

Home Education Advisory Council

Minutes – November 9, 2010

The regular meeting of the Home Education Advisory Council commenced at 3:44 p.m. on November 9, 2009 in Room 15 of the Department of Education. Chairman Abbey Lawrence presided.

Members Present: Abbey Lawrence, Keith Pfeifer, George D’Orazio, Chris Hamilton, Mike Compitello, Mike Benik, Barrett Christina

Members Absent: Molly Kelly, Paul Ingbreton, Dennis Wyman, Emma Rous, Marc Boyd, Neil Nevins,

Visitors present: Rebecca Gifford, Heather Wheeler

Chairman’s Report:

Abbey talked about a discussion with a homeschooler who had spoken with a former state senator about participation in public school sports; the latter believed that a “10% rule” would apply to homeschoolers’ participation. Council members agreed that NHIAA rules govern high school sports.

Abbey, Chris, and Marc had attended the October 22 meeting of the Nonpublic School Advisory Council to discuss the vacant seat on the council allocated to them; Heather Wheeler was present to express an interest in filling that vacancy. One nonpublic school that had acted as participating agency for home education programs had closed in June; HEAC members discussed whether or not it could continue acting as participating agency. Issues raised were whether it continued to have a governing body and whether its approval status lapsed or continued. One member of NPSAC had wanted data about how many homeschooled students went on to enroll in nonpublic schools. That data would be difficult to assemble.

October Minutes:

The minutes were approved by assent, with an amendment to clarify that remarks about attendance noted in the DOE report of the October, 2010 minutes actually were made as clarification to the DOE report in the September, 2010 minutes.

Rules changes:

The charter of a Rules Subcommittee was discussed. The council assented to the following changes:

- Additional changes from HB406 and SB18
- Administrative issues
- Possible changes to Ed315.05 (e)(12) and the language “deny the establishment”
- Re-examine the Due Process section, using the proposal sent by Mary Mayo to Abbey on 6/30/10 as a starting point, and addressing any issues related to making Ed315.17 consistent with Ed200.

The subcommittee is also free to bring any additional items of concern back to the council for advice and consent. George, Keith, Chris and Mike will serve on the subcommittee. Keith moved, and the council unanimously voted, to appoint Mike as chair and Chris as the recording secretary.

Legislative Report

See attached.

Old business:

Mike* brought a copy of a PowerPoint presentation based on the report “*Exploring Academic Outcomes of Homeschooled Students*”; Chris had circulated the report at the October meeting. The presentation is available at <http://i.bnet.com/blogs/homeschool.pdf>. He will also try to get permission to circulate the full study, which is available for a fee. This report might be useful to include in the council’s annual report to the BOE. (*Mike Compitello)

The council discussed placement and awarding of credits. Barrett will continue to investigate the requirement in the NHSBA model policy requiring students to be enrolled in a class before receiving credit based on demonstration of competency.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hamilton