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THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN TEXAS

Lindsey Explains Proposed Rule Changes in Voc Ed

Proposed changes in State Board of Education rules governing vocational education was the focus of a presentation made at a recent meeting of the ACTIVE in Austin.

Making the presentation was Dr. Paul Lindsey, Associate Commissioner for Occupational Education and Technology at the Texas Education Agency.

Among proposed rule changes discussed are:



Paul Lindsey

Secondary Rules --

- Articulation between secondary and post-secondary institutions would be required to insure the program content is not duplicated.
- Competency-based instruction would be mandated at the secondary level. To establish vocational program equality throughout the state, essential program elements must specifically identify what students are going to gain from each of the courses.
- A sunset provision whereby each program will be evaluated every 4 years. If the program is not productive, the school will be given the option to redirect or drop the program.
- A recordkeeping system will be considered so that TEA can monitor the activities of cooperative edu-

cation teachers and the quality of work stations assigned to students.

Schools would be allowed to utilize the teaching abilities of vocational teachers in other than vocational areas as the need arises as long as their vocational duties are not affected. Vocational funding would be reduced accordingly.

(See RULE CHANGES, page 2)

Governor Mark White Sights Education's Top Priority

The first priority in education is to put discipline back in the classroom according to Governor Mark White. Governor White addressed the Thirty-Sixth Annual Texas Conference on Teacher Education. He provided insight into the current needs of education.

Regarding discipline, White indicated that respect must be restored to the classroom before any real inroads could be made to solving educational problems.

He said another area of importance was bringing industry linkage into the schools. He indicated an "Adopt a School" campaign is being started to provide better linkage between schools and industry.

In discussing the main issue of teacher certification, Governor White said several areas need to be addressed. First, colleges of education need to emphasize "how to" courses in elementary level teacher preparation. Also all college education curriculum needs to address "how to" discipline children. In general, "more guts" need to be placed in the present structure of the teacher education programs instead of adding a fifth year to the course of study, stated White.

Governor White placed extreme emphasis on primary level. He stated that resources should be focused in this area. By improving the mastery of the fundamental skills at an early age, education could solve a number of problems. One would be reducing the dropout rate and another would be lowering the failure rate.

Teachers salaries was the next subject Governor White discussed. He stated that for years women have subsidized the educational system. But that has changed with other career choices opening to women. In order to change the product, salaries must be increased, explained Governor White. He mentioned the Carnegie Report suggests a 25% across the board increase for teachers.

The last problem White discussed was the language problem facing some of our Hispanic children. His recommendation was a more concentrated approach to teaching English. In Puerto Rico, the students in grades 7, 8, and 9 go to a ten week summer camp where nothing but English is spoken. Instead of concentrating on the negative side of the problem, he suggests educators look at the positive side and consider a bilingual person as a valuable asset to the world trade market.

Teacher Shortages Hit Texas

The long predicted teacher shortage has arrived in Texas, based on the findings of extensive research in the teacher supply problem.

Dr. Charles Nix, Associate Commissioner for Planning and Research with the Texas Education Agency, addressed the teacher supply problem at the Thirty Sixth Annual Texas Conference on Teacher Education, held recently in Austin.

Research indicates the current gap between teacher demand and supply will continue to widen each year throughout the 1980's. Conservative estimates indicate there will be an annual shortfall of 4,340 teachers. Stated another way, only three-fourths of the vacancies open each year will be filled.

According to Dr. Nix, a large preponderance of this shortfall will occur at the secondary level. Average annual shortfalls of 420 teachers are expected for vocational education, 510 for mathematics and 380 for special education.

Dr. Nix identified a number of factors contributing to the existing and projected shortfalls. These include a projected 20% growth in student enrollment by 1990, an annual statewide teacher attrition rate of 7%, and steady reductions in the numbers of teachers newly certified in Texas since 1973.

He pointed out several reasons teachers are

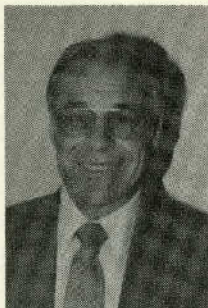
(See SHORTAGES, page 3)

Eudy Named Director of Agricultural Education

Jay L. Eudy has joined the Vocational staff of TEA to serve as the new director for Agriculture Education. Mr. Eudy was named to the position October 6, 1983. He replaces G. G. Scroggins who retired.

Mr. Eudy comes to Austin from Plainview, Texas, where he was Area I, Occupational Education Specialist I.

Graduating from Turkey High School in Turkey, Texas, Eudy began his college career at Texas Tech University where he earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees. He then served four years in the military service. Teaching Vocational Agriculture for 16 years at Valley and Turkey-Quitauque Consolidated ISD, Eudy's success was evidenced by his student's accomplishments. Fifty-seven of his students received the Lone Star Farmer Degree and six received the American Farmer Degree. In 1978, he became Area I Supervisor.



