

Minnesota P-20 Education Partnership

May 2, 2012

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Conference Center B, Room 15

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West

Roseville, MN 55113

MEETING NOTES

Members/Designees Present:

Steven Rosenstone-Chair, Brenda Cassellius, Eric Kaler, Gary Amoroso, Jim Bartholemew, Bill Blazar, Paul Cerkvenik, Jennifer Godinez, Joellen Gonder-Spacek, David Isham, Representative Deb Kiel, Representative Carlos Mariani-Rosa, Robert Meeks, Jo Olsen, Senator Gen Olson, Eugene Piccolo, Larry Pogemiller, Representative Jeanne Poppe, Fred Storti, Kathy Sweeney, Senator Chuck Wiger

Others Present:

Beth Aune, Lois Bollman, Meredith Fergus, Jane Gilles, Thomas Kosel, Janice Kwallek, Emily Lawrence, Larry Litecky, Gregory Marcus, Kevin McHenry, Geoffrey Maruyama, Leslie Mercer, Mary Parker, Kent Pekel, Amy Walstein, Nancy Walton, Gary Westorff, Cliff Wittstruck II

1. Introductions and approval of February 2, 2012 meeting notes

Meeting notes approved. Names from February 9, 2012, attendee sign-in sheet to be added.

2. Achievement Gap 101: Overview of key elements

Presentation by Kent Pekel, University of Minnesota

3. Discussion Questions

- a. How should the P-20 Partnership measure gaps and evaluate progress toward closing them?
- b. Do the data on achievement gaps in the U.S. and Minnesota raise questions and issues that the P-20 Partnership should explore more deeply?
- c. What questions and issues should the P-20 Partnership focus on during its May 31 workshop with Dr. Ferguson and beyond?

GROUP DISCUSSION

There is no single group in Minnesota that leads in gap closing. Should we think about the gap in terms of race or by income level? What are most efficient strategies or most promising combination(s) of interventions? Setting high expectations for parents, teachers, and children could be a powerful tool. The decision remains on whether this P-20 group will work to write policy or effect change.

4. **Review plans for May 31 sessions with Dr. Ronald Ferguson:**

QUESTIONS FOR DR. RON FERGUSON (to be addressed at May 31, 2012, AM meeting)

- i. What would you recommend to be our measures?
- ii. How should we measure change over time?
- iii. Which states are doing really well at assessing early childhood reading levels, etc.?
- iv. What are best practices in early childhood?
- v. Why does Minnesota have such a big achievement gap?
- vi. What are we doing or not doing that is perpetuating the gap?
- vii. What can people in this room do?
- viii. How do we improve progress through the system (pre-K through higher education)?
- ix. What are the most promising strategies or combination of strategies?