

VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON YOUTH

December 7, 2009

9:30 a.m.

House Room C

AGENDA

Attending:

Senators Harry Blevins, Edward Houck, Yvonne Miller
Delegates Mamyé BaCote, Robert Brink, William Fralin, Christopher Peace
Citizen members Anthony Dale and Marvin Wagner

Attending Electronically:

Citizen member Joy Myers

Absent:

Delegates Mark Cole, Beverly Sherwood

Staff Attending:

Amy M. Atkinson, Leah Hamaker, Joyce Garner

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Delegate William H. Fralin, Jr.

Delegate Fralin called the meeting to order at 9:40 and welcomed everyone to the final meeting of the Commission's 2009 study year.

Delegate Fralin asked members of the public who had served on Advisory Groups to stand to be recognized and thanked for the expertise they brought to study efforts and their invaluable service at numerous meetings throughout the year.

II. Election of Officers

Members voted unanimously to elect Senator Miller as Chair and Delegate Peace, Vice Chair. Everyone thanked Delegate Fralin for his service as a Commission on Youth member and as chair.

III. 2009 Legislative Study Decision Matrix

Truancy and School Dropout Prevention

The Commission voted on the following study recommendations, as outlined in the Decision Matrix.

TRUANCY AND ATTENDANCE

Finding #1

1. Support the Department of Education efforts in the development of a definition for truancy and request that the Department of Education provide an update to the Commission on Youth on the status of efforts to address truancy prior to the 2011 General Assembly Session.

In response to a member question about which body defines truancy – the Executive Branch or the General Assembly, a Department of Education spokesperson indicated that a Department Advisory Group has convened and will be studying this issue. Recommendations from the Advisory Group will be made to the Board of Education,

Delegate Brink moved to approve Recommendation 1, which was approved unanimously.

Finding #2

1. Request that the Department of Education provide an update to the Commission on Youth on the development of regulations for reporting of student absences and associated attendance policies. Such an update will occur prior to the 2011 General Assembly Session.

In response to a member question about where the Department of Education is now on developing its regulations, a Department spokesperson noted that the Board of Education has approved the notice of intended regulatory action (NOIRA) and there will be a review. The regulations will be released following the review.

Senator Miller moved to approve Recommendation 2, which was approved unanimously.

Finding #3

1. Request the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals, Virginia School Board Association, Virginia Alternative Educators Association, Virginia PTA/PTSA, Virginia School Counselors Association, the Virginia Education Association and the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards include information on effective programs which reduce truancy of elementary school-aged youth at their annual conferences and trainings.

In answer to a member question about whether these groups were involved, Ms. Atkinson indicated that they had been represented on the study's Advisory Group.

Mr. Wagner moved to approve Recommendation 1, which was approved unanimously.

2. Request the Virginia PTA/PTSO share with its membership the importance of school attendance for elementary school students.

It was suggested that Recommendations 1 and 2 be combined. In introducing Recommendation 2, Ms. Atkinson pointed out that the 2009 study recommendations typically reflect a proactive tact, with no funding requests attached. In answer to a member question about the term "share the importance," Ms. Atkinson indicated that the organizations would communicate this recommendation to their memberships in a variety of ways. Another member expressed concern that many parents are under stress and pressed for resources in this economy; parents should be supported, rather than having stressors added, and a "carrot and stick" approach might be more effective. Members discussed schools' securing community sponsors to help them bring parents and students together for a positive experience and suggested alternate wording. Delegate Peace moved to approve the revised recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

3. Encourage school divisions to include in all of their truancy prevention programs evidence-based practices for early intervention at the elementary level with focus on effective school engagement, the establishment of community partnerships and methods to engage students and parents in the school community.

A member requested clarification on how this recommendation differed from Recommendation 2. Delegate Fralin pointed out that evidence-based practices are specific and this recommendation is focused on that. Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

4. Encourage school divisions to develop mechanisms, such as Student Assistance Programming, for identifying students who may need additional school or community supports and direct them and their families to the appropriate services.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

Finding #4

1. Encourage that stakeholder organizations contact Virginia's Congressional Delegation to request that the State Grants portion of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act be reinstated in the federal budget.

