

MINUTES
Basic Education Program (BEP) Review Committee
Conference Call Meeting
October 28, 2015

Members Present: David Connor, Sen. Dolores Gresham, Ben Torres, Vincent Harvell, Sara Heyburn, Lynn Johnson (for Dorsey Hopson), Karen King, Greg Turner (for Larry Martin), Wayne Miller, Mitchell Moore, Rick Nicholson, Don Odom, Fielding Rolston, Stephen Smith (for Comm. Candice McQueen), Mary Ann Sparks, Linda Wesson (for Comp. Justin Wilson), and Hunter Zanardi.

Others Present: Vicki Burger, Brad Davis, Maryanne Durski, Laura Encalade, Ari Goldstein, and Nathan James.

Dr. Sara Heyburn welcomed the group and asked for a roll call vote. She asked if everyone had received the report. She then turned it over to Mr. Nathan James to discuss the changes to the report.

Mr. James stated that we are recommending changes to three components for the 2015 BEP Report. Those changes are:

- (1) Change to 12 months of insurance funding instead of the current 11 months.
- (2) Teacher compensation.
- (3) Remove the penalty regarding students that graduate early.
- (4) Additional request for technology funding.

Mr. James stated that we are trying to streamline the report to make it more user friendly. We have the authority to do this in Tennessee Code.

Mr. Stephen Smith had some discussion on the language on #4; which states \$10 million and distributed per pupil. He feels that is outside of the formula and therefore something the Committee cannot do. Mr. James agreed to remove 'the per pupil' wording.

Mr. Rick Nicholson added to the discussion that he thought about three years ago the Committee recommended \$50 million that was outside of the funding formula. Mr. Smith stated he did not recall the Committee recommending anything outside the formula.

Ms. Karen King wanted it noted that some counties will not receive any money for technology – systems on baseline. Mr. Smith stated yes that is correct, baseline systems will not be getting anything past salaries and insurance. Mr. Wayne Miller stated that \$10 million would be about \$10 per student. Could the Committee recommend #4 outside of the formula? Mr. Smith said no.

Mr. James read the paragraph on the BEP technology component.

Mr. Don Odom stated that the \$20 million technology component has not increased since 1992 and that it needed to be increased on an on-going basis. Mr. Stephen Smith agreed that it would be appropriate to have a discussion about increasing technology funding within the formula. Ms. King restated that there are some systems that receive no money for this. Mr. James suggested removing the “per pupil” language. The Committee recognizes this will have no impact on baseline systems. Ms. King thinks that will work, and that the General Assembly and others need to know that some systems will not see an increase.

Mr. James suggested a new sentence at the end of #4. This Committee notes with regret that the baseline systems will not receive funding. Mr. Nicholson doesn’t like this. He thinks the Committee is within its rights.

Mr. Vincent Harvell realizes that the baseline systems will not be receiving monies. Stated that we will never get to where we need to be unless we have recurring dollars for technology.

Mr. James returned the group to the changes they want in the report. On page 16 make technical corrections. Page 15 – Added a sentence about new methodology for calculating weighted average salary. Page 7 footnote #2, Mr. Smith said it should be \$42,065. Mr. Vincent Harvell said Page 6 #2 should be changed to teacher compensation. Mr. Mitchell Moore had concerns about the Appendices on page 23 – several counties were left out. Mr. Brad Davis commented on why some counties are not part of this. Mr. Moore stated they were left out last year also. Mr. Davis said he could put them back in the future.

Mr. Connor had a comment about footnote #2. Maybe it should be kept at 44,474 and that 2016 change to 42,065.

Mr. Ari Goldstein noted there should be a change of Page 14 – another change to footnote #3.

Ok so below are the noted changes:

Page 6 – New numbers from TDOE.

Page 7 – footnote

Page13 – header

Page 14- footnote

Page 15 - Added a sentence about new methodology for calculating weighted average salary.

Page 16 – Coefficient of variation was altered to increase accuracy.

Page 23 – New numbers from TDOE.

Dr. Heyburn asked for a motion to approve the 2015 BEP Review Committee Report with the above changes. Mr. Fielding Rolston motioned and Mr. Wayne Miller seconded. Dr. Heyburn asked Ms. Vicki Burger to call the roll:

Name	Yes	No	Pass
Lyle Ailshie			ABSENT
Rep. Harry Brooks			ABSENT
David Connor	X		
Sen. Dolores Gresham	X		
Ben Torres	X		
Vincent Harvell	X		
Chris Henson			ABSENT
Sara Heyburn	X		
Lynn Johnson for Dorsey Hopson			X
Karen King	X		
Wayne Miller	X		
Mitchell Moore	X		
Rick Nicholson	X		
Don Odom	X		
Lynnisse Roehrich-Patrick			ABSENT
Larry Ridings			ABSENT
Fielding Rolston	X		
Stephen Smith for Candice McQueen			X
Mary Ann Sparks	X		
Greg Turner for Larry Martin			X
Linda Wesson for Justin Wilson			X
Hunter Zanardi	X		

Dr. Heyburn stated there would be one more phone call meeting this year. We will be in touch with the Committee. She wants the Committee to start work earlier next year.

Dr. Sara Heyburn asked if there were any potential topics for next year. None were mentioned.

Dr. Heyburn adjourned the meeting.