stated that this a newer version, a third edition that includes a bridge to practice to help implement the knowledge in the classroom. Kim Buryanek introduced Wanda Steuri and April Gosselink-Lemke to explain the LETRS courses.</p> <p>Donna Bishop asked if nonpublic schools would be in training and cohorts with other nonpublic school teachers or mixed with public school teachers. Wanda Steuri stated that it cannot be guaranteed. Cohorts will be determined by availability. Wanda Steuri stated that the second sign up window will open up Monday, Dec. 18, 2023 and be open until Feb. 29, 2023.</p> <p>Josh Bowar asked if 5,000 public school teachers have the opportunity to sign up what the numbers looked like for nonpublic school teachers. Kim Buryanek state they have the funding for 500 nonpublic teachers and 100 administrators.</p> <p>Donna Bishop asked what the commitment will be. Wanda Steuri stated that the licenses will be good for two years and it is a two-year commitment. Kim Buryanek stated that an ideal situation would be if you have 40-43 interested parties, you could have an individual cohort and dedicate PD days to training. Other smaller districts have also combined to create their own cohorts. She suggested that nonpublic schools could also do this and align PD days within their calendar.</p> <p>Wanda also stated that after the two years the teachers will lose access to their digital platform but are able to retain their paper materials. The goal of this program is to build teacher knowledge. Donna Bishop asked if the administrator modules differ. Wanda stated that the administrator program includes school improvement and management of practice principles. Kim Buryanek stated that central office staff and curriculum staff would also benefit from the administrator course because of the focus on implementation.</p> <p>Brian L'Heureux asked if we have the funds to continue this on the next level. Kim Buryanek stated that the licenses will most likely continue into the Fall of 2024 with a third cohort.</p> <p>Donna Bishop asked how this differs from AEA training. Kim Buryanek stated that this dives deeper into the subject matter. It is also is available free to staff while AEA has charged. She stated that the third edition has a crucial bridge to practice component that they would be missing. Wanda Steuri stated they are looking to sign-up teachers who are not currently enrolled in the program. Brian L'Heureux asked if nonpublics will be included in the fall session. Kim Buryanek stated that they will be available if the 500 teacher and 100 administrator slots have not already been filled.</p> <p>Josh Bowar asked if teachers or grades would be able to band together or if it needed to be one teacher per license. Wanda and Kim stated that per the contract, one license is given to one participant.</p> <p>Patty Lansink asked what the cost was for the program at large and what was the designation for nonpublic licenses. Kim Buryanek stated that the total cost was \$9,200,000 with \$800,000 designated for the 600 nonpublic licenses.</p>
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		Donna Bishop asked if public schools are stipending teachers because of the contract-hour issues. Kim Buryanek stated that there is a mix. Many public schools are trying to work the training within their PD calendar.

Next Meeting Dates: Feb. 13, 2024 and May 14, 2024