A member asked how much the state grants portion was, to which a Department of Education spokesperson answered \$5.4 million. In discussion, members expressed concern that the Commission on Youth might be preempting the General Assembly and asked how this recommendation could be achieved through other avenues. One member suggested that parents and other advocates and stakeholders be requested to write letters. In response, Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation as amended. This was approved unanimously.

Finding #5

1. Request the Department of Juvenile Justice and Department of Criminal Justice Services to include in future trainings, clarification on information-sharing between school resource officers, court service units and law enforcement.

A member asked if there was legislation introduced during the 2009 General Assembly that addressed this issue. Ms. Atkinson stated that, while the Division of Legislative Services had prepared a bill draft, the Commission had not approved this recommendation and a bill was not introduced. Members discussed issues surrounding privacy of student records and law enforcement's frustration with the y which resulting from being unable to obtain information. One member questioned whether the Advisory Group had addressed the effect of legislation on home-schooled students; Ms. Atkinson indicated that Advisory Group members had not broached the subject. Another member expressed concern about taking student out of school, as opposed to using in-school suspension. A spokesperson for JustChildren outlined the Center's interpretation of existing laws and a spokesperson for the Department of Juvenile Justice discussed this issue from the perspective of the school resource officers, who are in fact law enforcement officers. The discussion led to questions for the Department of Education related to what information school policy allows to be shared with law enforcement, including school resource officers. A Department spokesperson provided information on what can and cannot be divulged. Speakers concurred that some communities have more successful communication and collaboration than others and that those communities would benefit from opportunities to hear how successful communication exchange can be achieved.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

Finding #6

1. Encourage the Department of Juvenile Justice to establish guidelines for court service units on how best to expedite resolution of truancy matters when presented to court service units and to include expectations for court diversion programs for those cases.

In response to the finding that some localities have fewer resources for diversion than others, one member called on a representative of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court, who confirmed that diversion is resource-driven. A member asked to what extent the recommendation to "include expectations" implied a fiscal impact. Commission staff discussed the role of the courts in attendance issues. Court staff indicated a preference to keep juveniles out of detention for truancy because this practice, status offenders are placed in detention with serious criminal offenders. Currently, juveniles can currently be detained for up to 10 days; however, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act may be amended to prohibit the use of detention in these instances. In response to a member's question about whether a court can order youth into alternative education, the Supreme Court representative confirmed that alternative education could be ordered. The Court can also charge parents with neglect. One member pointed out a distinction between the role of parents in elementary age youth and those of juveniles.

Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #7

1. Amend Section 22.1-258 of the *Code of Virginia* to give more flexibility to local school divisions by consistently stating that “the school principal, his designee or the attendance officer” is responsible for notifying the parent; making direct contact with the parent; and developing a student’s attendance plan.

Ms. Atkinson explained the effect of inconsistencies in this section of the Code.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #8

1. Request the School Board Association to work with local school boards to encourage them to review their current practices and policies related to attendance and that they share effective attendance practice and policies.

Members discussed what to do when a law is ignored. A revision to the recommendation was suggested to add the Virginia Association of School Superintendents to those working with local school boards.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the revised recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

SCHOOL DROPOUT PREVENTION

Members clarified that “support” in recommendations did not equate to request for additional funds.

Finding #9

1. Support alternative education opportunities for students who have been long-term suspended or expelled.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

2. Encourage cross-district collaboration to expand alternative education options for students.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

3. Support distant and virtual learning programs for remediation efforts or credit recovery that adhere to the provisions of the Virginia Board of Education’s *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

4. Support paid career or on-the-job training opportunities for high school students which allow students to earn credits for their participation.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

5. Support the maintenance and record keeping of those students who are long-term suspended or expelled who are referred to alternative education placements in order to track their success in completing the requirements for graduation.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #10

1. Request the Governor's Office of Substance Abuse Prevention to collaborate across multiple agencies, including the possibility of a university collaboration, for the purpose of developing a website dedicated to prevention and intervention, as well as school dropout prevention and intervention.

