

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, March 13, 2009

Rosen Centre Hotel

Orlando, Florida

### MINUTES

President Valerie Truesdale opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. She referenced the Annual Conference theme of Learning Beyond Boundaries and the new structure of the Leadership Council cluster groups. She recognized members of the Board of Directors and declared that a quorum of Leadership Council members was in attendance. Truesdale then reviewed the evolution of the Leadership Council and the importance of engagement.

1. Adopt the September 14, 2008, Leadership Council meeting minutes.

Tony Mello moved, and Roland Kay seconded, to adopt the September 14, 2008, Leadership Council meeting minutes. A correction was made to the Leadership Council's next meeting date as listed on page 5 of the minutes. The motion carried to adopt the minutes as amended.

Review summary of assessments from the September 2008 meeting.

Truesdale reviewed feedback on the September 2008 meeting from 66 Leadership Council members. She asked attendees to consider completing the evaluation form for this meeting as homework. Truesdale explained that today's new seating arrangement was developed to increase engagement and she asked cluster group members to get to know everyone seated around their tables. She said that today's meeting agenda was crafted for more involvement in the discussions.

2. Receive the President's report.

Truesdale reminded attendees that the Leadership Council was just six years old. She announced that 44 countries were represented at Annual Conference this year. LC members had asked ASCD to support us this year with an increased use of technology—we must educate and be 21st century learners. You will hear in the opening general session that ASCD has provided us with a wireless convention center, modeling learning beyond boundaries. Dr. Carter and staff have arranged for the keynote sessions to be streamed around the world as they happen. At today's Leadership Council meeting we will have a demonstration of Adobe Connect Pro software. In the coming months and years as the economic repositioning unfolds, some companies will fail and some will thrive; some member organizations may dwindle. We need to remain the premier educational organization.

3. Approve the revised Leadership Council vision statement.

The Leadership Council approved its original vision statement in March 2004. Ken Di Pietro moved, and Kathy Howard seconded, to approve a revised vision statement as recommended by the Leadership Council Transition Team. The motion carried.

The vision statement now reads: The Leadership Council provides *representative voice from constituent leaders* for the ASCD community as a united and powerful force for influencing educational policy and practice at all levels. Through critical dialogue on timely educational issues, the Leadership Council creates, adopts, and acts on ASCD positions. The Leadership Council plays a key role in galvanizing constituencies to advance adopted positions and assess impact in improving educational experiences of students across the globe. These efforts rest on ASCD's values and beliefs and embrace diversity and equity in learning and teaching for all.

4. Receive the Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) report and provide feedback. Truesdale recognized CRC members Nancy DeFord (Chair), Jim Lombardo, Mark Sutter, Mariann Helfant, Don Kachur, Katinia Davis, and Laurie McCullough, and thanked them for their work. DeFord said that the committee's work was not yet finished. She reviewed the committee's charge and reminded Leadership Council members that the constitution was last revised in 2005.

DeFord used a PowerPoint presentation to review the themes that had resonated as the committee went about its work along with a timeline for implementation of possible changes, and said that she hoped the committee's final report and recommendations would be presented to the Board for approval at its July 2009 meeting. She then provided rationales for each of the committee's proposed changes to the current constitution, which include

- A change to ASCD's name as a result of branding;
- A reduction in the size of the Board (reduction in number of Board positions elected by the Leadership Council);
- A change in the election/appointment of Leadership Council member-at-large positions to allow for 12 elected positions and 6 appointed positions;
- A change in the process for appointment of the Nominations Committee; and
- A change in the return date for a completed election ballot.

Cluster group members spent about 25 minutes discussing the changes and providing feedback to the CRC. Several groups then reported on highlights from their discussions (see attached summary).

5. Receive update from the Leadership Council Transition Team (LCTT). LCTT chair Paul Healey drew parallels between changes in the evolution of the Leadership Council and the guiding principles in a book titled *Our Iceberg Is Melting: Changing and Succeeding Under Any Conditions*, by John Kotter and Holger Rathgeber. He noted that changes had taken place over three years and referenced the work of the Leadership Council Study Group and that of the LCTT. Healey then recognized the other members of the team: Marie Adair, Cheryl Blue, Becky Cooke, James Gallegos, Mariann Helfant, Chris Himsel, Sherry Reed, Yolanda Rey, Jeff White, Mike Zellmer, and Judy Zimmerman. He reminded Leadership Council members of the recent surveys they had been asked to respond to related to the formation of the new cluster groups, and he reviewed the new structure of the Leadership Council Management Team. He said that,

by the end of the day, each cluster group would (a) choose a cluster group leader and (b) choose a representative to the Position Development Team.

6. Participation in an icebreaker activity and cluster group discussions on the new cluster group configuration, role of LC members, etc.

Cluster group members participated in an icebreaker activity that highlighted the constitutional responsibilities of Leadership Council members.

Truesdale briefly reviewed upcoming presentations and activities that the Leadership Council members would participate in during the remainder of their meeting. She asked attendees to please provide feedback on how to improve these meetings in the future.

