

Date:

May 23, 1955

file Vis. Teacher

To:

The Visiting Teachers of the Northern Virginia Regional Group.

From:

Hazel L. Van Anden, Visiting Teacher, Northern Virginia Regional Group Representative at the State Department of Education Committee Workshop.

Subject:

Report on work of the Representative at the Committee Workshop of Visiting Teachers and State Department Personnel, May 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 1955.

Workshop
Personnel

Sixteen Visiting Teachers representing eight regional areas and eight selected at large.

Sixteen members of the State Department of Education.

A Professional Consultant

See attached list.

Accomplished
Work

The existing Handbook for Visiting Teachers was revised in form; the content brought up to date; and the first draft prepared for the State Department of Education editorial board.

The existing forms for reporting progress to the State Department of Education were revised to become an annual report of comparable statistical and analytical data.

The Spring Conference of Visiting Teachers was planned for 1956.

Handbook
Revision
Workshop

Miss Jennie Brewer, Assistant Supervisor of Special Education, State Department of Education, chaired this committee.

Four work committees were formed to accomplish the drafts for full committee consideration, critique, and suggestion.

The committee as a whole and the smaller committees worked from the existing Handbook for Visiting Teachers and from the transcribed notes produced by the Regional Groups of Visiting Teachers in the series of workshops during the 1954-55 school year. They were guided but not mastered by either.

The committee attempted to produce a draft for the editorial board of the State Department of Education that would state objectively, to all visiting teachers now employed, to those entering the service for the first time, and to those replacements who may follow, the role of the Visiting Teacher in the local school division and in the total program of education in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

They further attempted to create a section of ready reference for visiting teacher personnel in the form of professional resources, legal references, definition of terms, and an appendix of suggested forms.

For those anticipating this professional service, a section was written suggesting desirable personal qualifications, professional education areas applicable, and professional experience prior to entering the service that appeared to be suitable.

Miss E. Elizabeth Henson, Supervisor of Elementary Education, State Department of Education, chaired this committee.

One progress report to the State Department of Education is to be submitted each school year; an annual June Report.

Its purpose is to provide comparable data that may be used over a period of years to show trends in the school population concerning age-group problems, drop-out trends, and an analysis of the types of problems that are referred to the visiting teacher service. Data from these reports may be used by administrative officers and legislative committees in the process of planning more effective schooling opportunity for all children in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Davis Y. Paschall, Associate Director, Division of Instruction, State Department of Education, chaired this committee.

It was agreed that the Visiting Teachers shall meet in separate session for the 1956 Spring Conference. The time and the place to be agreed upon later.

State
Report
Revision

Annual
Spring
Conference

It was further agreed that the Regional Groups for 1955-1956 shall consider a comprehensive reading of the recent research literature in sciences basic to their profession to improve their understanding of new techniques and more effective methods of practice in the treatment of problems of children within the framework of their families, their classroom and school, and within their community. It was recommended that such study may assist visiting teachers accept more effectively their role in the total effort to prevent juvenile delinquency and promote wholesome trends toward productive and satisfying citizenship.

The Spring Conference will be planned to enrich this study by providing appropriate professional leadership and consultant service in workshop sessions.

The writer is deeply appreciative for the honor and privilege of representing his Regional Group in this State-wide Committee work-shop. The organization, the processes of work, the professional relationships were stimulating. The esprit de corps left nothing to be desired. The product of the Committee's effort is commendable in that it is a creative work exhibiting the best effort of each participant on a professional level. It does not purport to be a finished product and much is left to the discretion, professional acumen, and hard work of the State Department of Education editorial board. At its best it is an instrument that lends itself to adaptation and creative use in the local school division,

Appreciation

Respectfully submitted,



Hazel L. Van Anden, Visiting Teacher
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