In answer to members' questions, Ms. Atkinson explained that Governor's Office of Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP), which falls under the Secretary of Public Safety, is the appropriate agency to address this. The members then discussed different possibilities for the creation of and maintenance of a website.

Mr. Dale moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #11

1. Request the Virginia PTA and Virginia Education Association develop parent support materials that could be used to help educate parents about dropout risk factors, early indicators, prevention strategies, and available community resources.

Senator Blevins moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

2. Encourage districts/regions to establish volunteer parent support groups.

Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

3. Request that Virginia's Parent Resource Centers include information on their websites and in mailings on the factors that place children at-risk of dropping out of school and the options which might be available to help reduce that risk.

Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

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Senator Blevins moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

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Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

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Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #12

1. Request the Department of Education brief the Commission on Youth, in the summer of 2010, on its work in addressing truancy and school dropout prevention, to include changes addressed in the Board's *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* and other technical assistance efforts identified by the Department.

Ms. Atkinson offered examples of school divisions' mechanisms for identifying and monitoring indicators of dropout risk.

Senator Miller moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #13

1. Encourage on-going professional development to include training on dropout prevention. Training could include early indicators of dropout risk, techniques for developing protective factors in children, classroom and behavior management, and best practices in dropout prevention.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

2. Encourage school divisions to provide more cross-training between educators and agencies involved in youth and family services, including agencies that support families in crisis.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

3. Encourage school divisions to consider the implementation of evidence-based programs that provide training for classroom and behavior management and that help staff know how to identify and serve students most at-risk of dropping out of school.

Mr. Wagner moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

4. Encourage school divisions to consider the implementation of student assistance programming which provide wraparound services to students in need.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation. Members voted to approve unanimously.

Finding #14

1. Direct the Commission on Youth to include in its final report on the Study of Truancy and Dropout Prevention information on the Department of Education's actions in 2009 to inform school divisions of the 140-hour seat rule.

Members discussed the 140-hour seat rule and whether a school division superintendent can waive the rule. A Department of Education representative indicated that the Board has issued a Superintendent's Memo to school divisions on how this rule may be waived and that information on the rule is provided to divisions on the Department's website. Senator Miller asked that the Department provide a copy for each Commission on Youth member.

Delegate Peace moved to adopt the recommendation, which was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Career and Technical Education

Leah Hamaker, Senior Legislative Policy Analyst

Ms. Hamaker stated that many of the recommendations emerged from the seven regional Roundtables, which were funded by a State Farm Good Neighbor Grant. Senator Miller suggested a thank you letter from the Commission on Youth to State Farm for their generous funding of the study Roundtables.

Finding #1

1. Support the Department of Education and the Board of Education's Career Advisory Committee's plans to work with local Career and Technical Education advisory committees to continue to educate the business community about the benefits of industry certifications, including National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI).

2. Request the Secretary of Education and the Virginia Career Pathways System Working Group identify those credentials and certificates valued by Virginia employers and are appropriate for inclusion in Virginia's CTE Pathways. Regional variation in demand and program offerings will be acknowledged in this review. A report on the status of this review will be submitted to the Virginia Commission on Youth, the Board of Education and the Council on Career and Technical Education prior to the 2011 General Assembly Session.

The members discussed including the Virginia Community College System. Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendations in a block. Members voted to approve them unanimously.

Finding #2

1. Introduce a resolution to support the update of Virginia's Workplace Readiness Skills (WRS) and test revision. Request that the status of the update to the WRS, and its accompanying assessment instrument, be shared by the Department of Education with Virginia's network of career and technical education (CTE) administrators and school counselors during all upcoming conferences and trainings. Also, encourage local school divisions to communicate regularly with and invite the participation of the local employer community about workplace readiness initiatives and results from student testing on this and other credentialing tests.

