

Home Education Advisory Council

Minutes—February 9, 2010

Chairman Abbey Lawrence called the regular meeting of the Home Education Advisory Council to order at 3:40 p.m. in Room 12, Londergan Hall, Concord, New Hampshire.

Members Present: Mike Benik, Marc Boyd, Barrett Christina, Michael Compitello, George D’Orazio, Representative Paul Ingbretson, Abbey Lawrence, Neil Nevins, and Roberta Tenney.

Visitors present: Sarah Bell, Sue Bell, Kristine Bolstridge, Mary Faiella, Thomas Faiella, Michael Grady, Jane Grady, Diane Lachance, Angela Lawrence-Hurt, and Deidra Winslette.

Minutes: The Council approved the minutes of the January 12, 2010 regular HEAC meeting, as submitted, by general consent.

Chairman’s Report:

- Abbey Lawrence will make the annual HEAC report to the State Board of Education in April. She requested input from council members about matters to bring before the Board. Some topics for consideration are the rules revision process, “push-outs,” and truancy charges against homeschoolers.
- The Council approved a motion at the January 12, 2010 meeting requesting that Commissioner Barry provide a technical advisory about curriculum requirements for homeschooling notifications. Chris Hamilton volunteered to assist in drafting the technical advisory. Roberta Tenney agreed to review Chris’s draft. Abbey and Roberta discussed the technical advisory process and accessibility of Department personnel.
- Abbey reminded Council members that comments about the Council’s position should be made only as a result of formal motions approved at Council meetings.
- Abbey met with John Lyons, Chairman of the State Board of Education, earlier this month to discuss the rules revision process. The State Board of Education meeting is tomorrow, February 10. The Board will discuss the process for the Department’s Ed. 315 proposal.

Legislative Report: Chris Hamilton submitted a written legislative report.

- The Council discussed HB2 that sunsets all non-regulatory boards, commissions, councils, advisory committees, and task forces created by the legislature. The Council is currently among those recommended for reinstatement.
- Representative Ingbretson reported that the HEC subcommittee that reviewed HB 1580 would recommend that the bill is inexpedient to legislate at the February 16, 2010 executive session.

DOE Report: Roberta had no homeschooling matters to report. Abbey asked if Roberta knew of any in-service training about homeschooling requirements available to superintendents. Keith Pfeifer has recommended providing this type of training to superintendents. Roberta said that the DOE offered homeschooling information to SAU clerical staff in May, 2009.

Unfinished Business:

- Barrett Christina distributed draft policies from the New Hampshire School Boards Association regarding homeschooling and homeschooler participation in public school activities.

New Business: There was no new business.

Public Comment: Abbey invited public comment from guests.

- Kristine Bolstridge asked Barrett to clarify the first sentence in the “Evaluation Procedures” section of the New Hampshire School Boards Association draft homeschooling policy.
- Kristine Bolstridge and Deidra Winslette mentioned the *Presentation Day* included in their local homeschooling co-op.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Grady
(substituting for Dennis Wyman)