



SC EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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AGENDA

EIA and Improvement Mechanisms Subcommittee

Monday, November 16, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Room 110, Blatt Building

I. Welcome and Introductions Dr. Bob Couch

II. Approval of Minutes of October 26, 2020 Dr. Bob Couch

III. Information: EIA 2019-20 Reports & 2021-22 Budget Requests

EIA Binder: <https://tinyurl.com/y5s5capi>

Presentations:

• Reach Out & Read Callee Boulware
Regional Director

• Literacy & Distance Learning Keith Grybowski
Director of Education

• SC Public Charter School/Charter Institute at Erskine Chris Neeley
Superintendent &
Cameron Runyan
CFO

• Student Loan Corporation Ray Jones
VP of Loan Programs

• SC Youth Challenge Academy LaToya Reed
Director

• CarolinaCAP Thomas Hodges
Executive Associate Dean-USC

• BRIDGE Program Janice Owens
Dean, College of Education
Charlie Spell
Chairperson, Department of Education-SCSU &
Anthony Pittman
Dean, School of Education-Claflin University

• Teach for America SC Troy Evans
Executive Director

Lunch

IV. Discussion & Recommendations EIA Subcommittee

V. Adjournment

Subcommittee Members:

Dr. Bob Couch, Chair

April Allen

Melanie Barton

Rep. Neal Collins

Sen. Kevin Johnson

Dr. Brian Newsome

Ellen Weaver

Ellen Weaver
CHAIR

Bob Couch
VICE CHAIR

Terry Alexander

April Allen

Melanie Barton

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Greg Hembree

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Neil C. Robinson, Jr.

Jamie Shuster

Molly Spearman

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Scott Turner

C. Matthew Ferguson, Esq.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT
EIA & IMPROVEMENT MECHANISMS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting

October 26, 2020

Members present: Dr. Bob Couch, EIA Chair; Ellen Weaver, EOC Chair; Rep. Neal Collins; Melanie Barton; Sen. Kevin Johnson; April Allen; and Dr. Brian Newsome

EOC staff present: Matthew Ferguson; Dr. Kevin Andrews; Dr. Valerie Harrison; Hope Johnson Jones; Dr. Rainey Knight; and Dana Yow

Others Present: Diane Sigmon

Dr. Bob Couch opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. The minutes from the May 18, 2020 meeting were approved by a motion from Ms. Weaver, and seconded by Dr. Newsome. He told the subcommittee they would begin the process of reviewing and making recommendations on the EIA 2021-22 budget.

As per statute, Section 59-6-10 of the Education Accountability Act requires the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) to “review and monitor the implementation and evaluation of the Education Accountability Act and the Education Improvement Act programs and funding” and to “make programmatic and funding recommendations to the General Assembly.”

To meet this statutory requirement, the EOC required each EIA-funded program or entity to submit a program and budget report detailing the objectives and outcomes of each program for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-221. In addition, entities requesting new EIA funding in Fiscal Year 2020-21 also submitted detailed requests.

Projections for the 2021-22 budget year will not be released until November 2020. However, the Board of Economic Advisors (BEA) has released its most recent estimates for 19-20 and 20-21. The surplus EIA funds for 2019-20 are projected to be \$1.8 million. The estimate provided for last year was \$31 million. The revenue estimate for 2020-21 is \$879 million with the base EIA funding at \$860.7 million providing an estimated growth of \$18.4 million. The estimate provided last year \$69.5 million. So, the EIA funds have been reduced drastically from this time last year. Of the program requests the EOC has received for EIA funds for 2021-22, there is an increase of \$108 million.

Dr. Couch called on the first presenter, Jane Turner from CERRA

CERRA

Ms. Turner talked about the recent activities of CERRA despite many activities being cancelled or occurring virtually. CERRA is requesting an increase in funding to support Teacher Cadets and Pro Team; it is the same request that the EOC approved last year. They are trying to increase Teaching Fellows from 200 to 225.

