

Meeting Minutes

Tennessee State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission

Location: Cordell Hull, House Hearing Room IV

Date: October 22, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Member	Present	Absent
Mr. Neel Durbin, Chairman	X	
Ms. Lynn Michelle Bowman, Vice-Chair	X	
Dr. Lisa D. Coons	X	
Mr. Frank Cagle	X	
Mr. Greg Clark	X	
Ms. Karen Clark	X	
Mr. Dean Mills		X
Ms. Marcie Rudd	X	
Total	7	1

Call to Order

Chairman Durbin called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. Each member of the Textbook Commission introduced themselves to the audience and those watching the live stream.

Chairman Durbin made an opening statement: “The Tennessee Legislature has established very high standards and instructional shifts in recent history for education throughout Tennessee especially in ELA Adoption which is what we are working on now. The Quality Commission is in place to review the process of this. We are not the experts of this material and we are certainly not, I am not, an expert in ELA materials but we are here to oversee the process and make any decisions that deal with that process. In the review process, we selected statewide the most knowledgeable literacy experts that we have in public education. I personally want to show a great deal of appreciation for the work and expertise that these people brought to the process. Some of us have been more involved than others in this and we know those people have a passion for what they do and a great deal of knowledge in what they bring to the table for us. They have worked diligently to fulfill the legislative intent. And now it is really important for us to move forward and keep the schedule because as a director of schools we are working with budgets that are long term budgets over multiple years and to go forward and complete

this adoption process as scheduled. In education we know two things is that teachers is the most important factor and we know that quality materials is the second important factor. The General Assembly established this Commission to oversee that and not to comment on their intent, which was the best materials we could get, I feel there is a really good possibility that there is material out there of great quality that may not meet all of the requirements of the legislative intent; therefore the waiver process has been established where the LEA holds the ability to show how they plan to use the materials and fill in any of the gaps that may be in there that are not fulfilling the true rubric. There is the ability to fill the voids, get a waiver and get other things adopted. Our ultimate goal is to get the best quality materials and get them in the hands of the best quality teachers we can get so we can continue to advance the education in Tennessee.”

Cycle E Textbook Adoption Review

Dr. Lisa Coons updated the commission on the ELA textbook adoption review process. “We began the textbook adoption process began over 12-18 months ago. The original review process reviewed all materials for ELA and CTE that were bid. Five reviewers reviewed each material by grade level with the grade level scoring instrument, and an average of those five reviewers passed or failed those materials. The scoring instrument that was used focused on the instructional shifts that Mr. Durbin referenced in his opening remarks that are the significant changes to the ELA curriculum and expectations the legislature approved. The 2nd section reviewed each individual standard (the TN academic content standards for ELA and reviewed the standards if it was a CTE material). The third section of the scoring instrument talked about the critical material components for the teacher to deliver instruction effectively and make sure those instructional shifts were in place. With the K-2 and 3-5 materials there was a foundational section and finally for information only about the teacher features in the materials. During the original review all five sections were scored. If materials passed or failed during the original review, publishers were notified in early July of that status. At that point in time publishers had the opportunity to review the comments from the original set of five reviewers and make changes to that set of materials and resubmit. The original resubmit date was August 16, so that the publishers had approximately five weeks to make those reviews. Because of the pause which you voted on September 20, publishers actually submitted all of their materials for re-review on September 27. In addition, publishers had the opportunity to provide guidance for the review committee around how to navigate their materials. As we have gone through textbooks adoptions, there have been changes in the way the materials are published and procured. We wanted to make sure reviewers were able to find things in the resources, so the publishers were able to give guidance on where to find different components of the resources in their suite of materials. The review occurred on 9/28 and 9/29. Thank you, Mr. Durbin for attending we appreciated your presence and comments and conversations with the reviewers. We appreciated your oversight during that time. We had two reviewers review

every single material that was re-submitted so anything that failed during the first review was resubmitted and reviewed on the 28 and 29 by two reviewers. As you recall on Sept 20 an additional review qualification happened for our reviewers. They went through an additional scoring task and the top 26 reviewers were selected for that 28th and 29th review process and normed on that task before they were selected to make sure we had the very best of the best review the materials on the 28th and 29th. They completed their review of all materials on the 28th and 29th. Of the 70 materials that were re-reviewed, 72% of those materials passed. Publishers were notified the week of September 30, no later than October 4.”

