**California Council for the Social Studies**

**Government Relations Committee Meeting**

**August 26, 2017**

Meeting opened at 2:15 p.m. by Government Relations Chair, Cricket Kidwell. Attendees included Fred Jones, Janet Mann, Katherine Rand. Notes taken by Michelle Herczog.

**Leg Updates – Fred Jones**

SB 596 (Stern): Student Empowerment and Legislative Involvement. Would create statewide program of elected students from 12 regions that would come together in state conferences to propose legislative reform of public policy.

* Fred is asking for suggestions of people to bring into the conversation to strengthen intent and language of the bill.

**CCSS Website**

* We need a Government Relations web page that allows us to post meeting reports, information, legislative updates.
* Cricket volunteers to post information on an ongoing basis.
* LCAP toolkit talking points is missing
* Leg updates from Fred need to be posted
* List of past recipients of the Civic Action Award

**Review Committee Goals and Purpose**

The purpose of the Governmental Relations Committee of CCSS is to...

* Develop and recommend strategies and procedures by which CCSS can influence public policy that supports high quality social studies as a core discipline at all grade levels;
* Monitor the work of the Legislative Information Officer and advise and assist CCSS Board of Directors on issues related to legislation and public policy impacting social studies education;
* Establish, enhance, maintain, and support the dissemination of legislative information to the CCSS membership;
* Sponsor the Legislative Breakfast at the annual conference;
* Under the auspices of CCSS, select a recipient for the Civic Action leadership award recognizing actions by a government leader that positively impacts social studies education.

**Review Confab Notes from March 2017 meeting**

* The Confab meeting emphasized the importance of strengthening alliances and partnerships to support advocacy efforts. No new recommendations emerged from the meeting for the 2017-18 year.

**CCSS Position Papers**

* Committee feels position papers do not need updates at this time.

**Government Relations Confab Meeting:** 90 minutes

* Fred recommends Alllysun Walker-Williams, Executive Director of California Council for Economics Education to speak.
* Speak on importance of strengthening networking connections and partnerships.

**Legislative Breakfast:** 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. (Do not want to start at 7:00 a.m.)

* Cricket will talk with Greg to finalize a menu
* Justice Judith McConnell will be nominated to receive the 2018 Civic Action Award. Cricket will send the nomination announcement to the Justice.
* Michelle will the updated CCSS letterhead to Cricket and Fred.
* Michelle will also send mailing address of Justice McConnell to Cricket.
* No keynote speaker at breakfast.

**Budget**

* Committee wants to spend up to $300 for Govt. Relations swag to give away at breakfast and/or confab.
* Michelle will submit motion for budget allocation.

**Other:**

* Need to include the Civic Action Award and list of past awardees given by the Govt. Relations Committee on the CCSS Awards page.
* Cricket with Fred’s guidance to draft a letter to the State Board of Education regarding the absence of history-social science in the ESSA Draft Plan. Letter will be forwarded to Executive Committee for approval.
* Fred and Cricket will discuss possibility of speaking at State Board meeting on the absence or history-social science in the ESSA Plan and the state accountability “dashboard” system.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.