The North Carolina State Board of Education met after the Board Committees concluded their work and the following members were present:

- William Harrison, Chairman
- Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
- Melissa Bartlett
- Christine Greene
- Shirley Harris
- Kevin Howell
- Reginald Kenan
- Jean Woolard
- John Tate
- Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

- June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent
- Bill Tatum, Local Board Member Advisor
- Don Martin, Superintendent Advisor
- Rob Jackson, Principal of the Year Advisor
- Jennifer Faccioliini, Teacher of the Year Advisor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

Chairman William Harrison called the Wednesday session of the October State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He noted the absence of Teacher of the Year Advisor Ms. Tyronna Hooker who is participating in an event that was previously scheduled. Chairman Harrison prefaced the Board’s work by noting that recovery continues along the coastal schools and communities following Hurricane Irene. On behalf of the State Board, Chairman Harrison wished these schools and communities well noting that Dr. Ben Matthews and his Support Services staff, as well as others at DPI, continue to offer assistance.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. There were no conflicts of interest communicated at this time. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the Chairman. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.
Chairman Harrison announced that Board members usually receive the State Superintendent’s Report on Thursday morning, but Dr. Atkinson will not be present during the Board meeting on Thursday as she will be attending the inauguration of Mr. Tom Ross, President of the University of North Carolina, at North Carolina A & T University in Greensboro. Chairman Harrison congratulated President Ross explaining that while he assumed his duties in January, the formal inauguration is scheduled for Thursday. At this time, Chairman Harrison recognized Dr. Atkinson for her report.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

NBC Education Nation Summit - 2011
Along with approximately 350 invited guests, Superintendent Atkinson attended the second annual Education Nation Summit, hosted by NBC News, to engage the country in a solutions-focused conversation about the state of education in America.

Featured panelists and speakers included:
- First Lady Laura Bush
- Secretary of Education Arne Duncan
- President Bill Clinton
- Florida Governor Jeb Bush and ten currently serving governors
- Warren Buffet
- Melinda Gates

Topics included
- Brain science and the first 2000 days of a child’s life
- Value of preschool education
- Business and educational partnership
- Engaging learning
- Connection between economic development and education teacher effectiveness

North Carolina was highlighted for its work with the teacher survey, early childhood education, and Microsoft Academy results.

Research – Reading and Balanced Calendar
Staff members are conducting research about effective and efficient strategies for addressing the school calendar, as well as the status of reading instruction and teacher preparation. The reports will be presented to the State Board of Education in early 2012.

Superintendents’ Quarterly Meeting
The October 18, 2011 Superintendents’ Quarterly meeting will be devoted to the following topics:
- Making changes when change is hard (Dan Heath, author of Switch)
- Connecting with public about education (Dr. Tiffany Manuel, Frameworks…)
- Career and College Promise
New Superintendents’ Orientation
As a part of an ongoing tradition, 22 superintendents participated in a new superintendents’ orientation on September 8. The superintendents received an overview of the SBE goals and the department’s services and priorities. The focus was about measuring success, serving, and leading for public schools. Senior leadership presented specific information on the following topics:

- Strategic planning and performance navigator
- Graduation initiatives
- Budget
- NCVPS
- Common Core and Essential Standards
- College and Career Promise
- Communications and superintendent activities

White House Announcement about ESEA
On September 26, 2011, I joined President Barack Obama, Education Secretary Arne Duncan and other chief state school officers for the White House announcement that states can apply for waivers from provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The waivers would be provided in exchange for more focused efforts at the state level to “close achievement gaps, promote rigorous accountability and ensure that all students are on track to graduate college and career ready.

DPI staff is preparing the waiver request to meet the first submission date of November 14. States may submit waivers on November 14 and mid-February 2012. An additional opportunity will be available following the conclusion of the 2011-12 school year.

Longitudinal Data Systems Grant
The Department of Public Instruction is eligible to request a grant to develop or expand a longitudinal data system K-20. DPI staff will coordinate the development of the grant by working closely with public and private universities, the community college system, and the Employment Security System. The application is due December 14, 2011.

Schools of the Deaf and Blind
Three public hearings have been conducted to give the public an opportunity to comment about the closing of one of the three schools serving deaf and blind students. The law states that “no later than January 15, 2012, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee of the General Assembly the residential school it has decided to close and the Department’s plan for consolidating the programs with those at the two remaining schools.

STEM Strategies Plan
A draft of the NC STEM Strategic Plan will be emailed to SBE members in an upcoming update. This plan has been developed in collaboration and with input from the JOBS Commission, STEM Collaborative, Governor’s Education Transformation Commission, and New Schools Project. It will be presented to the SBE for discussion and action over the next two months.

Congratulations AP Scholars
Congratulations to Raisa Chowdury and Jacob Feidman from Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools for being among the 117 students national wide to receive recognition for outstanding performance in the 2011 Advanced Placement exams.
Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

Delivered remarks/keynote address at
- Ashe County Schools’ Strategic Plan Celebration
- NC STEM Advisory Council
- CTE Directors’ Fall Conference
- Regional ACTE Fall Conference
- Dunn/Erwin Rotary Club
- Financial Coaching Pilot, Corinth-Holder High, Johnston County

Attended
- Completion by Design State Advisory Board Meeting, Guilford Technical College
- Evergreen Charter School
- CCSSO International Conference on Teacher Effectiveness and Preparation, Brazil
- Governor Morehead School Open House
- International Delegation Visit from Jiangsu, China

RttT Monthly Highlights of Activities Completed

RttT Management:
- Provided RttT update to Governor’s Education Transformation Commission
- Continued developing and processing with USED amendments to State Detailed Scope of Work (DSW) and budget to submit to USED
- Continued approval of LEA/Charter School DSW submissions; began posting Local Education Agency (LEA)/Charter School approved fully completed DSWs to the website (108 posted as of 9/23)
- Submitted RttT Annual Performance Report to USED
- Continued planning for building a cadre of teacher and principal ambassadors in each school to help communicate the reasons and mechanisms for the changes under way in curriculum, accountability and educator evaluation; participants will include at least two teachers per school, each school principal and superintendent
  - Continued preparations for the regional meetings for statewide rollout of the new accountability program planned for March 2012
  - Continued developing promotional materials for use at the statewide regional meetings and toolkits to distribute at the meetings. Toolkits will include practical information about the new Common Core and Essential Standards, and the new accountability program to be completed by February 2012
- Began creating parent resource podcasts about new standards, new student assessments and new accountability model to distribute online and via social media fall of 2011 along with an online guide for parents to be posted by 12/31/2011
- Continued distributing RttT Weekly Update to more than 600 LEA and charter officials involved with Race to the Top

Standards & Assessments:

Standards
- Continued development of Unpacking Social Studies elective courses to be posted 2/2012
- Continued development of Developing Local Curricula module to be released in the fall
- Continued working on Graphic Organizer tool to be completed 2/2012
• Continued developing Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy (RBT) module to be released by 11/15/11
• Began designing data literacy guide for data coaches to be published by 5/2012
• Continued developing PD Map
• Continued delivering Common Core and Essential Standards training for Principals and Assistant Principals
• Continued planning Common Core and Essential Standards training for Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs)
• Began work to embed content classroom examples and video vignettes within NC FALCON to be completed 5/2012
• Began development of Learning Map exemplars to be posted for LEA use by 3/2012
• Began curriculum and instruction content-specific "live chats" to provide support and fidelity checks to district-teams, Educator Recruitment and Development (ERD), and District and School Transformation (DST) (held quarterly/dates will be posted on ACRE site)
• Began designing Common Core and Essential Standards professional development for Charter Schools

