

Virtual Education Advisory Committee (VEAC)

Meeting Information

Date: 10/10/18

Location: WDE Zoom Meeting

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, *Tanya Sisneros*, *Zeta Anderson*

WDE: Shelley Hamel, John Bole, *Kim Morrow*, Laurel Ballard, *Robin Grandpre*, *Lori Thilmany*

Guests: Bob Jensen, Josh Daniels, *Jody Rakness*, *Tim Hancock*

((Names in *italics* indicate meeting attendees))

Agenda

1. Updates
 - a. 2018-19 Program Applications and Course Approvals
 - b. Request for Virtual Education Statute Revisions
2. Virtual Education Teachers
 - a. Substitute Teacher Information
 - b. Wyoming Innovations in Learning [Conference](#)
3. Future Meeting Schedule

Notes

Updates

- 2018-19 Program Applications and Course Approvals
 - 19 districts have been approved to offer virtual education programs during the 2018-19 school year.

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- Two districts submitted applications for renewal but withdrew from consideration due to only needing to offer a few classes.
- Those two districts decided to purchase courses from other Virtual 307 districts in the state to meet the virtual education needs of their students.
- WDE638 WISE Course Inventory
 - Each of the districts with 2018-19 virtual education classes have submitted those courses on the WDE638.
 - There are minor revisions districts need to make to the WDE638 but the transition to reporting virtual education classes on this collection was successful.
- Request for VE Statute Revisions
 - If you didn't notice in the September updates sent in place of meeting, we have added a request to allow for the waiver exception of using a postsecondary faculty member to teach classes when a certified teacher isn't available. This exception is written into statutes for brick and mortar classes and we are asking for it to apply to virtual education classes also. This exception is helpful for courses such as higher level or unique world language courses. Smaller districts don't have the means to offer a large variety of language classes but virtual education is a means to deliver more of those options to Wyoming students.
 - We also added the report from the VEAC to the Joint education Interim Committee (JEIC) to be made annually instead of as needed. Representative Freeman thought the annual report would be good to keep the JEIC informed on the status and progress of virtual education.
 - The WDE Chief Policy Officer, Megan Degenfelder, talked with the Legislative Service Office about the revision request and learned the JEIC agenda for Nov is full. We not sure if the topic will make it on the agenda but will still be working to move the request forward.
 - The WDE Chief Policy Officer, Megan Degenfelder, has a meeting with Representative Freeman to discuss drafting a bill with the revisions.

Virtual Education Teachers

- Substitute Teacher Information

- We want to make sure everyone is aware a Wyoming certified teacher is able to substitute in virtual education classes when the designated teacher is working on licensure.
- The substitute teacher does not need to have the content area endorsement.
- A teacher working on licensure is considered a candidate once they have submitted a completed application and fee to the Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board (PTSB).
- Once the designated teacher is a candidate for licensure, the substitute teacher is no longer needed.
- Utilizing a substitute teacher in these instances will keep the school district in compliance with statutes and regulations.
- [Wyoming Innovations in Learning Conference](#)
 - The Innovations Conference in Evanston Nov. 7-9 meets the requirements of a PTSB approved virtual education workshop.
 - Participation in conference will count for one credit and will meet the professional development requirement for virtual education teachers for the year.
 - If you have teachers in need of virtual education credit, consider sending them to the conference.

Future Meeting Schedule

- The agenda has been light for the committee with mostly just updates the past two months.
- It was recommended we meet every two months (bimonthly) instead of monthly.
- The Committee agreed to meeting every other month so the meeting schedule will be updated to reflect this decision.