

Advisory Committee on Teaching and Learning (ACTL)

Minutes

Syphax Building, rooms 254/256/258

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Present: Marietta Palmer, Kelli Bergin, Michael Cieslak, Melissa Hyatt, Tia Alfred, Sara Kirschner, David Rowland, Courtney Markle, Carlisle Levine, Jill Abbott, Todd Truitt, Katie Cochran, Greg Eastman, Cheryl McCullough, Daniel Marschall, Kristin Devaney, Rosaelena O'Neil, Christopher Martini, Trisha Anderson, Ginnie Gordon, Jocelyn Gould, Kate McKenney, Janet Sater, Anne Paris, Jenny Roahen Rizzo, Wendy Bermudez, Paula Cordero Salas, Rachel Berkey, Cristina Diaz-Torres, Gerald Mann

Attending via Zoom: Shannon Brady, Jamie McHenry, Emily Chua

7:00 pm, Welcome/approve minutes from October meeting (Jenny Roahen Rizzo)

7:05, APS legislative positions (Cristina Diaz-Torres)

Cristina Diaz-Torres shared the Board's position on legislative issues before the Virginia Assembly. Reps are encouraged to reach out to the Board and to state legislators if an issue is significant to their community.

7:25, Overview of subcommittee recommendation process; Mini lesson on APS key terminology
(Jenny Roahen Rizzo)

7:35, Advanced Academics & Talent Development Advisory Committee report (Carlisle Levine, Greg Eastman, Cheryl McCullough)

Recommendation #1: Cheryl McCullough's position should be revised from Supervisor to Director

Recommendation #2: APS's Clustering Policy (SB Policy I-8.1: 10 or more students per cluster) should be consistently followed

7:55, Career, Technical and Adult Education (CTAE) Advisory Committee report (Rosaelena O'Neil, Daniel Marschall, Christopher Martini)

Recommendation: Provide a 1.0 FTE Career and Technical Education testing coordinator to provide state-approved credentialing support to teachers and students

8:15, Dual-Language Immersion Sub-subcommittee (of the Advisory Committee on English Learners) report (Paula Cordero Salas, Rachel Berkey, Wendy Bermudez)

Recommendation #1: APS allocates funding to hire one Spanish reading specialist for each DLI elementary school to support student literacy in Spanish

Recommendation #2: APS researches and explores how to improve hiring and retention practices for bilingual and biliterate staff for the DLI program

Additional area of focus for DLI: APS should establish a plan to monitor Dual Language Immersion student enrollment and attrition

8:40, Check-in on engaging school communities on literacy

Attendees discussed strategies for reaching a broad range of their communities, including flyers and videos, and made plans to share materials.

8:50, Meeting ends