7. Receive Legislative Committee report.

President-elect and Legislative Committee member Linda Mariotti said that committee members meet every January to create an agenda for the coming year. She recognized the other members of the committee (Marie Adair, Shereen Tabrizi Arraf, Curtis Cain, RoAnne Elliott, Joshua Garcia, Mary Gunter, Mary Forte Hayes, Debra Hill, Mary Kay Kirkland, Michael Rettig, Yolanda Rey, Jeff Stephens, Bill Wright, and Michael Zellmer) and reviewed the activities that took place at the January meeting, including a “Day on the Hill” with staff from both the House of Representatives and the Senate from both sides of the aisle to discuss current and anticipated topics for the year. Committee members also spent a day determining which topics were most pressing. Mariotti introduced ASCD Policy Director David Griffith, who she said had been on the job for just two weeks, and expressed appreciation for his work. Griffith then acknowledged the work of ASCD staffpersons Kathy Welling, Tina Dove, and Kevin Fitzgerald.

Griffith reviewed each of the four pillars of the 2009 Legislative Agenda—Highly Effective Educators, Multiple Indicators of School Success, Innovative Educational Redesign, and Equitable Educational Opportunities. He referenced ASCD’s Web site, which includes information on the agenda, and invitations to the 2009 Leadership for Effective Advocacy and Practice Institute on each cluster group table. Mariotti thanked Griffith for his work over just a short period of time.

Mariotti stressed the urgency for ASCD to develop a position on national standards. Griffith said that this issue had gained a lot of momentum during the last few weeks. He then reviewed the current status of the pending reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act and said that the issue of national standards is an international issue.

Cluster group members spent 40 minutes discussing the issue of national standards around the following questions:

- Should national standards be developed?
- Who should develop national standards?
- Which subjects should be included in national standards?
- What should national standards be used for?
- What is your opinion of national standards set to international benchmarks?

Mariotti introduced Position Development Team cochairs Marie Adair and Jeff Stephens, who shared information on the process and protocols that were in place to elicit input. Stephens note that this is a wonderful opportunity to expand the conversation beyond the normal definition of content standards and around the spirit of the whole child. (A summary of the cluster group comments is attached.)

8. View presentation of Adobe Connect Pro software.

Board member Becky Cooke and ASCD staff Michael Berkeley and Meg Simpson demonstrated the use of Adobe Connect Pro software, which is a Web-based program that is an example of a communication tool that cluster groups might want to use to continue their work during the year. The presentation included a demonstration of various features, including a chat capability, use of a webcam, polling capability, and how to share a document. Berkeley said that ASCD staff could work with cluster group leaders to coordinate the meetings.

9. Participate in cluster group content discussions.

Cluster group members used the following guiding questions to frame their discussion of their specific cluster group topics:

- What are the present issues surrounding the topic?
- What actions can the cluster groups take to tackle some of the issues?
- What resources do we need from ASCD to accomplish this work?
- What other information/resources/partnerships/worldwide connections should we access to reach our goals?
- What specific action plans and timelines does the cluster group recommend for the next year?

Recorders from the various groups reported out highlights from the discussions (see attached summary).

10. Conduct other Leadership Council business.

Truesdale asked each cluster group to appoint a cluster group leader and a Position Development Team representative and to record that information on the sheets provided at their tables. Cluster group leaders were asked to meet with the ASCD officers directly after the Leadership Council meeting so that Leadership Council Management Team representatives could be identified. Position Development Team representatives were asked to meet with Team cochairs Adair and Stephens directly after the meeting to discuss next steps.

Truesdale encouraged cluster group members to make notes about the personal connections they had made at today's meeting.

11. Appoint 2009–2010 Nominations Committee.

Marie Adair moved, and James Gallegos seconded, to approve the slate of 2009–2010 Nominations Committee members. The motion carried. The members are: Richard Cash (MN), Lourecia Collins (AL), Mike Hendricks (CA), Judy Morgan (NY), Anne Roloff

(IL), Bryan Salem (NV), Jenefer Tirella (PA), and Judy Zimmerman (OH). The alternates are James Gallegos (NM), Jan Staples (ME), and Tammy Kapp (WI).

12. Recognize outgoing members of the Leadership Council.

Truesdale asked all “rotating off” Leadership Council members to stand and be recognized for their service to the Leadership Council.

13. Complete and return meeting evaluations.

Truesdale asked LC members to complete the meeting evaluation form. She reminded them of all the opportunities they had during the day to provide “authentic voice.” Truesdale asked them to review the revised Leadership Council Handbook that was included in the meeting notebook material and to put the San Antonio meeting dates on their calendars. She also asked them to share information from the Handbook about the importance of the selection of Leadership Council representatives and attendance at Leadership Council meetings with their affiliate leaders.

Truesdale adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

GRC/bdr

Attachments: Summary of cluster group comments on CRC report  
Summary of cluster group comments on national standards  
Summary of cluster group content discussions