

Michigan PreK-12 Literacy Commission Notes

April 27, 2018

Lake Michigan Room, Library of Michigan, Michigan Department of Education

Commission Officers Present: Chair Amanda Price, Vice Chair Naomi Norman, Secretary Denise Smith (online)

Commissioners Present: Lois Bader (online), Steve Goodman (online), JaNel Jamerson (online), Kyle Mayer, Jeremy Reuter, Nadra Shami (online), Susan Medendorp, Cynthia Pape

Commissioners Not Present: John Kennedy

Also Present: Sean Kottke, Angela O'Brien, Caroline Liethen (MDE), Stephen DeGrow (MDE), Richard Lower (MDE), Pat Sargent (MDE)

Welcome & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:10 AM by Amanda Price.

Presentation on Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

Richard Lower and Pat Sargent presented to the Commission on the work of the GSRP (see [PowerPoint](#)).

Presentation on Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MIBLSI)

Steve Goodman presented to the Commission on the work of MIBLSI (see [PowerPoint](#)).

Steve presented Commissioners with a copy of his 2016 book (co-written with Kent McIntosh) [*Integrated Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Blending RTI and PBIS*](#).

Commission Discussion

Commissioners discussed their visions for a series of statewide listening sessions, to consist of facilitated discussion of regional/local literacy issues, sharing data about each region/local, and gather information on successful and promising initiatives taking place in each location. The vision is for ~75-100 participants, open to the public with invited participants (ex., ISD representatives, LEA leaders, parent group representatives, business leaders, representatives from the health and human services sectors, church leaders). There was a recommendation to consider multiple, targeted sessions in each area, in addition to a large general session. By hooking into regional/local social/professional networks, politicians and associations, interest can be stoked. Kyle and Naomi expressed willingness to develop data portraits with state, regional, and local comparisons on literacy across the P-12 spectrum (8-10 compelling items), and Susan reminded Commissioners to unpack all acronyms used in such presentations. Commissioners discussed timing issues, considering pilot sessions with small groups this summer (June/July) to emphasize that literacy is an all-year round issue and highlight summer reading loss. August/September might be better for gaining larger audiences, but these are particularly busy months. The suggestion was made to start in Flint, perhaps in conjunction with Summer Reading Days.

Commissioners discussed new member recruitment, and Amanda noted that if Commissioners can identify potential new members for the Governor's office, it's an easier process than reviewing "cold" nominations submitted online. Consideration was given to identifying someone with a strong background in communications, as well as within the health professional community.

Amanda shared information about a budget for the Commission, noting \$1,000,000 allocation for Early Literacy that is not specifically appropriated, and that the Governor's office had made recommendations to MDE for possible uses (including Commission work).

Next Commission meeting: June 22, 2018, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (location TBD)