

# ABEC Management Committee Meeting Minutes

July 29, 2009

7:30-8:45am

## Location:

Technology Ventures Corporation  
1155 University SE  
Stanford Room  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

## In Attendance:

Gary Barnard  
Jane Bradley  
Paul Broome  
Pam Catanach  
Lee Trussell  
Dan Gerry

Rachel Davis  
Bruce McClure  
Celia Merrill  
Joan Schueller  
Laurel Wyckoff

Staff: Gabe Apodaca

## Agenda:

### I. Approval of Minutes:

### II. New Business:

Introduction by Bruce:

- We should be preparing to meet the demands of the legislative session.
- Will talk to Peter Winograd regarding the "Principal Story"
  - A. On September 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a screening of New Mexico Principals on New Mexico In Focus

### III. Presentation by Franklin Schargel on the "Dropout Problem"

- Schargel Came from New York, where he he helped to lower the school's drop out rate
  - A. [www.schargel.com](http://www.schargel.com)
  - B. Every schools day 171 bus loads of kids never return to school
  - C. Jobs are leaving the country to go to low income high achievement countries
  - D. The US is evolving to a "skilled nation"
  - E. "We give up too quickly on kids who take too long"
    1. College is taking longer these days for the average student, therefore we have a growing number of "non-traditional" students and this should require that we use non-traditional teaching methods.
    2. There is a higher need for independent learning (student to student)
  - F. Average cost of prison is now \$41,000 a year

- G. Less than half of our native American population has graduated
- H. What will it take to have a school that teaches 21<sup>st</sup> century skills
- I. We have been Identified by Americas Promise a “State in crisis”

Questions/Comments:

- Paul Broome: Legislation is being passed to recognize the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> year graduate.
- Schargel: Please give recommendations to the drop out action committee.
- Bruce: Are there any cities or countries that are taking alternative views to the dropout problems?
  - One state has begun removing teaching certifications from different schools for poor performances
  - Nevada has the lowest graduation rate
  - Georgia model has graduation coaches into middle school
  - Highest dropout rates are in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade
  - In some cases deceased students were not being counted as dropouts in order to continue receiving funding
  - Ireland is on the rise after a complete tear-down and rebuilding of there educations system
  - China has 100 million dropouts
  - India is still not teaching their “untouchables”
  - Technology is rapidly increasing
  - The fastest growing job fields are Medical, Schools and Corrections.
- What about the early childhood affects?
  - A study was done where 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers were asked who they believed would drop out of the students in their classes and a majority were able to accurately identify them.
- Reasons for Dropping out:
  - Boredom
  - Psychological Dropout
  - “Push outs” Example: “I don’t want you in my class because you don’t...”
- Joan: “Push out” was very prevalent at the Drop Out Summit
- Major Causes:
  - The student themselves: pregnant/incarcerated
  - The families that they come from
  - The school: Treating students as if they are all the same, toxic culture: football and other achievements other than academics
- Broome: We met with over 100 drop outs in the SAGE program at CNM
  - It is a great avenue for gaining knowledge about dropouts
  - No one actually gave these kids an ultimatum to dropping out

- Our responsibility to raise children is failing
- It is safe to say “we know what we need to do”
- We’ve been talking about the same thing for the past 20 years
  
- #1 request from students who were asked their opinion’s on what should change to improve DO rates: “A teacher who cares”
  - Paul Broome: We can’t confuse this to be a teacher who is going to pamper the students; rather we need a teacher who should be on top of them and keeping them on track
    - We’ve lost discipline in the schools
    - We’re competing against TV and drugs.
    - Schools have become Emergency Rooms for families. We have to provide food, driving classes, sex ed. classes, suicide prevention etc.

**IV. Upcoming meeting:**

- **Bob Einstein on “Project 2012”  
August 26, 2009**

**V. Adjourn 8:56 am**