Assessments
• Began including the Online Assessment Best Practices Guide in regional informational and professional development sessions

Data Systems to Improve Instruction:
• Continued IIS Workgroup meetings
• Completed the “Visions, Goals, Objectives,” “A Day in the Life,” documents
• Continued working on the “Roles Matrix,” AND “Web” documents to be finalized by 12/31/11
• Worked with planning vendor to complete Background Information document
• Continued working with planning vendor to develop Business Requirement document, Technical Requirements document, RFP, and Comprehensive Plan
• Continued developing “Using Data for Instruction” guide to be completed by 12/31/11
• Continued developing master project plan document to be completed by 10/28/11
• Held follow-up webinars for people who volunteered at the focus groups to provide feedback on the revised business requirements documents
• Working with the NCPTA to set up a parent focus group to inform the business functions of the IIS
• Invited vendors offering full or partial IIS solutions to present to functional workgroups; nine vendors presented 9/8-9/24
• Collaborated with other RtTT states to determine where there are commonalities and where there are gaps in requirements
• Participated in Shared Learning Infrastructure (SLI) Kick-off and meetings to determine how the SLI will impact the IIS work

Great Teachers & Principals:
• Began final approval process for publication for NCDPI website informing potential partners of the process for approval to become an alternative licensure program to be posted by 10/1
• Continued compiling working paper to guide conversations with IHE partners regarding how to improve educator pipeline for high-need content and specialty areas to be posted by 11/15
• Executed contract with Research and Evaluation Associates to design evaluation instruments for media specialists, instructional technology teachers, school counselors, school speech pathologists, school social workers, and school psychologists
• Selected vendor to develop and validate student academic growth factor
• Continued Northeast Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) Cohort 1 school year administrative internships through 6/30/12
• Continued training for Northeast RLA Cohort 2 participants through 6/30/12
• Continued Piedmont-Triad RLA Cohort 1 participant administrative internships through 6/30/2012
• Continued Sandhills RLA Cohort 1 participant clinical residencies through 6/30/12
• Continued ongoing Teach For America support for corps members as they enter classrooms; support to occur throughout Corp member’s two year commitment through 6/30/13
• Continued New Teacher Induction Program in four regions with first cohort
• Receiving re-negotiated bids for Strategic Staffing Request for Proposals
• Continued developing educator preparation program report cards
• Began compiling teacher and administrator effectiveness data to be linked to NC School Report Cards; end of October is release date
  • Continued 2011-12 Professional Development Calendar based on needs assessment results from Summer Institute training
• “Understanding the Standards” module released August 28; 160 completers as of September 5
• Continued development of Developing Local Curricula module to be released in the fall
• Continued contract with TOPS to continue to host modules through “NC Education” portal; Began development of four new modules by the ERD module design team to include Data Literacy, Common Core State Standards ELA: Content Area Literacy, Effective Use of Learning Progressions, Embracing the Change: Embedding Digital Literacy in the Content Area (tentative titles)
• Posted Summer Institute materials on ACRE website and linked to Professional Development resource page (http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/profdev/institute/)
• Continued partnership with Regional Education Service Alliances (RESAs) to implement next steps in job-embedded, blended professional development cycle
• Continued meetings with IIS team to discuss development of professional development learning management system
• Continued bi-weekly interagency collaborative planning time with Professional Development (PD) Team, Curriculum and Instruction, and Instructional Technology to collaborate and deploy future professional development based upon assessment feedback and the new NC Standard Course of Study changes
• Deployed state-sponsored PD Leaders to provide training on the Educator Evaluation Systems, Common Core and Essential Standards
• Finalized revision for Component 2 (Maximizing Human Resources for Goal Accomplishment) of the Distinguished Leadership in Practice (DLP) professional development; began Component 3 (Building A Collaborative Culture with Distributed Leadership) working with the North Carolina Business Committee for Education (NCBCE) to make final preparations for business visits made by DLP participants during the face-to-face sessions at each of the four geographic locations
• Deployed ten graduates of the inaugural cohort of Distinguished Leadership in Practice (DLP) to co-facilitate a DLP component starting this month

NC Virtual Public Schools:
• Continued to determine professional development needs for project-based learning, STEM, mobile teaching and learning, and blended teaching for all of the online and face-to-face teachers
• Held professional development for teachers on the new blended STEM instructional model; virtual for 1st and 2nd sessions in September with a face-to-face meeting 9/20 on NCSU Centennial Campus
• Continued development of promotion and marketing strategy for the RttT Blended STEM process for community, parents, students, and staffs to be completed by 1/2/12
• Continued development of a course template and outline based on "chunking of material" into project-based modules to align with the current NC Standard Course of Study and Common Core standards
• Continued writing criteria for the Mobile Web Application/Application development RFP; plan to post RFP in November
• Continued development, design, and modification of virtual STEM core math and science courses that provide access and targeted instruction to at-risk student populations for the purposes of credit attainment toward graduation; plan to release final course materials for Earth/Environmental Science and Integrated Math I by fall 2012
• Continue research of blended resources and training appropriate for support of teachers and students in using the devices for STEM courses to be completed by 12/31
• Completed initial development of LEA Technology Support Plan (revised based on LEA feedback)
• Worked toward posting an Invitation for Bid for devices; plan to post in November
• Continued developing professional development modules and training sessions for lead teachers, face-to-face teachers and district teams; training completed 9/21

Turning Around the Lowest-Achieving Schools:
• Completed the unpacking of a Comprehensive Needs Assessment report at North Pitt High School in Pitt County and at Dillard Middle and Goldsboro High in Wayne County
• Completed Comprehensive Needs Assessments at:
  o Greene County Schools (CNA Orientation)
  o Green Grove Elementary, Janie Hargrave Elementary, Red Springs High, St. Paul Elementary, Red Springs Middle, Rosenwald Elementary School, Southside Ashpole Elementary School, and Townsend Middle School in Robeson County
• Held monthly District Transformation Coaches meeting, School Transformation Coaches meeting, as well as Instructional Coaches meeting
• Began scheduling ‘progress check’ meetings with the twelve partnered school districts for the months of October and November
• Continued PD and Coaching for currently served schools/districts
• Delivered make-up session for the Summer Professional Development for School Leaders Session #1 for new Principals of T.A.L.A.S. schools and those school leaders that were not able to attend the sessions held during the summer
Delivered Professional Development for School Leaders Session #2 focused on an introduction to the Framework for Action for all Principals in T.A.L.A.S. schools

**NC Education Cloud:**
- Participated in eight Regional Technology Directors’ meetings with new comprehensive NC Education Cloud updates during the second and third weeks of September
- Continued detailed work of project teams and meetings of the Consortium/Cooperative Purchasing LEA Advisory Working Group, Data Collection and Analysis Working Group, Identity and Access Management Working Group and the Shared Services Advisory Committee
- Began the process of aggregation and analysis of data from all regional site surveys. This raw data and anecdotal points from site surveys should be available in early October
- Sent Instructional Content Learning Systems Working Group invitations to representative LEA Charter subject level experts
- Continue to work with IIS Planning Process
- Work with Consortium Buying Working Group to identify and be working on any needed E-rate strategies related to NC Education Cloud in order to be ready for fall E-rate applications

**Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM):**
- Completed list of four anchor schools (one new anchor Regional School to begin 2012-13) and sixteen network affinity schools (one new affinity Regional school to begin 2012-13)
- Developed draft rubric for identifying Future-Ready STEM High Schools/Programs of Achievement
- Prepared meeting for Lieutenant Governor’s Joining Our Businesses and Schools (JOBS) Advisory Committee to assess STEM Attributes and Strategic Plan
- Began plans with STEM partners for an 4/2012 STEM Symposium for students and teachers demonstrating project-based learning
- Met with Navy representatives to review their STEM initiatives and STEM efforts on teacher fellowship recipients
- Began creating a STEM Asset Map/Web-portal for North Carolina research State and National resources (NC STEM)
- Held a Critical Friends Group session and Secondary Lenses on Learning Mathematics professional development for 70 teachers (New Schools Project-NSP)
- Arranged two study visits for three days at Cross Creek and Caldwell (NSP)
- Held five Leadership Innovation Network session meetings and a Biotechnology/Agriscience Industry Innovation Council meeting for the Kannapolis Biotechnology/Agriscience regional school which is to open 2012-13 (NSP)
- Held a STEM New Principals’ Institute 9/14 for 12 principals (NSP)
- Developed tri-fold brochure on Scaling STEM practices in North Carolina (NC STEM)
- Presented at the National Governor’s Association STEM Summit in Boston (NC STEM)
- Met with K-12 program area to better link the work with the STEM philosophy
- Briefed Academic Services and Instructional Support (ASIS) Directors on STEM Strategic Plan

**Evaluation:**
- **Cross-Cutting Evaluation Elements**
  - Completed Omnibus Teacher and Principal Survey
• Completed Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) reliability testing for 28 classroom observers; several other classroom observers signed up for online CLASS training; Management Team designed protocols and data collection tool for classroom observations
• Continued Working (Carolina Institute for Public Policy- CIPP- data administrator) with DPI on data needs for fall analyses

**Teacher and Leader Effectiveness**
• Continued literature review
• Continued to use historical data to compare different Value-Added Models (VAMs) of teacher effectiveness to share with NCDPI
• Revised school sample for classroom observations

**Distribution of Teachers and Leaders**

**Baseline Teacher Quality Analysis**
• Continued work on report; due fall 2011
• Continued work on VAM

**Regional Leadership Academies**
• Observed Piedmont Triad Leadership Academy (PTLA) Internship Seminar and Curriculum Writing Session; Sandhills Leadership Academy (SLA) Advisory Team Meeting; and NELA Distinguished Leaders in Practice
• Attended RLA planning session
• Presented NCDPI-approved Scope of Work to Quality Assurance Committee
• Continued work on the cost-effectiveness study

**Teach For America (TFA)/NC Teacher Corps (NCTC)**
• Received historical TFA data on Corps Member leadership scores
  o In the process of securely downloading and storing those data
• Identified TFA “pod” locations for 2011-12 and will finalize site selections during the first week of September
• Began constructing focus group protocols, survey items, and NCTC recruitment protocols – to be submitted to Institutional Review Board by mid-September

**Induction Program for Novice Teachers**
• Entered data from Summer Institute into Excel database
• Began contacting control schools to identify Year 1 teachers and assess interest in participation

**NCVPS**
• Completed write-ups of blended-course orientation PD observations onsite in Person County and Montgomery County
• Considering how to modify the CLASS observation tool to work in an online, STEM-focused environment. Meeting planned with the STEM team to discuss overlap (ongoing)

**Professional Development**
• Staff formed two workgroups for fall 2011 work:
o LEA/School Site Visit Prep Team – This Team is:
  ▪ Creating standards-based rubric for reviewing online modules and resources
  ▪ Developing or identifying teacher and LEA staff surveys
  ▪ Creating teacher and LEA staff focus group protocols
  ▪ Detailing CLASS Observation protocol modifications for PD work
  ▪ Finalizing a process for contacting and scheduling visits
  ▪ Assigning staff to observe Regional PD Sessions

o Report-Writing Team – This Team is analyzing and interpreting:
  ▪ Omnibus survey items
  ▪ Exit Survey items
  ▪ Informal interview transcripts
  ▪ NCDPI Curriculum & Instruction and Regional PD Leads focus group data
  ▪ Observation data
  ▪ Staff reflection data

**District and School Transformation (DST) Including STEM Schools**
- Completed quantitative impact assessment and write-up
- Completed full draft of qualitative and quantitative assessment of pre-DST
- Completed the first draft of the baseline scan of NC STEM schools
- Created first drafts of site visit measures
- Ongoing: Monitoring the online tool NSP is using to develop their community of practice

**Local Spending**
- Investigated Cloud computing background to better understand upcoming fiscal analysis
- Beginning to develop a forecast model for local spending

**Finland Comments**
Chairman Harrison (sponsored by the Public School Forum) and Board member Tate (sponsored by Wells Fargo) traveled to Finland last week to learn how they have moved to the top in the world as it relates to the PISA exams and providing a quality education for all students. From his perspective, Chairman Harrison shared with Board members some initial lessons learned from the trip. Mr. Tate added that there is an overall focus of responsibility felt by the public toward the common good as it relates to educating all children. He stated that he and Board member Tate will put their thoughts in writing to share with Board members in the future.

**Closed Session**
Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to convene in closed session.

_Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consult with our attorneys in order to preserve attorney-client privilege; to consider the handling of two cases - of Michelle C. DeSmith v. the State Board of Education and Lillie Samuels v. the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction._
With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn.

Upon motion made by Ms. Tricia Willoughby and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board of Education meeting until Thursday, October 6, at 9:00 a.m.
Minutes of the  
North Carolina State Board of Education  
Education Building  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC  27601-2825  
October 6, 2011

The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

William Harrison, Chairman  
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair  
Janet Cowell, State Treasurer  
Christine Greene  
Shirley Harris  
Kevin Howell  
Reginald Kenan  
Jean Woolard  
John Tate

Also present were:

Bill Tatum, Local Board Member Advisor  
Don Martin, Superintendent Advisor  
Rob Jackson, Principal of the Year Advisor  
Jennifer Facciolini, Teacher of the Year Advisor  
Montrey DeLoatch, Senior Student Advisor  
Amberly Jo Phillips, Junior Student Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman William Harrison called the Thursday session of the October State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He reminded the audience that the board held its committee meetings on Wednesday and today will vote on action items and receive reports on other topics. Chairman Harrison noted the absence of Teacher of the Year Advisor Tyronna Hooker who had a prior commitment that could not be changed. He also noted the absence of State Superintendent Atkinson who was on her way to Greensboro for the official inauguration of Mr. Tom Ross as the President of the University of North Carolina system.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. Board member Kevin Howell recused himself from LFI 2. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the Chairman. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

Board Member Patricia Willoughby was recognized to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 31 – September 1, 2011, State Board meetings.

Discussion/Comments:
- There was no discussion.

