

AGRICULTURAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Sacramento CA

MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 1983

Members present:

Laura Tower, Chairperson
David Austin
Joe Camarillo
Jack Chappell
Patrick Emery
Mark Linder
Joe Martinez
Tracy Schortman
Marden Wilber

Members absent:

Kenneth Aoyama
Jan Eberly
Jack Richardson
John Thurman
Robert Trigg

Staff present:

Jerry Biggs
Jerry Davis
Pat Langlin
Genevieve Marsden

Others present:

Ken Harris, California Agricultural Teachers Association, Sacramento

The group met, in Room 3162 of the State Capitol Building, Sacramento, at 8:00 a.m., to present its report and recommendations to the Rural Caucus. Following that presentation, the group gathered for a regular committee meeting in Room 208 of the State Education Building, 721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES, JANUARY 14, 1983

It was moved, seconded, and passed that these Minutes be approved as mailed.

DISCUSSION OF PRESENTATION TO THE RURAL CAUCUS

The members discussed their impressions of how their presentation was received by members of the Rural Caucus. Mrs. Tower indicated that copies of the report had been distributed to 45 legislators and she would be sure to send copies to any others who might be interested.

FUTURE COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee members discussed what actions or steps they might take next to make certain their recommendations are considered and acted upon by the State Board of Education and State Legislature. The items covered include the following:

- Pat Langlin has been requested by the State Board of Education to prepare the Department's response to the Committee's recommendations. She indicated she will work with Don Wilson on this response but probably will not have it ready until the March meeting of the Board.
- Funding legislation will be needed. Committee members feel that funding must be tied to adoption by the State Board of the exact standards recommended by the Committee. Any attempt by the State Board of Education, the Department of Education, or the State Legislature to weaken these standards must be resisted strenuously.
- Committee members should act to get the State Board to adopt the full report and recommendations of the Committee. Then committee members should take action to get legislation introduced and passed to fund the Agricultural Education Program outlined in their report and recommendations.
- Senator Nielsen, in conversation with Joe Martinez, indicated that proposed legislation should:
 - a. Provide for a permanent Agricultural Education Advisory Committee.
 - b. Provide for funding of the Vocational Agriculture Program recommended by the SB 187 Committee.
 - c. Be ready in time to meet the February 4, 1983 deadline for introducing bills into the legislative process.
- Ken Harris pointed out that February 4 is the deadline, but a "spot bill" could be introduced now, possibly establishing provisions for a permanent Agricultural Education Advisory Committee. Later that spot bill can be amended. This would provide time to the committee to make sure the State Board of Education has adopted all of the recommended standards. The spot bill could be amended then to provide for funding the recommended Agricultural Education program. Mr. Harris also pointed out that it might be possible to get legislation passed to put "partial" funding into the Governor's Budget and phase in full funding over two or three years. This might be easier to pass than a bill providing full funding the first year.
- Pat Langlin does not believe it is necessary to seek legislation providing for an advisory committee. She indicated Don Wilson could recommend committee members, and the State Director of Vocational Education could then appoint those individuals to a permanent advisory committee. Joe Martinez again indicated that Senator Nielsen believes this should be done by legislative action.

- Several committee members expressed deep concern about the selling job that will have to be done to prevent rejection of parts or all of the package either by the State Board of Education or by the Legislature. Ken Harris pointed out that there will be four new appointments to the State Board of Education, which must be made within the next 60 days. This will probably change the Board dramatically. Marden Wilber agreed and indicated he believes someone from Agriculture will be among the new appointments. Mark Linder suggested that someone on the committee should research the State Board to find out exactly which of them the committee will have to deal with.
- Mark Linder cautioned the group about getting any of the legislators to introduce proposals on funding too early, without total support, and having such legislation shelved. He indicated that a real problem could develop if the group moves too fast without adequate backing.
- The discussion for the next several minutes centered around a general movement all over the country for strict standards, longer school days, longer school years, and the need to have "basics" emphasized in the elementary grades, not waiting until students enter the secondary school system. There was also discussion on having Vocational Education and Agricultural Education considered as a "basic", not an "elective."
- Mrs. Tower asked Mr. Biggs how many districts would apply for the program in the first year. He replied that probably 80% would make application. Dave Austin asked how many of the 80% would actually qualify, and Mr. Biggs replied that on day one - not many, but over the whole year, the full 80% could be ready for compliance on July 1, 1984.
- At a suggestion by Ken Harris, the committee decided to form two sub-committees:
 - a. Sub-committee to work with the State Board of Education
 - Patrick Emery
 - David Austin
 - Laura Tower
 - Any other members available
 - b. Sub-committee to work on proposed legislation (spot bill establishing a permanent Agricultural Education Advisory Committee; funding)
 - Joe Martinez, Chairperson
 - Mark Linder-John Gamper
 - David Austin
 - Tracy Schortman
 - Marden Wilber
- The State Board of Education will meet on Friday, March 11, 1983. Their sub-committee will meet on the evening of Thursday, March 10. Laura Tower, Patrick Emery, and David Austin will try to be present although Pat Langlin does not believe it will be necessary. She thinks the Sub-committee will receive the "Department Reaction" on the 10th and report to

the full State Board on the 11th. Laura Tower had asked Patrick Emery to check with Ellis Bowman about getting on the Board's agenda on March 11. They will follow through to make sure the Department and the Board know the committee members will be available.

- Jerry Biggs distributed some information Don Wilson had received regarding the Governor's Budget. It was pointed out that the Department of Education, as well as other departments, had no opportunity for input; that there will be many changes in the figures before the Budget Bill is passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.
- Don Wilson had requested the committee to consider recommendations on standards for community classrooms under ROP/Cs. There was brief discussion of this topic, but many of the committee members had other pressing business and left at 11:20 a.m.

Laura Tower requested that Mr. Wilson prepare additional information for the committee to use in drafting recommendations on these standards.

- Upon a request from Mrs. Tower, Ken Harris discussed legislation proposed by CACVE.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the evening of Monday, March 14, 1983, starting at 6:00 p.m., at Modesto Junior College. Ken Harris volunteered to make all of the arrangements for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.