

**Minnesota P-20 Partnership  
May 26, 2016  
8:00-9:30am  
Gross Family Board Room, McNamara Alumni Center  
University of Minnesota**

**Meeting Notes**

**Voting members and designees in attendance:**

Eric Kaler (chair), Brenda Cassellius, Dave Adney, Gary Amoroso, Grace Keliher, Larry Pogemiller, Jeanne Herrmann, Mindy Davis, Sondra Erickson, Kathleen O'Donnell, Jim Bartholomew, Jeremy Hanson Willis, Steve Dibb, Brenda Connelly, Amy McDonough, Pakou Yang

**Others in attendance:**

Jon Steadland, Meredith Fergus, Andrew Hosek, Lyle Peterson, Shaun Williams-Wyche, Ted Christ, Julie Sweitzer

**1. Approval of Minutes**

President Kaler welcomed the group and with a quorum being present, the minutes from the December 2015 and March 2016 meetings were approved.

**2. Post-Secondary Attainment Discussion**

Shaun Williams-Wyche from the Office of Higher Education (OHE) delivered a report on OHE's work on post-secondary attainment in Minnesota. Williams-Wyche reminded the group that the 2015 State Legislature approved a higher education attainment goal of 70 percent for ages 25-44 by 2025. Currently, 49 percent of Minnesotans age 25 and older have an associate degree or higher, though Williams-Wyche noted that significant gaps exist by race and ethnicity.

Williams-Wyche pointed out that 175,800 additional certificates or degrees must be awarded by 2025 to reach the attainment goal, with significant differences between ethnic groups. He explained that OHE is working to establish annual targets for growth in educational attainment and working with both higher education systems and individual campuses to operationalize improvements. Williams-Wyche also noted that Minnesota must do a better job of collecting information on race/ethnicity related to post-secondary attainment and identifying certificate programs that are particularly valuable to recipients.

Discussion followed the presentation. Meredith Fergus of OHE observed that there is no coordinated effort among statewide institutions regarding enrollment. Commissioner Pogemiller added that getting students into the right situation is the key factor and that better coordination of enrollment is important. President Kaler requested that the P-20 Partnership keep this issue as a priority for the next year.

### **3. CAREI (Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement) Discussion**

Presentation by Ted Christ from the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Christ gave an overview of the CAREI's work, observing that the research center serves as the link between research and practice in Minnesota schools PreK-16 and other agencies interested in applied educational research. They are experts in research, evaluation, and assessment with a wealth of diverse and interrelated experience.

Discussion began with Jim Bartholomew asking what are the questions that districts and teachers bring to CAREI. Christ observed that it varies, but questions typically deal with program evaluation and data management and analytics. Gary Amoroso noted that CAREI needs to be emphasized as an ongoing resource due to the relatively high rate of turnover among superintendents. Steve Dibb observed that CAREI has been an important partner for not only the Department of Education but also districts around the state. He noted that smaller districts simply do not have the staff to provide quality data analysis, and that CAREI can help fill that role. Grace Kelliher added that given the importance of effectively using data for district success, data competency should maybe be a requirement for administrative licensure in the state.

### **4. Recap of 2016 Legislative Session – Preview of 2017**

The group had a brief discussion about the recently-completed legislative session and potential issues to be discussed in 2017. Representative Erickson observed that teacher licensure and reformation of state education task forces will likely be priorities for the 2017 session.

### **5. Next Meeting and Adjournment**

President Kaler indicated that the next meeting of the task force will be in fall 2016 and that two meetings will be scheduled for fall with the legislative session beginning in January 2017.