Mr. John Tate made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 31 – September 1, 2011 meetings. Seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION STUDENT ADVISOR

- Ms. Amberly Jo Phillips, Junior Student Advisor (North Johnston High School, Johnston County Schools)

The Chairman asked Board members to welcome Ms. Amberly Jo Phillips as the new junior student advisor. Ms. Phillips is a junior at North Johnston High School in Johnston County and has distinguished herself among her fellow students in many ways, according to Chairman Harrison. For example, Ms. Phillips is ranked second in her class, she is active both in her church and as a community volunteer, she holds a part-time job, and she is the Chaplain of the Future Farmers of America chapter in her school. Ms. Phillips loves farm animals, and hopes to become a veterinarian someday. Ms. Phillips was welcomed to her first official meeting and was presented with a plaque, an SBE pin and mug. She was joined by her principal, Mr. Tim Harrell and Superintendent Edward Croom (Johnston County Schools) for the presentation which was photographed.

Chairman Harrison was also pleased to congratulate Senior Student Advisor Montrey DeLoatch who was recently elected as Student Body President at Orange County High School.

KEY INITIATIVES REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- Career and College Ready, Set, Go/Race to the Top Update – Mr. Adam Levinson (Director, Policy and Strategic Planning)

Mr. Levinson provided the October 2011 Status Report on Career College Ready, Set, Go/Race to the Top Update. He noted that Superintendent Atkinson provided a detailed monthly report of all of the work across the initiatives in her Superintendent’s Report. The main objective of this presentation is to report on the high-level project management activities that cross the spectrum of all of the ongoing work. Mr. Levinson noted that last month he spoke about the LEA Detailed Scope of Work (DSW) plans and as of yesterday, 117 have been approved and are posted on the website. The LEA DSWs are available as downloadable Excel files which will make it easier for LEAs to use them for amendments going forward. Mr. Levinson stated that staff has already received requests for amendments from several LEAs. In addition, staff submitted the Annual Performance Report to the USED by the September 16 deadline. We are currently working with USED to finalize the report; a number of
technical adjustments have been made. He also noted that one adjustment, which relates to resetting the baseline and target for the SAT score (a College Readiness Measure), does necessitate a conversation at the State Board level. He explained that the College Board changed their methodology this year by including spring scores in addition to scores up through March; which lowers the state number. Therefore, DPI changed the baseline to be comparable with that methodology to get a true tracking of progress over the years. Discussion and approval is requested by the Board of these changes. Mr. Levinson reported that the DPI RttT Leadership Team would also like to bring a set of recommendations to the Board that add some targets related to the ACT for out years. These recommendations will be presented in a few months.

In response to Chairman Harrison’s statement, “assuming that we administer the ACT to 100 percent of the juniors as opposed to the percentage currently taking the assessment, we will wait until we get a baseline to begin looking at targets”, Mr. Levinson agreed that this would be one of the options staff will present. In closing comments, Mr. Levinson mentioned the important data work in Education Cloud and Shared Services. Also closely associated is the work of the Instructional Improvement System (IIS) and staff will present at a future State Board meeting an in-depth view of the work happening in this area, according to Mr. Levinson.

District and School Transformation Update – Dr. Pat Ashley (Executive Director, District and School Transformation)

Dr. Ashley prefaced her report by sharing that five years ago when the Turnaround Initiative began, the Department talked with Judge Manning about his concerns regarding high school performance across the state. She noted that the school he was most concerned about was Hertford County High School. In addition to having no principal assigned to Hertford County High School at that time, the school had a performance composite of 35.4 percent proficient. Dr. Ashley stated that today’s report is a real success story based on data. In the last administration of the EOCs, Hertford County was at 76.6 percent proficient. Simultaneously, the graduation rate has increased. To summarize, Hertford County High School has a 41.2 gain in performance composite and nearly 18 points of gain in their proficiency in graduation, according to the data. Hertford County Schools has also expanded their options by providing alternative options to students. Dr. Ashley further added that Hertford County will become a partner district in Race to the Top as there is much work to be done at the elementary and middle school levels.

At this time, Dr. Ashley introduced Dr. John Fahey (Superintendent, Hertford County Schools) for comments. As superintendent in Hertford County for the previous two years, Dr. Fahey noted that it has been quite a challenge, but was pleased by how much support his school district receives from DPI. Dr. Fahey highlighted the significant work of the Department through District Transformation. He talked briefly about how the district has focused on growth and data, reorganizing into schools within a school, collaboration between teachers with common assessments, changing the culture and creating a positive school climate. Despite a tremendous turnover in leadership and the loss of positions due to attrition and budget, he commended Dr. Ashley and DPI’s support in helping to transform Hertford County Schools. Board members expressed appreciation to Dr. Fahey for his leadership.
BOARD MEETING AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

INFORMATION AGENDA

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS
(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair)

INFORMATION
GCS 6 – Evaluation of NC FALCON (Formative Assessment Learning Community’s Online Network)

Policy Implications: Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort

Presenter(s): Dr. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Sarah McManus (Director, Learning Systems)

Description: In fall 2010, North Carolina’s Formative Assessment Learning Community’s Online Network (NC FALCON) was launched statewide. Within NC FALCON, there are five modules covering the following topics: (1) Importance of Formative Assessment; (2) Learning Targets and Criteria for Success; (3) Collecting and Documenting Evidence; (4) Analyzing Evidence and Descriptive Feedback; and (5) Administrator’s Role in Formative Assessment. NC FALCON provided support to participants in online forums where teachers and principals could engage in online discussions about the implementation of formative assessment strategies. Evaluation results from the first year of implementation will be presented along with recommendations for future development and use.

Recommendations: The State Board of Education should continue its support of NC FALCON and encourage all teachers in NC to use NC FALCON practices in the classroom by including formative assessment as part of a balanced assessment system.

Discussion/Comments:
- GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby directed Board members to the evaluation results from the first year of implementation located in their materials. She recognized Dr. McManus to lead the discussion.
- Providing context, Dr. McManus stated that the State Board wanted to focus on a Comprehensive Balanced Assessment System. Therefore, the Department wanted to ensure that formative assessment was occurring in the classroom as part of that balanced system. She explained that the definition of formative assessment comes from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) which defines formative assessment as a process that if used during instruction by teachers and students will improve instructional outcomes. As part of the ACRE initiative, the Department wanted to ensure that effective formative assessment was happening in the classroom such as student using learning targets to take ownership for learning, teachers reflecting on practices and analyzing data in their PLCs, teachers using learning progressions, collaborative learning environments, etc. Therefore, within NC FALCON, the Department shared the formative assessment model with teachers, linked it to the evaluation standards, and
provided a template teachers could use to outline their formative assessment. Dr. McManus provided an example for the Board involving a dual language class.

- Next, Dr. McManus introduced a student, Ms. Mariel Vasquez (Millbrook Elementary School, Wake County Public Schools) who talked about how formative assessment works for her. She described the process and why she feels that it is a valuable way to teach and learn.

- Dr. McManus spoke briefly about the evaluation process and key findings. She noted that within NC FALCON, pre- and post-surveys were made available in addition to an evaluation survey at the end of each module, and SERVE evaluated the data that DPI collected. In addition, there were focus groups convened across the districts. Based on the responses, quite a few teachers in North Carolina participated in the surveys. She explained that Module (5) was specific to administrators, therefore, that number is lower. Dr. McManus shared a map visual (with explanation) to show how districts across the state were using NC FALCON. She noted that charter schools participated as well as several state universities and Lees McRae College. Dr. McManus noted that a video is available that is a variable and if anyone was interested, she would be happy to email the link. Dr. McManus also spoke briefly about professional development.