Ms. Allen asked for clarification on loan repayment. Ms. Turner stated that they have used the money from loan collection to pay for Teaching Fellows, but they are no longer able to collect these funds.

Ms. Weaver asked if CERRA is hearing about teacher retention in the COVID environment. Ms. Turner said the Supply and Demand Survey was due last Friday, and results will be released in December. She said that anecdotally, CERRA is hearing a lot of different things – that some people are saying they are going to leave teaching. There is an especially great burden on first year teachers this year.

Ms. Turner said she was going to follow up with an update on the Rural Teacher Initiative and also share with Sen. Johnson the names of the four districts who do not have a Teacher Cadet Program.

Dr. Knight asked what the number one use of rural teacher money was. Ms. Turner stated that she believes it is to help pay for international teachers and a critical needs stipend.

SCDE

Ms. Katie Nigles presented the SCDE's requests for EIA funding.

The SCDE is looking for a \$2.4 million increase for industry credentials, referencing a handout she gave to members. Last year, the money saved on not testing in Science and Social Studies paid for industry credentials.

They are also requesting \$30 million in recurring monies for instructional materials. The SCDE does not yet have a priority list. The SCDE is asking for \$3 million for Powerschool and data collection. They asked for \$23 million last year.

The SCDE also asked for an increase of \$6 million in CERDEP to expand by seven classrooms. Most of this is expanding Waterford in the CERDEP districts. The also asked for \$7 million in recurring funds for the Grants Committee; there were eleven applicants last year with requests totaling \$7 million.

For other state agency state teacher salaries, SCDE is asking for an increase of \$336,000 in EIA funds. They would like a 2% increase to teacher salaries in General Funds; \$50 increase to base student cost.

Ms. Allen asked if industry certifications could be broken out by district and certification type. Ms. Weaver also asked the exams taken vs. certificates completed. Ms. Nigles said she would respond with the information. Ms. Allen also asked about innovation grants, asking about what the innovation is. Ms. Nigles said that eleven programs received program, and she can provide additional information.

Ms. Nigles was also asked to follow-up with an evaluation of the effectiveness of Waterford and the percentage of CARES money spent by school districts.

SC Arts Commission

Ashley Brown presented for the Commission. They are asking for \$500,000 additional money in EIA funds to continue to explore the role of the arts on student performance.

SC Council on Economics Education:

Jim Morris and Chandler Jordan presented for the Council, who is not asking for more funding.

Dr. Knight asked if Business Week still occurs at Presbyterian. Members also asked about plans for the work of the Council going into all districts

Science PLUS

Amy St. John presented the results from Science PLUS. Ms. Barton commended them on changing the delivery system; she likes the idea of going to the districts. She suggested she send the videos to the SCDE to push those out to science teachers. They are working with a videographer to recreate those and make them available to everyone across the state.

Mr. Ferguson said he loved the idea of the beginning teacher institute. He wanted to know how many teachers are in the cohort. Ms. St. John said that they are keeping the cohort small, probably 12 people. She also said that new teachers really need support.

Ms. Weaver asked about the customer service mentality that they use in the program and Dr. Knight asked about how they measure outcomes for students.

First Steps

Mark Barnes presented the request for SC First Steps. Ms. Barton asked about state Head Start programs; the enrollment is down nationally. Sen. Johnson asked about what was done with \$6.7 million fund balance. Mr. Barnes said that 100 percent of the money went into services for children.

Ms. Weaver asked about the shortfall. Mr. Barnes said that First Steps needs \$23 million of recurring funds to fund the current program; they get \$17 million from state. SC First Steps does not have the carry forward to sustain the expansion.

SC Coalition for Math and Science

Tom Peters presenting, asking for an additional \$250,000 in funding. Ms. Barton has been looking at analysis of ACT and SAT scores, and said it was nice to see a plan for how to improve math instruction and learning.

Dr. Couch adjourned the meeting when business concluded. He reminded members that the next meeting of the subcommittee would be November 16 and would be all day.