



**Advocacy Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
February 1, 2008  
Wachovia Securities  
100 W. Liberty St., Suite 100,  
Reno Nevada**

**Present:** Anne Loring, Bill Cathey, Steve Laden, Ginny Jackson, Richard Siegel, Martha Robertson, Margaret Ferrara, Ed Keppelmann, Nancy Markee, Susie Rusk, Dean Adams, Sue Denning, Bryn Lapenta, Debi Basta, Denise Hedrick

**Others Present:** Sharon Cossette, Jan Hall, Steve Lafer, Joe Elcano, Kirk Turner, Keith Rheault, Carol Crothers

**Unable to Attend:** Steve Mulvenon, Paul Dugan, Debbie Smith, Ted Plaggemeyer, Susan Hornshaw, Mariah Evans, Chrissy Lane

Anne Loring, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.  
Self-introductions were made.

**Review and Approve January 11, 2008 Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the January 11, 2008 meeting as presented.  
**BY:** Richard Siegel  
**SECOND:** Ginny Jackson  
**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Teacher's Circles – Ed Keppelmann:**

The teacher's circle links together active mathematicians to middle school teachers. The goal of The Teacher's Circle is to equip educators with an effective problem-solving approach to teaching mathematics.

The DVD describing the program was shown.

Ed would like to assemble a team consisting of two middle school math teachers, a mathematician, administrator, and someone from the business community to attend one of the workshops this summer.

Margaret Ferrara suggested offering a one credit workshop here in Reno.

More information is available at [www.theteacherscircle.org](http://www.theteacherscircle.org), or contact Ed Keppelmann.

**Nevada Student Information System, Longitudinal Data Warehouse and Accountability System:**

Dr. Keith Rheault, State Superintendent, and Carol Crothers, Director, Assessments, Program Accountability, and Curriculum gave the report on the Nevada Department of Education Statewide Longitudinal Data System to integrate student data.

The abstract and handout were reviewed. They will be kept on file if additional information is needed.

Dr. Rheault would like to return to give details to this group as progress is made on the project.

### **Higher Education Outreach to K-12 Discussion and Information Sharing:**

Bill Cathey and Margaret Ferrara gave the update. This event has been created for groups from higher education that provide outreach to K-12 education, to share their program with other colleagues engaged in outreach.

The event will be held at the Silver Legacy on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Uri Treisman, Executive Director, Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin, will be the keynote speaker.

Email ideas for questions that will stimulate discussion in the facilitated groups to Margaret or Bill.

The Education Collaborative will provide facilitators for the discussion groups.

### **Brief Updates:**

**Data Profile** – Jan Hall reported that the first draft of the Data Profile is very close to being completed.

The Data Profile will be discussed at the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Budget Cuts** – there are no updates at this time.

**School Construction Advisory** – there is no update at this time. The next meeting will be February 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Advocacy Communications:**

The following articles communicating the importance of the Gateway Curriculum were included in the packet and reviewed.

**Sophomore Letter** - This letter will go out to parents of all sophomores (the first Gateway class) to promote the importance of taking a third year of science.

**Family Magazine** – the article was written by Steve Laden on the Gateway Curriculum.

**Hot Topic** – this article will appear in the Reno Gazette Journal sometime next week. It was co-signed by Steve Laden and Barbara Price from the school board.

**Quarterly Family Magazine Ideas** – Denise suggested an article identifying college and workplace readiness. If you have topics that you believe will help parents understand what high achieving, good quality education means please email them to Denise.

Volunteers are needed to write these articles.

**College going guide** – should be ready sometime mid February. A cover letter will accompany the poster, and be mailed to 8<sup>th</sup> graders going into 9<sup>th</sup> grade. 6<sup>th</sup> graders going into 7<sup>th</sup> grade will participate in a classroom guidance activity centered on the poster. The cover letter and poster will go home via the students the first part of March. Copies of the poster will be brought to the Advocacy Committee.

**Public Comment:**

There was none.

**Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Topics for discussion will be:

Data Profile (main agenda item)

Outreach to K-12

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.