Section 7.102(e)(1) of the Texas Education Code provides that the State Board of Education “shall develop and update a long-range plan for public education.”

In September of 2014, an Ad Hoc committee (AHC) of the SBOE began an eight month process to determine the viability of developing a Long-Range Plan (LRP) for Texas public education.

At the end of that process, the AHC made the following findings:

• the long-range planning process will enable stakeholders in Texas education to reach consensus as to the core values upon which our public education system is based, as well as the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges of Texas public education over the next five to seven years;

• the most recent LRP was created in 2000 and expired by its own terms in 2006;

• representatives from administrator, parent, superintendent and educational support groups have indicated their support and willingness to participate in the development of an LRP;

• it is important for the SBOE to formulate an internal vision as to its role in fulfilling the legislatively established mission for Texas public education.

The AHC recommends that the process to develop and implement the LRP be as follows:

• that a professional facilitator be engaged to oversee the process;

• that forums be held across the state in which legislators, parents, educators, businesspeople, administrators and community members are asked to identify the core values, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges of Texas public education over the next five to seven years;

• that the SBOE define and articulate an internal vision as to its role in fulfilling the legislatively defined mission of Texas public education;

• that a budget of $150,000 be set to cover the cost of developing, publishing and distributing the LRP.