Delegate BaCote moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Finding #3

1. Request the Virginia Community College System, the Virginia Workforce Council and the Department of Education include the Career Readiness Certification (CRC) with the Academic and Career Plans for Career and Technical Education Pathways, as appropriate.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Finding #4

1. Support the Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee's efforts to advocate and market CTE.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Support the Department of Education revisions to the *R U Ready Parent's Guide* and request that it be shared with parents of 7th, rather than 8th grade, students.

Request that the Department of Education consider making the *R U Ready Guide for Students*, which provides information about students' educational opportunities, available to high school students in their sophomore, rather than junior, year.

Senator Blevins moved to combine the two recommendations into one and approve it with this revision. block. Members voted to approve the combined recommendation unanimously.

Request that the Virginia Association of School Counselors Association and Virginia PTA/PTSO include information on Virginia's rising labor force needs, as well as the benefits of Virginia's Career and Technical Education programs, in all trainings, newsletters and appropriate media. Also request that this message be shared with parents of kindergarteners.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Support the Virginia Workforce Investment Council and the local workforce boards' work with local school divisions to communicate the value of Virginia's Career and Technical Education programs.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Request the Department of Education include in the training materials for Academic and Career Plans, as well as in the sample plan:

the value of work-based learning for students, such as cooperative education, internships, job shadowing, mentorships, projects, service learning or a combination;
the value of skilled occupations for students; and
information for students and parents regarding the importance of having an industry credential or certification.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Support the Department of Education's efforts to promote private-public partnerships which offer real-world experiences to students. These partnerships include, but are not limited to: 4-H, Ag in the Classroom and Junior Achievement.

Delegate Peace moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Support the Governor's Career and Technical Academies in Virginia as programs designed to expand options for the general student population to acquire Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

A member asked the Department of Education representative whether a student gets CTE credit for off-campus study, which was affirmed.

Senator Houck moved to approve the recommendation, which members voted to approve.

Members discussed additional measures to disseminate CTE successes and to counter parents' resistance to having their children enroll in a CTE program. One member theorized that students who are at-risk of dropping out might stay in school if there was the promise of a good job which CTE programs/certification offers.

Delegate Fralin moved to approve a new recommendation, which members voted to approve as Recommendation 9: Request the Virginia Broadcasters Association to provide a public service campaign to inform the public of the benefits and value of career and technical education.

Finding #5

1. Request the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) provide guidelines on the requirements for credentials Career and Technical Education (CTE) instructors need to satisfy the requirements to teach courses qualified for dual enrollment credit. Request that, once these guidelines are completed by VCCS, they be shared with the Department of Education and the Board of Education's Advisory Council for CTE, Virginia CTE Resource Center and Virginia Association for Career and Technical Education (VACTE).

Members discussed current funding arrangements for dual enrollment and whether there was the possibility the State was paying twice. This was clarified by the Virginia Community College System staff, who assured members that the State paid only once and that funding for dual enrollment varied from school to school, depending on the availability of faculty. A question was asked about standardizing the articulation agreement between high schools and the VCCS. VCCS staff pointed out that, with 23 community colleges, standardization would preclude diversity in what programs were offered.

Senator Miller moved to add the Virginia Workforce Council to the list of entities with which completed guidelines would be shared. Members approved the revision.

Delegate Peace moved to adopt the revised recommendation, which was approved unanimously.

2. Request an update on the progress of the Task Force for HJR 125 (2004) in developing a template for statewide articulation agreements for Career and Technical Education. The status update will include information on the feasibility of establishing a unified agreement for dual-enrollment in the Commonwealth, the barriers of pursuing uniform implementation of dual enrollment, and the costs of standardizing dual enrollment.

Members expressed concern that the General Assembly directives were not carried out and that this, five years hence, needed prompt resolution to identify and remove barriers to reaching this goal. In general, members urged Commission staff to be vigilant in identifying lapses which might occur such that processes would be completed in a timely manner. Senator Miller asked that the Secretary of Education be requested to present an update to the Commission on Youth.

