

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on Instruction
July 18, 2013**

The State Board of Education Committee on Instruction met at 9:03 a.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2013, in Room #1-104 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. All members of the committee were present, as follows:

Presiding: Tom Maynard, chair; Sue Melton-Malone, vice chair; Martha M. Dominguez; Geraldine “Tincy” Miller; Marisa B. Perez

Non-Committee Members Present: Donna Bahorich; Barbara Cargill; Pat Hardy; Thomas Ratliff

Public Testimony

This item provides an opportunity for the public to present testimony at the time the related item comes up for committee discussion or action. The procedures for registering and taking public testimony at State Board of Education committee meetings and general board meetings are provided at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=25769804094> or in the information section (yellow pages) of the agenda.

The Committee on Instruction heard public testimony on agenda items 1 and 3. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion Regarding the Scope of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
(Board agenda page II-11)

Mr. Maynard explained that this item provides the committee the opportunity to discuss the definition of essential as related to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Paul Castro
AFFILIATION: Houston A⁺ Challenge

NAME: Jim Collins
AFFILIATION: Self

2. Information Session Regarding Workforce Skills
(Board agenda page II-15)

Mr. Maynard explained that this item provides the opportunity for the committee to hear invited testimony in preparation for the upcoming review and revision of the career and technical education (CTE) Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Richard Froeschle
AFFILIATION: Texas Workforce Commission

NAME: Michael Bettersworth
AFFILIATION: Texas State Technical College

3. Discussion of the High School Equivalency Program
(Board agenda page II-17)

Gina Day, Texas GED state administrator, federal and state education policy division, presented the chronology of the development of a high school equivalency exam, the results of the 2012 RFI 701-12-011 for Development of a Texas High School Equivalency Examination, current and future fees for testing, and a list of current testing centers that administer exams on paper or computer.

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Randall Trask
AFFILIATION: GED Testing Service (GEDTS)

NAME: Geri Ray
AFFILIATION: CTB/McGraw-Hill

NAME: Mitch Rosin
AFFILIATION: CTB/McGraw-Hill

ACTION ITEM

4. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 89, Adaptations for Special Populations, Subchapter C, Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency
(First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Board agenda page II-1)
[Official agenda item #9]

Gina Day, Texas GED state administrator, federal and state education policy division, presented proposed rule revisions to incorporate changes resulting from the transition from paper-based testing format to computer-based testing format, including additions to the list of eligible entities that may apply to be testing centers to administer high school equivalency exams.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 89, Adaptations for Special Populations, Subchapter C, Certificate of High School Equivalency.*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Discussion of Annual Audit Reports for Credit by Examination from Texas Tech University and The University of Texas at Austin

(Board agenda page II-19)

Shelly Ramos, director of academic standards and services, curriculum division, discussed the results of the annual third-party audit reports submitted by Texas Tech University and The University of Texas at Austin regarding examinations used for credit by examination. The audit indicated that the credit by exam assessments that were reviewed were in alignment with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

6. Dyslexia Update

(Board agenda page II-23)

Monica Martinez, managing director, curriculum division, provided an update on resources and support for students with dyslexia. She also provided an update on recent legislation related to dyslexia. Victoria Young, director for reading, writing and social studies, student assessment division, provided an overview of the accommodations that are available to students with dyslexia on the state assessments.

The meeting of the Committee on Instruction adjourned at 3:02 p.m.