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Subject: HB 1508 and the June 9, 2010 BOE Meeting - Information
From: Christine Mukai <rgav1958@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 19, 2014 9:50 pm
To: HouseEducationCommittee@leg.state.nh.us
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From the June 9, 2010 meeting in case you don't have time to watch the video. Quotes from Chair John Lyons of note that we all should be concerned about. Prophetic?

"We do not live in a global world."

He expresses his issues at a different level than what the teachers are presenting at the meeting. His concerns go to:

"Centralization and the loss of control. Specifically, you know, our founding fathers had a big debate and decided to create a House and a Senate so small States could have some control. In the Senate they could have some control over their own destiny. We're going to be creating a centralized Common Core standard, NGA, whatever the association is and to think that we're going to have on-going control over what we think is right, the way we would in a NECAP situation in which it's a number of New England States - seriously concerns me. It's a serious, serious concern that I have that we no longer will be relegated to 2nd tier little old NH, and I think on the record we have to recognize the fact that this is being shoved down our throat to an extent, because we need to go through this process in order to be entitled to Race to the Top funds. Despite being told that the government is not in charge or is not behind these Common Core standards, they're requiring us to say that we're in the process of adopting them in some fashion in order to be entitled to Race to the Top funds. That seriously concerns me. I've not heard anything on how governance will be going forward as to Common Core standards on the long term. Who, where's the governing body? How will states participate? How will votes happen as Common Core standards are changed in the future? What's the opt-out provision? Should we initially decide that this is something we're interested in and later decide that we don't like the direction that this is going in - where's the opt-out provision? Where is the policy and the, where can I look to see if changes are going to be proposed, who will be writing them? What organizations are involved in writing them? Will there be other agencies that might have some control over ultimately what we're forced to adopt here in NH? So, whether or not I agree with the Common Core standards and think that they do or do not align, and whether or not we have this 15% rule, there are other very practical significant issues that I've not heard answered to and there may not be an answer, but I have serious concerns for the state of NH on these issues, and voting as to these Common Core standards."

"This is not a nudge, that's a requirement."

Timeline:

Phase 2 Race to the Top Application Assurances signed at the end of May 2010. Phase 1 RTT Application states on p. 46 (highlights are mine):

- (ii) — (20 points)
 - (a) For Phase 1 applications, the State's high-quality plan demonstrating its commitment to and progress toward adopting a common set of K-12 standards (as defined in this notice) by August 2, 2010, or, at a minimum, by a later date in 2010 specified by the State, and to implementing the standards thereafter in a well-planned way; or
 - (b) **For Phase 2 applications, the State's adoption of a common set of K-12 standards (as defined in this notice) by August 2, 2010, or, at a minimum, by a later date in 2010 specified by the State in a high-quality plan toward which the State has made significant progress, and its commitment to implementing the standards thereafter in a well-planned way.**
In the text box below, the State shall describe its current status in meeting the criterion. The narrative or attachments shall also include, at a minimum, the evidence listed below, and how each piece of evidence demonstrates the State's success in meeting the criterion. The narrative and attachments may also include any additional information the State believes will be helpful to peer reviewers. For attachments included in the Appendix, note in the narrative the location where the attachments can be found.
1 Phase 2 applicants addressing selection criterion (B)(1)(ii) may amend their June 1, 2010 application submission through August 2, 2010 by submitting evidence of adopting common standards after June 1, 2010. Section B - Standards and Assessments
1

The assurances were signed before the adoption was voted on in July 2010, and the June 1, 2010 application was amended by

simply submitting evidence of adopting common standards after June 1, 2010. Since when do you sign something without understanding what is completely binding in the contract?

With all due respect,

Christine Mukai
Amherst, NH

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