**Virtual Education Advisory Committee (VEAC)**

**Meeting Information**

**Date**: 4/11/18

**Location**: Online Video Conference

**Time**: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Committee Members**: **Angelique Littlejohn,** Jamie Christensen, **Jeff Verosky**, **Katie Swistowicz**, Laurie Davis, **Nancy Johnson**, Nish Goicolea, Representative Freeman, **Richard Parker**, R.J. Kost, **Shannon Siebert**, Steve Hopkins, Summer Stephens, Tanya Sisneros, Zeta Anderson

**WDE:** Brent Bacon, Shelley Hamel, Jed Cicarelli, **Kim Morrow**, **Laurel Ballard**, **Robin Grandpre**, **Lori Thilmany**

**Guests:** Bob Jensen, Mary Billiter, **Josh Daniels**

**Agenda**

1. Overview and Updates
   1. Open Education Resources Webinars [Memo](https://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2018/2018-043.pdf)
   2. Quality Matters April Workshops in Upton
   3. Computer Science Costs [Memo](https://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/communications/memos/2018/2018-046.pdf)
   4. Innovations 2018 Nov 7-9 in Evanston
      1. K-12 Digital Learning Award Proposals
      2. Presentation Proposals
      3. Registration is open
   5. The JEIC has requested approval to review the implications of virtual education programs to school accountability metrics, including graduation rates: [2018 Interim Topics Letters](http://wyoleg.gov/InterimCommittee/2018/SMC-201804192-012018InterimTopicLetters.pdf) pages 14-16
2. VEAC Initiated Recommendations for Legislators
3. Review Statement of Concern Form
4. Draft Criteria for PTSB Approved Virtual Education Workshops

**Notes**

**Updates**

* Open Educational Resources
  + First training will be tomorrow April 12
  + WDE is working on rolling out a platform on OER Commons
  + The webinar series will expand knowledge about what OERs are and how to use them
* Quality Matters
  + Workshops on April 19 and 20 in Upton
* Computer Science Education
  + Legislation passed in SF29 that requires all school districts to offer computer science
  + The department will be visiting all districts about the new legislation
  + There was a survey in the memo to help the WDE get some general information about where the districts are in regards to computer science and what costs associated with offering computer science.
  + Boot Up Wyoming web page has all the information around computer science
    - Webinars and other upcoming training
    - Code.org doing free training for K-5
    - UW RAMPED training (math/science partnership grants) - focused on integrating CS into other content areas.
  + Computer Science Education Task Force
    - Subcommittees
      * Grants
      * Workforce Pipeline
      * K-12 Supports
  + Standards Creation
    - Call for participation due May 14
    - Community input due by June 3
    - Standards in place next summer (2019)
  + Computer Science Endorsement
    - There are three ways to get certified in CS
      * CS Program Completion
      * Demonstration of competency (27 credits from an accredited college in CS)
      * Professional Industry and Careers (PIC) Permit
      * NEW - Exception Authorization in Computing Technology
        + Have to have a five year PD plan aligned to course you will teach
    - UW and Community colleges are working together to create a 15 credit certification
    - What is the difference between computing technology and instructional technology?
      * Generally, computing technology refers to utilizing some form of computer technology (such as software, hardware or a computer system) to complete a task.
      * Instructional technology typically refers to effective learning practices utilizing training and educational technologies.
* Wyoming Innovations in Learning Conference
  + K-12 Digital Learning Awards deadline has been extended to April 13.
  + We need presentation proposals due May 4 - PLEASE SHARE
  + Registration is now open! Consider attending.
* The JEIC has requested approval to review the implications of virtual education on the accountability measures
  + The Joint Management Council will meet on April 19 to discuss the interim topics
  + We will know at our next meeting if VE will be an interim topic

**VEAC Initiated Recommendations for Legislators to Consider**

* Recommend changes to legislation
  + Allow MOUs between districts
  + Annual reports from VEAC
* Need to be careful on how we word the recommendation to allow MOUs as the way statute is currently written for this topic doesn’t allow for a simple modification to the language.
* Conversations about these two recommendations might be easier if VE becomes an interim topic as it will allow for opportunities to present information to the JEIC.

**Statements of Concern**

* The attachment is draft language that will be in a form so that districts can submit concerns.
* Please review and provide comments, if needed.
* If someone on the VEAC has a concern, should someone else from the district present the concern?
  + The committee determined that it would work best if the school district Virtual Education Coordinators submit the Statement of Concern as that individual should be informed of the issues, etc.
  + If there is a submission from a VEAC member’s school district, the member(s) will have to recuse themselves from the decision of that concern.
* This form would be for school districts but not parents.
  + Limit to school district email domains.

**Criteria for PTSB Approved Virtual Education Workshops**

* Virtual Education will be added as a check box on the Facilitator Request
* Timeframe for first year of implementation will be August 2018 to July 2019
* What criteria is needed in order to be considered VE PD?
  + Teaching online content in a blended or virtual environment
  + Developing or improving online course content
  + Utilizing a learning management system (LMS)
  + Utilizing open educational resources (OER)

**Other**

The WDE has many different digital learning initiatives but not everyone understands what they are or how they are related. Need to help the staff in schools and districts understand the distinctions and differences between computer science, OER, Canvas, and Virtual 307.

**Action Items**

* Send VEAC members Innovations information and share VE Statement of Concern and PTSB Approved VE Workshops Criteria for edits