Consent Items (Voice Vote)

I. Adoption of Agenda

ACTION: Michele Bowman motioned, seconded by **Greg Clark** to approve the adoption of the agenda.

II. September 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes

ACTION: Frank Cagle motioned, seconded by **Michele Bowman** to approve the September 20, 2019 meeting minutes as presented to the commission.

III. Acknowledgement of Bid List

ACTION: Michele Bowman motioned, seconded by **Greg Clark** to acknowledge the Cycle E Publisher’s Bid List as presented to the commission.

Publisher Appeal Discussion

I. Jennifer Harris, Vice President of Learning Architecture of K-6 Reading, Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt (HMH) presented appeal of re-review process on the following materials: *Into Reading, Grade 3*

II. Lisa Thomas, Vice President of Adoptions and Customization, Scholastic presented appeal of re-review process on the following materials: *Literacy, Grades K, 1,2,3, 4.*

III. Appeal Vote Action Items (Roll Call Vote)

A. Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt (HMH)

Greg Clark Motioned to support reviewers decision to fail *Into Reading*, Grade 3:

Second Motion: Lisa Coons

Discussion: Karen Clark commented that in this case with one grade failing and all other grades passing with the same pedagogy, it is confusing. Lisa Coons commented that the State Board would adopt all grades but that one. Chairman Durbin followed by with in this case a school could apply for a waiver.

Member	Yes	No	Present Not Voting
Mr. Neel Durbin, Chairman	X		
Ms. Lynn Michelle Bowman, Vice-Chair		X	
Dr. Lisa D. Coons	X		
Mr. Frank Cagle	X		
Mr. Greg Clark	X		
Ms. Karen Clark		X	
Ms. Marcie Rudd		X	

The motion carries.

B. Scholastic

Frank Cagle Motioned to deny appeal request by publisher.

Second Motion: Greg Clark

Discussion: Karen Clark commented about the confusion with which information was shared and that so many reviewers found issue with materials is difficult to understand. Frank Cagle asked how many reviewers failed the material. Lisa Coons answered that there were 35 reviews in the initial review and 10 reviews in the re-review, and potential tie breakers. 50% of the requirements for the shifts in instructions failed and 30% of the indicators for the ELA standards failed.

Member	Yes	No	Present Not Voting
Mr. Neel Durbin, Chairman	X		
Ms. Lynn Michelle Bowman, Vice-Chair	X		
Dr. Lisa D. Coons	X		
Mr. Frank Cagle	X		
Mr. Greg Clark	X		
Ms. Karen Clark		X	
Ms. Marcie Rudd	X		

The motion carries.

C. Recommendation of Section E Bid List - Final Read

ACTION: Acknowledge the Section E Adoption List as presented to the commission.

First Motion: Michele Bowman

Second Motion: Frank Cagle

Member	Yes	No	Present Not Voting
Mr. Neel Durbin, Chairman	X		
Ms. Lynn Michelle Bowman, Vice-Chair	X		
Dr. Lisa D. Coons	X		
Mr. Frank Cagle	X		
Mr. Greg Clark	X		

Ms. Karen Clark	X		
Ms. Marcie Rudd	X		

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Approval of Section E Textbook Adoption

ACTION: Approve the Section E Adoption List as presented to the commission.

First Motion: Michele Bowman

Second Motion: Frank Cagle

Member	Yes	No	Present Not Voting
Mr. Neel Durbin, Chairman	X		
Ms. Lynn Michelle Bowman, Vice-Chair	X		
Dr. Lisa D. Coons	X		
Mr. Frank Cagle	X		
Mr. Greg Clark	X		
Ms. Karen Clark	X		
Ms. Marcie Rudd	X		

The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements & Notices

Dr. Coons made an announcement that there will be review of the math standards early next year. Math adoption has been delayed a year. The next commission meeting will be scheduled in late August/September 2020 to begin the math adoption process.

Other Business from the Commission

Michele Bowman requested that future meetings not be scheduled on Fridays.

Greg Clark Motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Second Motion: Karen Clark

Chairman Durbin adjourned meeting at 10:40 a.m.

DRAFT