

## **VESIS BOARD MEETING**

**September 22, 2011  
CONFERENCE CALL**

The September meeting was held via conference call and was called to order by George Washington with 11 members in attendance.

### **PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL:**

Chris Bruno, GENESIS, Angela Carr, Infinite Campus, Peter Coleman, VDOE Representative, Dave Johnson, SunGard, Rachel Johnson, Star Student, Adele Morris, PowerSchool, Rickey Parker, PowerSchool, George Washington, PowerSchool, Frank Walters, Starbase, Bob Yost, Pearson SMS, Dana Ratcliffe, Powerschool

**MINUTES:** The minutes which were submitted by email to members prior to the meeting were accepted by a motion from Adele Morris, seconded by Chris Bruno and approved by the other board members.

**TREASURER:** George Washington gave the Treasurer's report. As of the September 2011 meeting the VESIS account had a balance of \$10,016.11. A motion to accept the report was made by Rickey Parker and seconded by Adele Morris with the motion passing with approval by the board.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE BOARD:**

The floor was opened for nominations for leadership positions on the board. Those who were nominated are as follows:

President: George Washington (nominated by Adele Morris- Chris Bruno moved to accept, Dave Johnson seconded)

Vice President: Adele Morris (nominated by Chris Bruno- Angela Carr moved to accept, Rickey Parker seconded)

Secretary: Angela Carr (nominated by Adele Morris- Ricky Parker moved to accept, Chris Bruno seconded)

Treasurer-Vacancy (to be appointed at a later date)

Adele Morris moved that the ballot be approved as presented Rickey Parker seconded. The slate of officers being properly moved and seconded was approved by the board members.

*POST-MEETING NOTE: John Allusi has agreed to handle the treasurer position duties this year and therefore was appointed by George Washington.*

*POST-MEETING NOTE related to Board Position: George Washington appointed Hutt Williams, Guidance Counselor at Caroline County High School to fill the board position vacated by Robin Mitchell.*

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**DATA CONFERENCE REVIEW:** George Washington shared a summary review of the Data Conference prepared by John Allusi. Overall, the conference was well received. 3x5 cards were provided to ask questions anonymously. Also audio visual was improved with thanks to Rickey Parker and staff for their efforts. Rickey Parker posed the question about providing alternatives to those who can't travel. He also mentioned several challenges with providing quality video. Two screens given the room size made it difficult. Space continues to be a challenge as well as the logistics for user groups meetings.

Adele Morris was interested in VDOE's thoughts on how the conference went. Peter Coleman shared that the meeting was valuable to VDOE in terms of feedback and shared appreciation for the candor that existed. Peter also shared the continued need for working collaboratively as new requirements and initiatives continue to emerge.

Rachel Johnson requested the Peter Coleman speak to Bethann Canada and Susan Williams to inquire about VDOE issues that might be presented at the next conference so that we can determine venue and method of delivery. The Data Conference will be a major agenda item for December's meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MASTER SCHEDULE COLLECTION & IPAL:**

Dana Ratcliffe wanted to discuss how divisions are handling IPAL data and have something in writing from VESIS to push out to divisions. George Washington affirmed the efforts of divisions and the commitment to data integrity and providing quality data that is accurate. A suggestion was made that VESIS survey divisions.

Rachel Johnson spoke with concern about the IPAL element of the report. Because SFSF did not require IPAL data to be included in the MSC report and that came from the VDOE, there is much concern about teacher role and how the data is going to be used. She requested that teacher licensure numbers be sent to divisions electronically as these data are being entered incorrectly. There is uneasiness about submitting data without knowing how it is going to be used. Dana Ratcliffe expressed her concern about misunderstanding data elements and coding and having those elements/coding tied to a teacher's performance.

Rachel Johnson made the point that we have an obligation to question the rationale for why the IPAL data was included in the MSC at this time. George Washington encouraged Rachel Johnson to draft a statement. Frank Walters suggested that the IPAL portion be optional. George Washington requested that Frank forward his suggestion to Rachel Johnson for inclusion in the position paper.

Chris Bruno also shared his concerns about combining the Master Schedule Collection and IPAL and the timing of the new requirement. He made a suggestion that VDOE step back from including IPAL until there is a better understanding of the MSC data and revisit the Student Record Collection as a better example of how a report should be built over time.

Peter shared that VDOE is beginning to understand more about the data as they receive it. He will take the board's comments back to staff at VDOE.

*POST-MEETING NOTES: A survey developed by VESIS in regard to the MSC/IPAL was disseminated on September 29, 2011. Also, Rachel Johnson wrote a memorandum on September 23, 2011 to Lan Neugent and Bethann Canada at VDOE expressing concern about the MSC/IPAL consolidation and copied George F. Washington for distribution to all VESIS members. Susan Williams gave her response which is below:*

*"We have met with Teacher Education and Licensure about this and have determined at this point those two data collections cannot be separated. However, we do have the flexibility to give you more time to complete it. Also, we too are behind in our development so we are waiting for an official release date from our developers. We won't set a new deadline until we know the date the application will open in SSWS. Once we have the new due date, we will make an official announcement. For now, that is all I know." – Susan Williams, VDOE*

**CTE Data (MSC)**

Rachel Johnson made the request to Susan Williams and Bethann Canada that CTE data be put online. At this point, Rachel has not heard from VDOE. Peter Coleman will follow up.

**SOQ POSITION FOR DATA:**

In Kevin Harrison's absence, George Washington shared thoughts on putting in a request for a SOQ position for data. Positions have been cut, which makes this even more important. Dana Ratcliffe brought up the point that creating an SOQ funded position probably would not create an actual position, but in some cases divisions would redirect funding elsewhere. Salaries would need to be researched given the broad range of salaries among data positions. A suggestion was made that a ratio be submitted similar to ITRT's (i.e. 1 ITRT to 1000 students). George Washington shared his concern about losing ITRT positions and how funds were redirected while still meeting SOQ's.

Dana Ratcliffe inquired about the process. George Washington shared that we would need to go before Board of Education and the General Assembly. The Board of Education determines funding SOQ positions.

Rickey Parker expressed concern about the political climate and timing in submitting such a request and possible effects it might have on other initiatives.

Adele Morris requested that Peter Coleman follow up by speaking to Lan Neugent so that he can advise us on the issue before we proceed.

**NEW AND UPCOMING VDOE INITIATIVES/PROGRAMS:**

Peter Coleman reported that Governor McDonnell came to the School Board Meeting 9/22/11 and shared his agenda. Video will be posted and Peter Coleman will send the link to George Washington.

The Virginia Dashboard. The project is trying to eliminate the school improvement quarterly report. The system is very EIMS like. It will cost divisions \$500.00. Peter Coleman has reviewed reports. A SIF agent will be developed. Questions were raised about rationale given that we have EIMS.

Virginia Department of Health Extract SUPTS MEMO 2009 #229. Questions were raised about how requirements can be approved without VDOE being involved. There was concern about the usefulness of the data. Peter will follow up. *POST-MEETING NOTE: George Washington forwarded a note to VESIS board members from Peter Coleman on Monday, October 3, 2011 recommending that divisions continue to send absentee data to VDH.*

**VESIS INITIATIVES FOR 2011-12:**

Based on topics discussed at the meeting it was determined that VESIS will focus effort on the following initiatives for 2011-12: Conference 2012, Position Paper, and SOQ Position.

Board members closed out the meeting by sharing current events and project happenings in their respective divisions.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES:**

George will be sending out a meeting wizard notification for the December meeting.

George Washington adjourned the meeting.