- At this time, Dr. McManus introduced several teachers who talked about their experiences with NC FALCON. Math teachers Mrs. Annie Young Combs from Millbrook Elementary and Mr. Jason Sinquefield and Ms. Joy Crosby both from Millbrook High School in Wake County talked about how NC FALCON has impacted their teaching in the classroom which has led to great success stories in student learning.

- A brief discussion occurred about the pilot at Millbrook (approximately six teachers participated) and how DPI can get more teachers involved in this valuable process. The teachers shared that they bought into NC FALCON as a professional learning community in order that they might have the possibility to grow their students. Ms. Crosby shared that at the first meeting with Dr. McManus she had no idea that the program would transform her classroom the way that it did; she feels that she can now reach every child, every day. Board member Harris spoke about the ongoing work of the Department to determine how to evaluate teacher effectiveness beyond the test score. She stated that NC FALCON is a great example of teacher effectiveness and how we can measure that. After listening to the testimonials, Board member Tate expressed curiosity about documented results/data to know that this is making a difference. Speaking again from a practitioner’s perspective, Ms. Crosby noted that she and Mr. Sinquefield showed growth in every single classroom last year (all of their classes were EOCs).

- Dr. McManus noted that across North Carolina, if teachers are just given NC FALCON they may not be able to translate the information into the classroom appropriately for their students; the support and leadership from the district has to be there. NC FALCON is now a part of the Race to the Top work. It will take two to three years for a teacher who is just starting to really understand the formative assessment process to be able to do it well with support from coaches. She encouraged the State Board to continue talking about formative assessment, i.e., NC FALCON and encourage districts to use it.

- In response to Board member Tate, Dr. McManus talked briefly about how, theoretically, NC FALCON practices could be embedded in every classroom within five years.

- Chairman Harrison asked Dr. McManus to send a copy of the PowerPoint presentation to Board members via email.

- In closing comments, Dr. McManus stated that as a follow-up she will send to Board members, via the Friday Update, the full report from SERVE with key findings and recommendations.
Chairman Harrison thanks Ms. Maria Vasquez for allowing her daughter to speak.
There was no further discussion.

Chairman Harrison recognized Mr. Ralph Evans (Local Board of Education member, Hertford County Schools) who was present in the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Harrison moved to the Consent Agenda which is reserved for items that generally create little or no debate such as routine appointments, items that come for information purposes only, routine reports, and final approval of reports that the Board has already discussed. Board members have always seen these materials prior to the Board meetings, and may ask that items be removed from the Consent agenda to be discussed on an individual basis. Consent items will be adopted as a whole.

Chairman Harrison noted that there was a single item for consideration and asked if any Board members wanted to remove this item from the Consent Agenda. Hearing no objections, Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve TCS 5 – LEA-Based Calendar Waivers for Weather-Related Causes.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve TCS 5 – LEA-Based Calendar Waivers for Weather-Related Causes. (See Attachment TCS 5)

TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS
BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Mr. Kevin Howell, Chair; Mr. Tom Speed, Vice Chair)

CONSENT
TCS 5 - LEA-Based Calendar Waivers for Weather-Related Causes
Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-84.2; SBE Policy #TCS-V-000

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Andrew Cox (Section Chief, School Reporting, School Business Services)

Description: Attached is a summary of waivers submitted by local education agencies (LEAs) for the start and end date of the 2012-13 school calendar year, in accordance with G.S. §115C-84.2, (HB1464, Sec 1.5(d), 2004). These LEAs meet the criteria of having been closed two or more hours, eight or more days of school in four of the last ten years. (Session Law 2010-114).

Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the various waiver requests allowing LEAs to vary from the August 25 beginning and June 10 ending dates.
ACTION AND DISCUSSION AGENDA

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS
(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
GCS 1 – Compliance Commission Recommendations for Field Testing and Special Studies
Appeals for the 2011-12 School Year.
Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-174.12 (b1); SBE Policy # TCS-B-000; SBE Directive

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Tammy L. Howard (Director, Accountability Services)

Description:
On August 16, 2011, LEAs were notified of participation in field tests and special studies for the 2011-12 school year. LEAs were permitted to file an official appeal requesting that a school be excluded from a specific field test sample based on a written justification submitted by the LEA superintendent along with a Request for Appeals form. Requests for Appeals were collected by the Division of Accountability Services and presented to the Compliance Commission for Accountability at a conference call meeting held September 15, 2011.

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the SBE approve the Compliance Commission’s recommendations regarding the appeals.

Discussion/Comments:
- GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby noted a thorough discussion of this item in the GCS Committee meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Compliance Commission’s recommendations regarding the appeals as presented. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
GCS 2 – Final Changes to the 2010-11 ABCs/AYP Results
Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-105.20.40 (Article 8B), 115C-105.35; SBE Policy #GCS-C-021; APA #16NCAC 6G.0312

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Tammy L. Howard (Director, Accountability Services)
Description:
Changes to the 2010–11 ABCs/AYP Report will be presented to the State Board of Education (SBE) for Action on First Reading at the October 2011 meeting. Included in the changes is the designation of PACE Academy as a low-performing school. PACE Academy has been identified as 95R, not testing at least 95 percent of the student population for two years (2009-10 and 2010-11). Schools that do not meet the 95 percent participation standard two consecutive years may be deemed low-performing by the SBE.

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the changes to the 2010–11 ABCs/AYP Report, including the designation of PACE Academy as low-performing.

Discussion/Comments:
- GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby noted a thorough discussion of this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday. She also noted very few revisions in the report.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the changes to the 2010-11 ABCs/AYP Report, including the designation of PACE Academy as low-performing as presented. (See Attachment GCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
GCS 3 – Career and College Promise
Policy Implications: Session Law 2011-145

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

Description:
Career and College Promise legislation described in Session Law 2011-145 consolidates and replaces existing high school transition programs to provide clear pathways for dual enrollment in high school and community college. The NC community colleges may offer the following Career and College Promise pathways: 1. College Transfer leading to a college transfer certificate; 2. Career and Technical Education leading to a certificate, diploma, or degree; and 3. Cooperative Innovative High Schools approved under Part 9, Article 16, Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

Cooperative innovative high schools are redefined in Session Law 2011-145 as those programs with no more than 100 students per grade level that are located on college campuses. By 2014, all cooperative innovative schools must fit the statutory definition except with a waiver granted by the State Board of Education. A waiver process is being developed for the State Board of Education to consider at a future meeting.

As directed in statute, staff from the NC Community College System Office and the NC Department of Public Instruction have collaborated to develop eligibility criteria and rules of procedure for the program scheduled to begin in January 2012. The State Board of Education will be briefed on Career and College Promise and will be asked to endorse eligibility criteria for entrance into pathways.
Recommendations:
It is recommended that the State Board of Education endorse the eligibility criteria for Career and College Promise and voice support for the pathways identified for dual enrollment.