Jay L. Eudy

LAC Members Voice Suggestions

Earlier this year, the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas surveyed 424 members of local vocational education advisory committees. It was a statewide survey with a 25 percent return. A purpose of the survey was to get a feel for the present effectiveness of LAC's while soliciting suggestions for improving their use. Following are highlights of the survey results:

***AREAS OF HIGHEST UTILIZATION --** Local vocational education advisory committees are used most often to advise on (1) job needs in the community and (2) to identify the basic skills needed for those jobs.

***AREAS OF LEAST UTILIZATION --** The two areas identified by the survey in which LAC's are least used are (1) helping develop special programs for disadvantaged and handicapped persons and (2) recommending ways for eliminating sex discrimination in vocational education.

***OTHER SURVEY FINDINGS --** Local vocational education advisory committee meetings are well attended by members...Committees meet an average of 3-4 times per year...Committee officers function effectively... Developing recommendations for improving vocational education is a major function of most LAC's...A majority of LAC recommendations are presented to and acted upon by the administration or policy board... Most LAC's are asked to assist in vocational student organization activities...Less than one-half of the LAC members responding to the survey feel they are being utilized to their fullest potential.

For a complete copy of the survey results, write or call the ACTIVE at P. O. Box 1886, Austin, Texas 78767 or (512)475-2046. Be sure and request information regarding the availability of audio visual and printed materials on the effective utilization of advisory committees.

The ACTIVE News will be published every other month this year.

VEES (Vocational Education Evaluation System) would be changed to evaluate all programs in a school district concurrently. A sample of school districts will be evaluated each year. The evaluation will be used on a cycle with VEES preceding monitoring by one year. The recommendation also was first suggested by the Advisory Council.

Post-Secondary --

- Where enrollment justifies, all vocational programs would have at least one full-time faculty member.
- Before any new program would be offered at a public post-secondary institution, their Board will have a hearing to allow proprietary schools to give testimony. These concerns will be forwarded to TEA for consideration in program approval.
- Contracted instruction between secondary and post-secondary institutions would permit instructors at the post-secondary level to teach secondary students without meeting certification requirements.
- Only students who have begun to work at their cooperative training station on or before the official class reporting date may be reported for contact hour funding.
- The articulation and sunset provisions applicable to secondary schools would also apply to post-secondary institutions.

Adult --

- Cooperatives would be encouraged; however, school districts would be afforded the flexibility to pull out if their needs are not being adequately met.
- Cooperatives should be funded according to numbers being served rather than the number in the community needing services.

It will be at least early 1984 before the State Board of Education considers and acts upon any proposed changes, said Lindsey.

Lindsey also discussed several organizational changes being made within his department. He said that Robert Patterson has been asked to serve as the state coordinator for all secondary level vocational programs. Patterson will continue to serve as the state director for secondary level industrial education programs.

Job Training Partnership Act, apprenticeship, and industrial start-up programs will constitute a manpower division within the department, said Lindsey.

Lindsey said that electronics, computer programming, and data processing at the secondary level would be under the technical education umbrella. Data processing, for example, has been under vocational office education in recent years. Lindsey said the programs will continue to be administered for the time being by the same people.

Hicks Assumes New Position

Former Council staff person, Jeanine Hicks accepted a new position with the 1986 Texas Sesquicentennial Commission, P. O. Box 1986, Austin, Texas 78767, (512)475-1986.

AROUND THE CORNER



Voc Ed Exhibit at PTA Convention

The ACTIVE has been asked to display an exhibit on vocational education at the State PTA Convention, November 29 through December 1 in Austin.

The exhibit theme will be "Vocational Education: Building Foundations for the Future." Representatives of vocational student organizations will be manning the exhibit which will offer a pictorial display of voc ed.

'Partnership' Theme of AVA Convention

"Vocational Education and Business: A Working Partnership" is the theme of the annual American Vocational Association Convention which runs December 2-6 in Anaheim, California.

The conference will feature over 1,000 different sessions with presentations by top business, industry, and education leaders. There will be a special workshop on international vocational education.

For additional information on the convention, contact the AVA at 2020 N. 14th Street, Arlington, Virginia 22201 (703)522-6121.

Vocational Administrators/Supervisors Workshop

The semi-annual Inservice Workshop for Vocational Administrators and Supervisors will be held January 19-20 in Austin. The workshop, sponsored by the Texas Education Agency, will be held at the Hilton Inn.

Entrepreneurship Conference Planned

"Promoting Economic Development through Entrepreneurship Education and Training" is the theme of a conference being planned for January 25-26 in Austin.

The conference will be sponsored by the Texas Education Agency and Oklahoma State University in cooperation with the U.S. Departments of Education and Commerce. It is one of 20 being held across the country.

