

# NCAE SBE REVIEW

February 8, 2010

*NCAE Center for Teaching and Learning*

## Essential Standards: Overhauling NC SCOS

### Special points of interest:

- Essential Standards
- Charter renewal and open slots
- US DOE gives accolades to NC regarding the early childhood programs.

The SBE continues to receive updates on curriculum changes as Essential Standards replace the current NC Standard Course of Study.

The **K-12 Science** standards have had teacher teams, college professors and business leaders working as writing teams to create the new course of study. The drafts have been posted online for review and feedback for the last six months. The SBE approved **K-12 Essential Standards 4.0** on Febru-

ary 4th. As these new standards are rolled out, there will be instructional tool kits for teachers at various grade levels as well as Professional Development opportunities to support the new methods of teaching science.

The process of creating Essential Standards for K-12 Social Studies is just beginning. Draft version 1.0 has created an up roar due to the fact that some teachers saw only part of the draft standards and thought that the State DPI

was going to leave out important pieces of American History; which is not true! . As the writing teams made up of teachers, professors and community leaders continues the work, drafts will be posted for review and feedback just as other core content areas have been. Please check out the site: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/phase2/>



## Healthy Responsible Students



The SBE continues to discuss the issues and revisions for SBEP Policy HRS A -00 Acts of School Violence Reported to Law Enforcement and the SBE.

NCAE lobbied this past summer for legislation to address

several issues related to educator as well as student safety at school. The legislation called for the State Board to revise the current policy to make it more inclusive and to ensure all acts of violence are reported and dealt with in a timely manner. There are

several issues being worked on regarding what acts must be reported, and specific definitions regarding these acts. NCAE will have a Policy Brief online, very soon. We will continue to work on this issue as the SBE prepares to vote in March.

## Office of Early Learning

NC DPI is moving in a new strategic direction to better support early learning. As the NC DPI reorganizes various support divisions, a new focus on Pre K–3 is being supported by WK Kellogg Foundation.

The new Office of Early Learning will focus on Pre K–3; combining current staff of the Office of School Readiness and the Primary Grades section of DPI. The new division will link with

content specialists, coordinate with the District and School Transformation Division, and the Frank Porter Graham School. Over the next three years the goal is to ensure that school communities have the resources, skills and understanding of new reforms to best create a solid foundation for young children.

Links that might be useful for Pre K—3 teachers:

[www.ncchild.org/](http://www.ncchild.org/)

[www.ncpublicschools.org/performance/initiatives/schoolreadiness/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/performance/initiatives/schoolreadiness/)

[www.projectappleseed.org/](http://www.projectappleseed.org/)

[www.osr.nc.gov/index.asp](http://www.osr.nc.gov/index.asp)

## ACRE Update—ABCs Accountability Revisions

*One thing which gives radiance to everything is the hope of something better around the corner.*

As NC DPI and the SBE revamp the accountability model, you need to know that there are three categories to address the goals of the SBE; Indicators include student performance,

post-secondary readiness, student growth, graduation rates and academic course rigor. Uses of the data include report/report cards, rewards and sanc-

tions, and targeted assistance both for an individual school or LEA. The levels within the categories include; students, classroom, school, LEA and State.

The items the SBE has reached consensus on include: an exit criteria for post-secondary readiness such as ACT, SAT, Compass and a national credential. Replace the current growth model with longitudinal growth and to include Algebra II EOC to demonstrate academic rigor. It is possible that the SBE will

eliminate the current gateways at 3,5 and 8 and EOC assessments requiring intervention without retesting. Each grade should be a gateway and with the new formative assessments created by teachers and diagnostic assessments for early intervention, this is promising news.

A new item under discussion is how to weight performance, growth, post secondary readiness, graduation rate and rigor without creating unintended consequences.

## NCVPS Report

The NC PS is more than a recovery course provider. The NCVPS provides quality choices for learners, and their teachers. Relationships are still key for student success. As the NC VPS continues to seek better ways to reach out to all students, it is beginning to focus on creating some blended courses for K-8 students.

The four models of the virtual school:

1. **Classic:** courses to assist with recovery/remediation, supporting AP courses and to date has 77 general and honors courses.
2. **Modular:** Mastery-based learning where you have online/virtual paired with face to face

instruction.

3. **Mobile:** Using phone applications to enhance learning
4. **Blended:** which has the highest success rate because of the face to face and online technology both locally and distance.

## Charter School News

1. The Thursday SBE meeting was standing room only! There were over 70 citizens and students from Martin County present to hear a special presentation/plea on their behalf by Senators Goodall and Preston, and a local leader of the Bear Grass Community in Martin County. The concerned citizens were present as they continue to seek a conversation charter for their K-12 school. They seek this special charter because their traditional school is being closed at the end of this year due to small enrollments and the economy.
2. Two charter schools are up for renewal and the SBE did not vote on the renewals due to late information coming to their attention. The two schools are; Cape Lookout Marine Science High School, and The Academy of Moore County.
3. The SBE approved charter school technology plans for several schools.

## Supplemental Budget Discussion

The SBE during the biennial budget year is to request expansions for the K-12 schools. There was much discussion on what priorities needed to be funded that were cut last school year. Some of the items being requested for funding included: restoring 50% of the ADM Adjustment (Discretionary Funds), covering replacement textbooks, restoring LEP and Mentor funding, Legal Support, Tort Claims, Annual Leave, NBTPS,

and include a salary increase for educators. During this discussion several brought up by SBE members to not include with an increase were transportation and school buses. Again, the SBE was told the economic outlook was not good.

It will be an interesting school year, particularly if DPI has to make further cuts.



## NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey Year!



The NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey will be administered this year for all certified staff. The online survey begins March 14th and ends April 15th. Schools that complete the survey

with 100% of the staff providing feedback will have their school entered for drawings of equipment and money.

The autonomous codes for each certified staff member will be mailed to the NCAE AR for the school.

Please provide the letters with the

codes to all certified staff in your school and encourage them to participate. The data collected will help school leaders to make necessary changes to ensure quality teaching and learning takes place in the school and that the working conditions are what they need to be for success.