Discussion/Comments:
- GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby noted a thorough discussion of this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday. She stated that the recommendation is to endorse the eligibility criteria to support those pathways as they were presented knowing that there may be some “tweaks.” Anything that is not substantive, Dr. Garland is asked to communicate to the State Board for further conversation.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to endorse the eligibility criteria for Career and College Promise and voice support for the pathways identified for dual enrollment. (See Attachment GCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
GCS 4 – North Carolina Social Studies Essential Standards Alignment to the Founding Principles Act

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-81 (g); SBE Policy # GCS-F-003 and GCS-N-004

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin (Director, K-12 Curriculum and Instruction Division)

Description:
On June 23, 2011, the North Carolina General Assembly passed The Founding Principles Act (SL 2011-273) that directs local boards of education to require, as a condition of high school graduation, students to successfully complete a semester course, "American History I - The Founding Principles." Additionally, the Department of Public Instruction and local boards of education, as appropriate, are directed to provide "curriculum content" to support this course. Lastly, the Act directs the State Board of Education to align "any curriculum-based tests developed and administered statewide" to include the content expressed in the Act.

With the passage of The Founding Principles Act, the 2010 North Carolina Essential Standards for United States History I have been aligned to reflect all of the content enumerated therein. Because the United States History I Essential Standards have a 100% alignment with the content outlined in The Founding Principles Act, the standards do not need to be revised. Members of the NC DPI K-12 Social Studies section have modified the 2010 NC Essential Standards document for United States History I to indicate alignment to the Act. This modification includes changing the name of United States History I to American History I: The Founding Principles to reflect the course name identified in the Act. Consequently, the name of United States History II was changed to American History II for consistency. Alignment documents for the Civics and Economics course are included in the report as well because this course provides a more in-depth study of the content outlined in The Founding Principles Act and will serve as reinforcement for the American History I course.
In March 2011, House Bill 48 was signed into law and eliminated statewide standardized testing in the public schools, except as required by federal law or as a condition of a federal grant. This legislation included the elimination of the United States History End-of-Course test as well as the Civics and Economics End-of-Course test, both of which could have been used to measure student competence regarding the content outlined in The Founding Principles Act. As an alternative to standardized testing, NC DPI staff members have developed assessment tasks that districts may use to assess content for the American History I course as well as student writing competency. The sample tasks could also be included as content formative assessment items in the Online Writing Instruction (OWI) system to which districts have access.

**Recommendations:**

It is requested that State Board of Education members accept the report that will be submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding implementation requirements outlined in The Founding Principles Act. Because of the importance of the content outlined in the Founding Principles Act, it is recommended that the State Board encourage LEAs to administer American History I writing assessments in order to measure student competencies on the Founding Principles.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby noted a thorough discussion of this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- In addition to the recommendation, the GCS Committee wants to go on record as encouraging the LEAs to administer the American History I Writing Assessment in order to ensure we are measuring the competencies of the Founding Principles.
- In response to Board member Greene’s query, Ms. Quick explained that when the Board adopted the Essential Standards for Social Studies, U.S. History I and II were indeed a part of the adoption. This recommendation ensures alignment with the content outlined in The Founding Principles Act; the standards do not need to be revised.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to accept the report that will be submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding implementation requirements outlined in The Founding Principles Act. (See Attachment GCS 4)*

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 5 – North Carolina’s Proposed New Accountability Model (2013) - Update**

**Policy Implications:** SBE’s *“Framework for Change”*

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Tammy L. Howard (Director, Accountability Services)
Description:
The Department of Public Instruction established the Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) to develop and implement a response to the Framework for Change adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE). In the Framework for Change (June 5, 2008), the SBE directed the Department to examine the K-8 accountability model with a 21st century focus and to develop a new high school accountability model (p. 5, items 6 and 7). At the October 2011 meeting, the proposed uses of the indicators to identify schools for rewards and sanctions will be presented to the SBE. Also, the structure of the proposed reporting system for accountability will be presented.

Recommendations:
The SBE is asked to provide additional input to the NCDPI on the new accountability model.

Discussion/Comments:
• GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby noted a lengthy discussion of this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday.
• If Board members are interested in a mid-month webinar to address additional discussion, comments, or input, Ms. Willoughby encouraged them to contact Dr. Atkinson or Mr. Hill to schedule a webinar prior to the November Board meeting.
• There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in October 2011 and proposed for action in November 2011. (See Attachment GCS 5)

21ST CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Shirley Harris, Chair; Mr. John Tate, Vice Chair)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
TCP 1 – Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements
Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-021, TCP-B-009

Presenter(s): Ms. Shirley Harris (State Board of Education, Member and TCP Committee Chair)

Description:
In April 2006, the Board adopted a policy to allow individuals who have not met licensing requirements due to extenuating circumstances to request an exception from the requirement or an extension of time. The request must include documents from the teacher, the principal, the superintendent, and the chair of the local board of education. In June 2006, a similar policy was approved to allow colleges and universities to submit requests for exception to Praxis I testing requirements on behalf of students seeking admission to teacher education programs. Requests are evaluated by a panel chaired by a member of the State Board. Panel recommendations will be presented in closed session.

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the actions related to each request be approved.
Discussion/Comments:
- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that this item was discussed and acted on during closed session, and those results are being communicated today to the school districts.
- There was no further discussion.

**ACTION ON FIRST READING**

**TCP 2 – 2011 IHE Performance Report**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-296(b1); SBE Policy #TCP-B-008

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Elissa Brown (Director, Teacher & Leader Preparation Program)

**Description:**
G.S. § 115C-296(b1) requires an annual IHE performance report to be submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) on undergraduate and graduate teacher education programs, since 1999. The IHE summary performance report for the 2010-11 school year is presented to the SBE for action on first reading. Upon SBE action, the IHE performance report will be forwarded to JLEOC. Separate institutional reports for each IHE will be uploaded on the web.

**Recommendations:**
It is recommended that the SBE approve the IHE performance report.

**Discussion/Comments:**
- TCP Committee Chair Harris noted that this report will be submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee following the Board’s approval.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Jean Woolard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the IHE performance report with the noted changes as presented by staff on Wednesday. (See Attachment TCP 2)

**DISCUSSION**

**TCP 3 – National Staff Development Council Professional Development Standards**

**Policy Implications:** Race to the Top (RttT); Great Teachers and Leaders, Section D

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director of Educator Recruitment and Development)

**Description:**
The National Staff Development Council has shifted in focus and message: from one of development to one of learning. This council, now called Learning Forward, has revised standards for professional learning. This shift includes a systems approach and focuses upon collaborative processes. The former twelve standards are revised and now include seven standards. Stephanie Hirsch, the Executive Director of Learning Forward requests that State Boards recognize and endorse these changes.

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Recommendations:
It is recommended that the North Carolina State Board of Education endorse the revised seven standards for statewide consistency of professional development implementation.

Discussion/Comments:
- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- Chair Harris noted that the National Staff Development Council is now called Learning Forward. She encouraged Board members to carefully review the recommended revised standards.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the October meeting and will return for action at the November meeting. (See Attachment TCP 3)

DISCUSSION
TCP 4 – Credits Required for the Renewal of a Standard Professional 2 License
Policy Implications: General Statute § Session Law 2011-145, Sec. 7.13A; SBE Policy # TCP-A-005; APA # 16 NCAC 6C.307

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support), Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director of Educator Recruitment and Development), and Dr. Elizabeth Colbert (Professional Development Lead Consultant, Educator Recruitment and Development)

Description:
During its 2011 session, the General Assembly reduced the number of renewal credits required for a teacher to renew a Standard Professional 2 license. The number of renewal credits was reduced from 15 to 7.5. At the August meeting, the State Board requested a task force consider options for renewal credits. This discussion item provides the recommendations of the task force regarding SBE Policy # TCP-A-005, the policy on renewal requirements. The task force recommends one (1) renewal credit for literacy, one (1) renewal credit in the academic subject area and 5.5 general credits. In addition, teachers who complete National Board Certification may earn all of the 7.5 credits for the National Board Certification work. Those who are in the ten-year National Board renewal cycle may earn two (2) credits, (one [1] for content and one [1] for literacy).