Purpose of the conference is to bring representatives from business, industry, government, education and various organizations together to discuss and learn how to infuse entrepreneurship concepts into ongoing vocational curriculums at the secondary, post-secondary and adult levels.

There is a \$45 registration fee, which includes two luncheons and a dinner meeting. Each participant will also receive a "how to" entrepreneurship resource handbook.

For registration information, contact Mr. Michael Walthall, Texas Education Agency, 201 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, (512)834-4165.

Voc Ed Week, Feb. 12-18

Vocational Education Week will be held February 12-18. The theme will be "Vocational Education: Creating Partnerships for Excellence."

Both the American Vocational Association and the ACTIVE will have materials available. Contact the AVA direct for a list of their materials (AVA, 2020 North 14th Street, Arlington, Virginia 22201).

The ACTIVE has designed two posters for specific use during Voc Ed Week. They are now available. A target date of late November is set for getting

Governor Mark White to sign a Voc Ed Week proclamation.

Also available from the ACTIVE are a variety of posters, bumper stickers, and other promotion materials for vocational education.

Contact the ACTIVE office for a list of our materials.

Upcoming ACTIVE Meetings

Dates for upcoming regular meetings of the ACTIVE are: January 18-19 (Austin); March 7-8 (Abilene); April 23-24 (Austin); and June 7-8 (Austin). Meeting agendas are available 30 days prior to each meeting. Contact the ACTIVE office.

State Board Selects ACTIVE Topics for Study

The State Board of Education, at the October Board meeting, approved three topics for the ACTIVE. The topics are: the effectiveness of the current delivery system for secondary and post-secondary vocational education; how public schools and community colleges use occupational information to help students make wise occupational decisions; and how much public and private sector input is sought and used in state and local vocational education planning.

The Advisory Council will be addressing these topics through a survey of public school superintendents, local advisory committee chairpersons, and local Chamber of Commerce representatives.

(SHORTAGES, continued from page 1)

Leaving the classroom and students are not choosing to enter teaching. The two main reasons were salaries and low esteem.

Not all districts have been or will be equally affected by this overall scarcity of certain types of teachers, explained Dr. Nix. Districts most severely impacted have been those with relatively low local wealth, isolated rural settings, inner city schools, and those distant from teacher education institutions. The results are local school officials have to fill some teaching positions with less than fully qualified teachers, and in a number of instances have to leave teaching positions vacant.



Charles Nix

The complete technical report, containing more detailed information and analyses is available upon request from TEA. The research project "A Study of the Availability of Teachers for Texas Public Schools" is available from Dr. Nix's office.

HIGHLIGHTS

Secondary Curriculum Balance Urged

"A balance must be achieved between vocational education and other curriculums."

This was one of many statements made at a conference on Vocational Education in the Comprehensive High School, held October 20-21 in Austin. The conference was sponsored by the American Vocational Association.

(See HIGHLIGHTS, page 4)

(HIGHLIGHTS, continued from page 3)

Making the statement was Joel Magisos, Associate Director, National Center for Research in Vocational Education, Columbus, Ohio. He was responding to the results of several recent studies dealing with education, most of which call for an increased emphasis on language arts, mathematics and science.

Magisos stressed that students need not only the "basics" to achieve on the job but they also need occupational skills upon leaving the secondary schools.

AVA Executive Director Gene Bottoms said vocational education has a multi-functional role in the secondary schools. Among its roles are to: reinforce academic skills through application; teach common skills; create a motivational base for learning; develop work habits; increase "tech literacy" of all students; and teach skills to enter specific occupational areas.

Numerous speakers stressed the importance of closer industry/education ties as a means of keeping instructional content and training resources current. The need to eliminate hurdles which inhibit the use of industry personnel as teachers was mentioned several times.

High Tech Impacting Economy

This nation's economic development will follow a course set by the growth of high technology, says Carrol Marsalis, Program Manager for High Technology Demonstrations, Tennessee Valley Authority.

Speaking at the October 13-14 Southern Regional Meeting of State Advisory Councils for Vocational Education, held in Nashville, Marsalis said "nearly

50 percent of all jobs created the past four years were generated by high tech."

He went on to say that "sustained economic growth cannot happen without a skilled work force. Marketing people, scientific people and voc ed people must work hand-in-hand."

Richard Sappenfield, Vice President and General Manager for AVCO Aero-structures, told attendees that his company requires workers who "need a mix of basic skills (60%) and specific skills (40%)."

Programs designed to retrain and upgrade the skills of the nation's work force will become more important. Marsalis said "today's workers will constitute 90 percent of the work force in 1990 and 74 percent of the work force in the year 2000."

Closer industry/voc ed ties were stressed. Marsalis said "equipment currently used in voc ed is a joke." He said "voc ed can no longer get surplus property and use it for training."

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