NOTES from Common Core Forum, 12/12/13, Jackson, MS

Emmett McGroarty, J.D.

Many states pay due to CCSSO/Gov. Asso. for their Gov's & State Supt's signing on
NOT state led efforts, no oversight
ACHIEVE, early Nov. 2009,
Standards – Race to the Top (RTT) compete for $ that states already gave to Feds!
1/19/10 first applications due; 6/28/10 MS adopted
No public discussion & No opportunity for that to happen
This would prepare more students to study STEM, but it failed to do so
Draft process NOT subject to Sunshine laws; no transparency
States making decisions based on these groups
States are NOT protecting their Sovereignty!
Massive data collection – incentives = $
Every state took that $ from the Stimulus bill
Fed. Law prohibits _____ Nat. School Database & said & made a "National Student Database" & was funded by RTT & _____
Health, voter, religion, * disciplinary history all recommended to work toward; are there any harms? = a Legislative problem
Told NOT to worry, federal student privacy law is gutted because of regulatory changes
Students personal info can be shared with other agencies;
They just have to know how to ask for data, i.e., "for research purposes"
Data Qualitative Initiative by Dept. of Labor;
All tied in to RTT, scheme for govt. to have access
1970s Student Privacy Bill has now been gutted by fed. Regs
Govt. has data on citizens = this should be the opposite – "Citizens have data on govt."

Dr. Sandra Stotsky

They claim Standards are "rigorous, rigorous, rigorous"
Stotsky had previous credential & work in Mass.
Standards - attempt to unprove all effort done in Mass. from 1999 to 2003
Stotsky's worked in Mass. to try to raise students/raise teacher core also
Stotsky on Validation Committee from 2009-2010;
They were required to sign Confidentiality Agreement saying "they could not ever talk to public about what they did on the Committee"
Stotsky could not & did not ever talk about what they the Committee did
People who wrote Standards were NOT qualified to write them
Standards writers did NOT want to communicate with her, they were connected to the "Testing Community", *i.e.*, testing experts
Stotsky could NOT get answer or what they were benchmarking to ??
Stotsky calls it the peculiar invalid Validation Committee
Stotsky & James Milgram did NOT sign off
Weakness in required math begins in elementary school
Grade 8 will have the tests – probably ??

Standards are missing for pre-Calculus and Algebra II
CC says administrative requirements for math for 2 & 4 yr college may be _____
We have moved college down to High School (college readiness standards
Will be problems with High School students NOT to go into STEM careers b/c Standards were left OUT
This is what RTTT expected to do
This is another social issue, some who get extra tutor help to get to stem!
American kids will not be eligible for them
No research to support value of; most of research support Standards are actually "skills"
Information reading vs. literary reading = reduce opportunity to reduce critical thinking
CC Standards appear to be fewer; they are bunched together as one

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QUESTIONS:

1. Why are not Standards higher?
MCGROARTY said a public process should be transparent & CC is not;
States are in competition with each other; CC idea = is a monopoly
Constitution is ignored; produce does not match up with Slogans

2. What if we pause, what then?
STOTSKY said MS would then have NCLBehind
If we go back to Step 1, we could go back to what we had
There's another 5 or 6 states that did this
STOTSKY has a free short version on her website of HER STANDARDS (used in states for # of years with good results, English)
In math, many states have good standards
If MS wanted to adopt Minn. They are all free public documents
State tests have to be based on state standards
In N.H. students can opt out of tests – some states allow

3. What effect on home schoolers if federal government is in this?
Answer – not sure now, except ACT, SAT, etc. geared toward testing on CC standards, and _____ Coleman ??(is head of _____), is now writing new ACT, so that's a collusion….??

4. What about content & curricula is _____? Vouchers laws is another problem

STOTSKY: Mississippi's mess is that then-present (2010) Gov. Barbour, MS State Bd. Of Edu. leader, & _____ signed on to adopt.

5. What about accreditation problems?
This creates big problem for Math & science teachers.

6. Angela Hill asked, "What about Teacher Review Panel? "
STOTSKY said, it was recently created, shows fed. Govt. interested, 5 or 6 folks will look at test items & shows federal oversight of testing; we do not know who they are