Principals and assistant principals earn three (3) credits focused on the standards for school executives; instructional, human resources and managerial leadership. The remaining 4.5 credits may be general credits.

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the North Carolina State Board of Education select a policy revision, which will align Board policy with the 2011 action by the General Assembly on renewal credits for teacher licensure.
Discussion/Comments:
- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- Chair Harris also noted the importance of LEAs to carefully review the recommendations from this task force regarding renewal requirements for the Standard Professional 2 License. She shared that this item will be presented to the Board in November for approval; therefore, she encouraged districts and individuals to provide input prior to the November SBE meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the October meeting and will return for action at the November meeting. (See Attachment TCP 4)

TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS 
BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Mr. Kevin Howell, Chair; Mr. Tom Speed, Vice Chair)

ACTION
TCS 1 – Race to the Top NC Education Cloud Architectural Blueprint
Policy Implications: Race to the Top (RttT) Implementation, State School Technology Plan

Presenter(s): Mr. Neill Kimrey (Director, Instructional Technology) and Mr. Phillip Emer (Friday Institute)

Description:
The NC Education Cloud endeavors to accelerate the local education agency and school adoption of contemporary learning management and instructional strategies by incorporating modern IT services and strategies while leveraging the scale of the public education enterprise. The primary objective of the NC Education Cloud is to provide a world-class IT infrastructure as a foundational component of the NC education enterprise. Moreover, the NC Education Cloud will provide for:

- Equity of access to server and storage resources;
- Efficient scaling according to aggregate NC K-12 usage requirements;
- Consistently high availability, reliability, and performance;
- A common infrastructure platform to support emerging instructional and data systems;
- Sustainable and predictable operational model.

As such the NC Education Cloud will facilitate migration from LEA-hosted server infrastructure to provider-hosted application and infrastructure services. Through a dedicated support organization with supporting procurement, management and infrastructure services, we convert from a decades-old inequitable and locally constrained technology support environment to a contemporary and consistent education enterprise solution.

Recommendations:
The NC DPI RttT Leadership and NC Education Cloud Leaders teams recommend that the State Board of Education approve this RttT NC Education Cloud Architectural Blueprint at the October 2011 SBE meeting.
Discussion/Comments:
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the RttT NC Education Cloud Architectural Blueprint as presented. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
TCS 2 – Approval of Grants: Title V State Abstinence Education (AEGP) Grant
Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCS-O-001

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin (Director, K-12 Curriculum and Instruction), and Ms. Paula Hudson Hildebrand (Chief Health and Community Relations Officer)

Description:
The grant listed below is being submitted for approval. Please see attachment for description of grant.
- Attachment 1 – Title V State Abstinence Education (AEGP) Grant

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the grant.

Discussion/Comments:
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Christine Greene, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Title V State Abstinence Education (AEGP) Grant as recommended. (See Attachment TCS 2)

DISCUSSION
TCS 3 – Race to the Top Bonus Payments to Certified Personnel in Persistently Low-Performing Schools
Policy Implications: Race to the Top Implementation

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services)

Description:
The Race to the Top grant provides both a recruitment incentive and an achievement-based compensation model for teachers and principals in the state’s 118 lowest-achieving schools. The Board approved the recruitment incentive in January 2011. This policy is to define the achievement bonuses to be paid for the achievement in the 2010-2011 school year. Bonuses will be provided to all certified personnel in the 118 persistently low performing schools which achieve a higher than expected growth.
Recommendations:
It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Race to the Top (RtT) incentives to support teacher recruitment and retention in the lowest-achieving schools.

Discussion/Comments:
- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCS Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the October 2011 meeting and will return for action at the November meeting. (See Attachment TCS 3)

DISCUSSION
TCS 4 – Internal Operations Policies for State Board of Education Rule Development

Policy Implications: General Statute § 150B; SBE Policy # TCS-C-024, TCS-C-025

Presenter(s): Katie Cornetto, Staff Attorney, NC State Board of Education

Description:
During the 2011 legislative session, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2011-398 (see attached) amending G.S. 150B-18, the agency’s exercise of authority to adopt a rule. TCS-C-024 outlines the procedures for submitting rules and policies to the NC State Board of Education in compliance with S.L. 2011-398. TCS-C-025 outlines the procedures for submitting rules to the NC Office of Administrative Hearings in compliance with S.L. 2011-398.

Recommendations:
State Board of Education members are asked to discuss TCS-C-024 and TCS-C-025.

Discussion/Comments:
- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCS Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the October 2011 meeting and will return for action at the November meeting. (See Attachment TCS 4)

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS
(See Attachment in book)
- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell encouraged Board members to review the contracts listed for information in the Board book.
LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE
(Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Chair, and Ms. Chris Greene, Vice Chair)

ACTION
LFI 1 – Request for a Charter Amendment by the Downtown Middle School
Policy Implications: Charter Amendment

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Joel Medley (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:
The Downtown Middle School has requested to amend its charter in the following manner:
1. Enter into a management agreement with Mosaica Education, Inc. This national management company will assume daily management of the charter school and provide DTMS access to the PARAGON curriculum.
2. Change the name of the school to “The STEAM Academy of Winston-Salem.” STEAM is an acronym that stands for “Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.” The name change will serve as a rebranding of the school to communicate accurately the school’s curricular offerings.
3. Modify the school calendar so that it may be longer than 185 days and could be up to 200 days or more. This request enhances the school’s ability to improve its academic achievement.
4. Expand the hours of the school day from the specified school day of the charter to a broader range from 6.5 hours to no more than 9 hours depending on identified, student needs.

Per G.S. § 115C-238.29D(d), material changes to the charter application must have approval of the State Board of Education. The proposed modifications are considered material revisions to the charter and, therefore, must be approved by the State Board of Education.

The Downtown Middle School has recently noticed declining student enrollment and, in the past few years, has experienced leadership turnover. These enrollment challenges have created some cash flow concerns, so the charter school wishes to partner with a management company that has a track record of assisting struggling charter schools. The Downtown Middle School Board of Directors hereby requests that the NC State Board of Education allow these charter amendments for the school to move forward as it rebrands the school and modifies its instructional program.

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the SBE review the provided information to approve either some or all of the proposed changes to the Downtown Middle School charter.

Discussion/Comments:
• LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that after a robust discussion of this item during the TCS Committee meeting on Wednesday, the LFI Committee amended some language in the motion. She directed Board members to a yellow sheet located at their places to carefully review the new language prior to voting.
  She read aloud, “I move that the Downtown Middle School’s charter be amended as requested with the following conditions:
1. DTMS Board of Directors will continue to be a brick and mortar school and not a virtual charter school.
2. All teachers shall deliver face-to-face instruction on the premises of the brick and mortar school. The school is free to use supplemental online services or instructional aids; however; any online courses provided by DTMS must be pre-approved by NCVPS.
3. The Office of Charter Schools will follow up with site visits to ensure that DTMS maintains compliance with these conditions."

- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed changes to the Downtown Middle School Charter as amended and documented in the above comments. (See Attachment LFI 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
LFI 2 – Approval of Northeast Regional School of Agriscience and Biotechnology
Policy Implications: Session Law 2011-241

Presenter(s): Mr. Rob Hines, (Director, LEA Projects, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

Description:
Session Law 2011-241 authorizes two or more school districts to partner in establishing a regional school “to serve enrolled students in two or more local administrative units.” This legislation permits local boards to pass resolutions indicating their intention to enter into partnership for a regional school and to submit these resolutions to the State Board of Education. Upon receipt of all resolutions, the State Board of Education is required to approve creation of the school.

This item requests approval of the Northeast Regional Early College High School of Biotechnology and Agriscience. Five school districts have agreed to partner in establishing and operating this school (Beaufort, Martin, Pitt, Tyrell, and Washington). The districts are also partnered with North Carolina State University, which will host the physical facilities for the school at the Vernon G. James Research and Extension Center in Plymouth, NC. Washington County Schools will serve as the fiscal agent for the regional school.

Attachments include Session Law 2011-241 and resolution documentation from each local board of education engaged in the partnership.

Recommendations:
The Department of Public Instruction recommends approval of the school to ensure compliance with SL 2011-241.

Discussion/Comments:
- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell recused himself from discussion and voting on this item.
- There was no further discussion.
Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Jean Woolard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the school to ensure compliance with Session Law 2011-241. (See Attachment LFI 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
LFI 3 – NC Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Revenue Plan
Policy Implications: Session Law 2011-145, Section 7.22(f)(g)(1)

Presenter(s): Mr. Ross White (Director, NC Virtual Public School)
Description: The State Board of Education shall approve the NC Virtual Public School Revenue Plan as directed by Session Law 2011-145. In approving the plan, the Board shall consider establishing tuition and fees for out-of-state students, home-schooled students, and private school students. Tuition and fees will be adjusted annually by the State Board of Education. Tuition for out-of-state students, home-schooled students, and private school students is based on instructional costs, administrative costs, and a $100 non-refundable, per-course registration fee.

Recommendations:
Discuss and provide feedback on the proposed NC Virtual Public School Revenue Plan.

Discussion/Comments:
- Board member Greene asked that someone try to find funding for NCVPS that will not come out of the LEA budgets so that all students will have a fair advantage across the state.
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Jean Woolard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the NC Virtual Public School Revenue Plan as directed by Session Law 2011-145. (See Attachment LFI 3)

DISCUSSION
LFI 4 – Future Ready STEM High School Program of Achievement
Policy Implications: Race to the Top (RttT) P:2 STEM

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Quick, (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Ms. Rebecca Payne, (Director, STEM Education and Leadership)
Description: There are many self-identified STEM schools and programs in the State. There are twenty STEM schools from The New Schools Program; seventy-two STEM career academies; ninety Project Lead the Way programs in Career and Technical Education; nine Transformation schools have STEM as a strategy; one School of Science and Math; and other schools have developed their own STEM program. The State needs a way to recognize STEM achievement for other schools to model and to communicate with postsecondary, credentialing programs and business and industry.
Recommendations:
The State Board of Education is asked to provide input into a STEM High School/designation program.

Discussion/Comments:
• LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that, in the Board books, this item is marked as Action on First Reading; however, it is an actual discussion item. She reported good discussion of this item during the TCS Committee meeting on Wednesday, and noted that the Committee will receive this item for additional discussion in November.
• There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the October 2011 meeting and will return for action at the November meeting. (See Attachment LFI 4)

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

Legislative Update
Chairman Harrison recognized Ms. Ann McColl (Legislative Director) to provide the Legislative Update. She shared that the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) met last week with Dr. Atkinson about the Accountability Model and Mr. Neill Kimrey who spoke about Digital Textbooks. As a leadership team, staff have been reviewing reports and identifying areas where we have an opportunity to inform the General Assembly about the Department’s work. In addition, McColl spoke about various meetings held and scheduled across the state this fall to discuss the vision about where public education is headed.

Chairman Harrison requested that Mr. Hill schedule a half-day planning session in January to discuss our legislative agenda in depth.

Announcements/Reminders, Etc.
Chairman Harrison directed Board members to their notebooks for a copy of the reports presented during the September meeting by the Interns.

In response to Chairman Harrison’s query about when the Board may anticipate becoming a paperless Board, Mr. Hill stated that Board members were given the option not to receive the paper copies during this meeting. Mr. Hill offered training for Board members to use the Ipad. Board members agreed to move into a paperless Board in January 2012. Board member Harris shared that Teacher of the Year Advisor Ms. Fasciolini has students who are interested in training the Board on the Ipad as part of their Senior Graduation project and Ms. Fasciolini spoke briefly about this initiative. Chairman Harrison requested that Mr. Hill work out the details with Ms. Fasciolini to provide staff development for Board members.

Chairman Harrison announced that the newly formed NC Public Charter School Advisory Council will convene for the first time on October 19. The purpose of this meeting is to begin reviewing the ‘fast-track’ charter applications in November. He explained that the ‘fast-track’ process is being targeted to charter schools that were considered last year and for conversion schools. Other schools that might be ready to open their doors are welcome to apply, but it is probably more appropriate for these to apply in February (for a FY 2013-14 opening). Further, he explained that because the e-Learning Commission is
examining all aspects of virtual education in North Carolina (pre-K-16), the State Board will not be considering any virtual applications in the ‘fast track’ pool.

Chairman Harrison reminded Board members that Mr. McDevitt will represent the Board at the NASBE Fall Conference and that Mr. Hill, Ms. Cornetto, Ms. Crumpler, and Mr. Lucas will also be attending the conference.

In closing comments, Chairman Harrison also reminded Board members about the Student Forum at Orange High School on November 16 at 9:00 a.m. hosted by Senior Student Advisor Montrey DeLoatch. Chairman Harrison encouraged Board members to attend if possible.

**Meeting Highlights**

At this time, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members that in January they held a casual conversation about highlighting, at the end of each meeting, some of the items discussed that will have a direct impact on students. Therefore, Chairman Harrison decided to implement a new tradition under his leadership of having a brief conversation each month to identify in very specific terms something the Board has accomplished to improve outcomes for children. Vice Chair McDevitt and Board members Willoughby and Tate all shared that the NC FALCON teacher and student presentations were inspiring.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No new business was brought before the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board member Willoughby shared that the NCBCE is hosting a focus group on October 27 to receive the presentation by Ms. McColl about the vision of public education in the future. Dr. Harrison is also meeting with some of the Business Committee members for an informal conversation on October 13. On November 15, a regional breakfast is scheduled in Asheville for local business, superintendents, the local board chair, etc. In addition, on December 13, business leaders will meet with Dr. Shirley Prince to discuss and talk about expanding relationships.

Board member Harris spoke briefly about her experiences on the regional Southeast Economic Development Commission. She participated in the annual planning retreat in September and spoke about the connections between the State Board, our schools, and economic development. She shared that one of the concerns at the community college level is they are not able to enroll students in those courses that lead to the jobs in their regions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the October 5-6, 2011, meeting of the State Board of Education.*