**CSSA Board Meeting**

**January 15, 2014**

Attendance: Sandy Justin, Eloise Farmer, Melinda Myers, David Lopath, Chris Ozmun, Gerry Frumento, Tammy Mockus, Ray Delahunt (CSTA Bd.), Ralph Yulo (CSTA Bd.), Lauren Amaturo, Sarah Faulkner

**Minutes from November 20, 2013 accepted and approved.**

**Treasurer’s report postponed.**

**Dinner Meeting Report, December 4, 2013: Sandy Justin**

* + Sandy Justin, lost $160.52 on dinner, positive feedback on buffet, 6 no shows, 2 walk-ins and 1 guest,
  + March 5th at Science Center, get in at 3:30 PM to tour, parking will be included with dinner, still looking at menus, cash bar? In agreement, buffett again in hall upstairs, speaker needs projector and screen, HRH and Frey are ehibitors, dinners matching charges, scheduling: tour, dinner, speaker; Eloise will send out info to CSTA and CSSA
* 3:30 Tour
* 5-5:30 Social with with Cash Bar
* 5:30-6:30 Dinner
* 6:30 to 8:00 Dinner and Discussion

**Thank yous: Sandy Justin**

* Gifts were sent to John Landers and Maryanne O’Hagan

**Joint meeting with Liz Buttner and CSTA Board: Informal discussion re the CT/NGSS Crosswalk Report**

Liz passed out print copies of her “Science Standards Content Crosswalk Report.” It will be posted shortly on the SDE website. She emphasized that the crosswalk was based on content, not on how we are teaching and what students are able to do . She emphasized that less than one third of the material is new in NGSS. NGSS not intended to be a “tweaking” of the current system; it is expected to take a “generation,” gradual approach to transitioning. CT is in line with what other states are doing. There are no prizes/no winner—unlike with Common Core adoption in 2010 which was adopted quickly and has come with a lot of costs (PD, materials, etc.). She gave direction for interpreting document. She expects that most teachers will be most to be interested in G5, G6 and C6 (numbered graphs: G is fro graph, C is for content).

What should Grade 11 students do about CAPT? Grade 11 students who did not pass CAPT in grade 10 should take the CAPT again. State did not change anything in terms of CMT and CAPT.

When are CMT and CAPT scheduled? Testing window is March 3 – March 28.

How is the science standardized test included in AYP? AYP went away two years ago. CT has its own accountability system: district and school indices for student performances, they act like a bucket which collect CMT and CAPT bucket, i.e., which percentage of students scored at goal and advanced.....for each level, etc. Science scores don’t have much effect at elementary but have a much greater effect at HS. Indicator score is 88: a majority of students are scoring proficiently. Proficient (invented for NCLB in 2002) is around 50% on science, math and language arts.

How is indicator score calculated? SBAC math and LA are in pilot stage, so..... SPI and DPI will depend on science scores THIS YEAR!

How is NGSS being assessed? Innovative testing has not even been designed. Suggestion that performance tasks should be included. Current science testing was to make sure schools were held accountable, not to show what students could do with science. Results of current tests really don’t have much value in improving teaching and learning.

What do you do about a school that is 5-8 or 4-8 with these indices? No answer.

What can be done in our districts now? Change the delivery of instruction. Content should be the last thing to shift. But, the objective of teaching that content should change. Objectives should reflect the practices in the new Framework rather than “understand.” Appendix F and Chapter 3 unwraps the Framework and explains what students should be able to do. Review and use...

What to do about NGSS adoption? Certainly, Common Core is putting a downward pressure on Science. Mass. has decided to adopt gradually. Ct. Will monitor what other states are doing. Mass. is adapting NGSS in their adoption; their plan is adapt but stay close. They have added more engineering and some content. They are holding their content steady until 2015 and will then transition from old to new. Deferred adoption. Eight states have adopted. Possibility of transitioning to annual grade-level testing.

Summary: We are in the capacity building phases. Funding new Math/Science partnerships. Laying the groundwork. By March, SDBE will be presented a plan which embraces the vision in the NRC Framework and includes parts of NGSS. Probably the content will not change in the next two years. As far as assessments, unlikely to change. It is possible to add to the assessment if we were to write them ourselves, based on the NGSS. Possibly use as practice items. However, students frequently don’t do well on these and then the item gets thrown out.

Website and Twitter: Chris Ozmun

* Chis demonstrated a draft of a CSSA website through Weebly-Website Creation
* Contact currently goes to Eloise.
* Fat Cow website is until the end of June, 2014.
* Concerns about one person handling Twitter feed

Awards at Banquet: David Lopath