

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COUNCIL OF BASIC EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126**

**November 13, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Dr. James Barker.

**Attending:**

James Agras (*via phone*)  
Carol Aichele  
James Barker  
Nathan Barrett  
Jamie Bracey-Green (*via phone*)

Nicole Carnicella  
Sandra Dungee Glenn  
Anne Griffin  
Pamela Gunter-Smith  
Jeffrey Keeling  
Maureen Lally-Green (*via phone*)

Sen. Wayne Langerholc  
Jonathan Peri  
Ashley Svec  
Jillian Sweigard  
Karen Farmer White  
A Lee Williams

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 11, 2019, meeting of the Council of Basic Education were approved on a **Williams/Aichele** motion.

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Deputy Secretary Matthew Stem highlighted assessment results for the most recent PSSA and Keystone exams and shared that Pennsylvania's results mirror national trends. Mr. Stem said that Pennsylvania had 19,135 fewer re-tests on Keystone Exams in 2018-19, a 10% reduction from 2018, and that PSSA testing time also was reduced on average by 20%. State testing in 2019 was reduced to two weeks and moved later in the school year.

Other student success indicators highlighted by Mr. Stem included:

- 17% increase in the number of students who enrolled in at least one rigorous course of study
- 16% increase in students receiving instruction in computer science
- 22% increase in number of non-CTC students who participated in Industry-Based Learning Experiences
- 30% increase in the number of schools that exceeded the state goal for attendance for English Learners
- Sustained increased enrollment in career and technical education statewide while the trend for secondary enrollment is down over the past five years

Dr. Sherri Smith, Special Advisor to the Deputy Secretary, discussed the Department's efforts surrounding development of the Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal. She reviewed key components of the portal that will centralize planning and reporting by public school entities to PDE, including: Planning Process; Content Portal Tabs (Mandated & Optional Reporting); Resources & Toolkits; and Outcomes-Based Reporting. When the portal is live, Dr. Smith said people will be able to view how schools are performing by visiting the PA Future Ready Index and then view the district-level plans in place to support districts' needs for improvement by visiting the Comprehensive Planning Portal.

Sandra Dungee Glenn offered that having one comprehensive reporting tool will be extremely helpful. In her prior role as a charter school chief administrator, she said having many facets to comply with for reporting was difficult.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chris Clayton, of the Pennsylvania State Education Association, asked whether the Department's equity audit template might interface with data and public-facing accountability. Mr. Clayton said all schools should have a yearly equity audit to look at inputs that create equitable outcomes in school systems.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

There were no action items.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm on a **Barker/Barrett** motion.



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Stephanie Jones  
Administrative Assistant