Senator Blevins moved the adoption of the recommendation, which was approved unanimously by the Commission.

Finding #6

1. Support the Department of Education's efforts to address the shortage of Career and Technical Education teachers in the Commonwealth.

Delegate BaCote moved the adoption of the recommendation, which was approved unanimously by the Commission.

2. Support the efforts of the Board of Education's Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education (efforts to address teacher shortages, including teacher recruitment and the involvement of local CTE advisory committees.
One member questioned whether the shortage of CTE teachers tracked with teacher shortages in other areas. A Department of Education representative indicated that CTE teacher shortages rank in the top ten shortage areas and that the Department continues to explore ways to reduce shortages.

Delegate Brink moved the adoption of the recommendation, which was approved unanimously by the Commission.

Finding #7

1. Support the continuation and expansion of Virginia Community College System (VCCS) Career Coaches program and request the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals and the Virginia School Board Association include information on the effectiveness of the Virginia Career Coach Program in upcoming conferences and trainings, as appropriate.

Senator Blevins moved the adoption of the recommendation, which was approved unanimously by the Commission.

Finding #8

1. Support the Department of Education and the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) plan to integrate and implement the Academic and Career Plan (ACP) with the Virginia Education Wizard.

Members discussed possible ties to the Chamber and economic development, but urged that parties involved insure there was not a conflict with the Council on Virginia's Future initiative. Delegate Fralin suggested that the Commission on Youth request a letter to the Department of Education, asking them to notify the Council. A Department representative indicated that the Board of Education approved the ACP in September, but it has been postponed one year because of 2009 General Assembly funding shortages.

Delegate BaCote moved the adoption of the recommendation, which was approved unanimously by the Commission.

2. Support the Department of Education's efforts to provide information in upcoming training and training materials on Virginia's Career Coaches, including ways Career Coaches can assist in the implementation of the Academic and Career Plan (ACP) and school divisions may establish partnerships with the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) to support the Career Coaches.

Members urged involvement of parents somewhere and recommended an amendment adding "and parents" to the existing recommendation as follows:

Support the Department of Education's efforts to provide information in upcoming training and training materials on Virginia's Career Coaches, including ways Career Coaches can assist in the implementation of the Academic and Career Plan (ACP) and school divisions may establish partnerships with the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and parents to support the Career Coaches.

Delegate Peace moved the adoption of revised Recommendation 2, both of which the Commission approved unanimously.

Finding #9

1. Request the Board of Education's State Special Education Advisory Committee address barriers to appropriate placements of students with special needs into Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs by developing (or sharing) written guidelines for use by school personnel.

In response to a member's question about whether special education students in CTE have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), Ms. Hamaker answered that the recommendation is intended to address confusion transition issues and the goal of preparing students for the workplace. Another member indicated there may be federal guidelines governing special education which come into play.

Delegate Peace moved the adoption of the recommendation, which the Commission approved unanimously.

Biennial Update of *Collection of Evidence-based Treatment Modalities for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Treatment Needs*

CONTINUATION OF STATEWIDE DISSEMINATION EFFORTS

1. Request all agencies in the Secretariat of Health and Human Resources, the Secretariat of Public Safety and the Secretariat of Education, post the *Collection, 4th Edition* to their respective web sites to cost-effectively and efficiently facilitate access to this information.
2. Contact behavioral health providers, as well as local juvenile justice officials, to inform them of the *Collection, 4th Edition* and how it may be accessed. Such contact will be via the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards and the State and Local Advisory Team, through the State Executive Council, and through the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

3. Request that the Children's Services System Transformation include on their website, and in any appropriate conferences and trainings, information on the *Collection, 4th Edition*, as well as how it may be accessed.
4. Request that the Intensive Care Coordinator Network, through the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Children's Services System Transformation include information on the *Collection, 4th Edition* and how it can be accessed.
5. Request that the SJR 358 Advisory Group assist with the dissemination of the *Collection, 4th Edition*, as well as how it can be accessed.
6. Request that provider associations, such as the Virginia Coalition of Private Provider Associations, the Virginia Medical Society, the Psychiatric Society of Virginia, the Virginia Academy of Pediatrics and other appropriate professional associations, inform their members of the *Collection, 4th Edition*, and how it can be accessed.
7. Request that family advocacy organizations and consumer groups, including the Virginia Federation of Families be informed of the *Collection, 4th Edition*, as well as how such information may be accessed so they may share it with their membership.

Members elected to take action on Recommendations 1-7 in a block. Delegate Peace moved to adopt them and the Commission voted unanimously to approve them.

ENCOURAGING THE USE OF EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENTS

1. Request that the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Education, and the Department of Criminal Justice Services continue to encourage the use of proven practices for child and adolescent behavioral health and developmental services in the programming and development of any future projects.
2. Request the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Office of Comprehensive Services, and other impacted agencies, include information regarding proven practices for child and adolescent behavioral health and developmental services, including juvenile offenders, in any workforce development efforts, such as conferences or training, as applicable.

Members, in discussing the need for new members of the General Assembly in 2010 to have information about evidence-based treatments, suggested that Ms. Atkinson include an orientation in her initial Executive Director briefings with these members
Members elected to take action on Recommendations 1-2 in a block. Delegate BaCote moved to adopt them and the Commission voted unanimously to approve them.

SCHOOL-BASED DISSEMINATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENTS

1. Request that the Department of Education inform school divisions of the *Collection, 4th Edition* so that it may be utilized by school counseling offices, school nurses, school-based health offices, school special education services and parent organizations.

Senator Blevins moved to adopt the recommendation. Members voted unanimously to approve.

INCLUSION OF BEST PRACTICES IN UNDERGRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE CURRICULA

1. Contact each of the Commonwealth's post-graduate programs in psychology, psychiatry, social work and counseling and encourage them to utilize the *Collection, 4th Edition* and provide course offerings which are consistent. (Adopted)
2. Contact the Virginia State Council of Higher Education, the Virginia Community College System, the Council of Southwestern Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to encourage the evaluation of existing course offerings to ensure

that they are in line with what is needed in the field and include information on proven practices in child and adolescent behavioral health and developmental services in all curricula, practicums and internships.

In discussion, a member suggested a revision to Recommendation 2: add the Secretary of Education to the list of contacts. Senator Blevins moved to adopt Recommendation 1 and Recommendation 2 as revised. Members voted in a block to unanimously to approve them.

FUTURE BIENNIAL UPDATES

1. Include in the Commission's workplan for the *Collection, 5th Edition* approaches which encourage the utilization of proven practices in child and adolescent behavioral health and developmental services and encourage the individualization of treatments based on the strengths and needs of the client.
2. Include in the Commission's workplan for the *Collection, 5th Edition* discussion of whether using proven practices in child and adolescent behavioral health and developmental services should be mandatory, evaluating the pros and cons of differential reimbursement and assessing instances when the Commonwealth reimburses for treatments not proven to be effective. All capacity and funding issues relating to these topics will also be addressed in this review.

Members discussed the extent to which evidence-based treatments should be mandatory or to which to have the Commonwealth continue paying for intervention services which may or may not work. One member cautioned that there may be instances when there is no evidence-based treatment.

The following revision to Recommendation 2 was added:

The Commission will request to brief the Chairs of the Senate Finance and House Appropriation Committees on the relevant costs and funding issues related to evidence-based treatments.

Delegate Peace moved to adopt Recommendation 1 and Recommendation 2 as revised. Members voted in a block to unanimously to approve them.

IV. 2009 State Activities

Ms. Atkinson

The 53-page publication, which provides an overview of youth-related initiatives in each of the three branches, was provided to members in their packets and to members of the public as a handout, but not discussed due to time constraints.

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

This was an electronic meeting attended by:

Joy Myers at Borromeo Housing, Inc., 3304 Washington Boulevard, Arlington. Phone 703-841-0139.

Public comment was not received at this meeting.