

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina State Board of Education  
Education Building  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825  
January 5, 2012**

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

William Harrison, Chairman  
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair  
Walter Dalton, Lt. Governor  
Janet Cowell, State Treasurer  
Melissa Bartlett  
Shirley Harris

Kevin Howell  
Reginald Kenan  
John Tate  
Patricia Willoughby  
Jean Woolard

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent  
Earlie Coe, Local Board Member Advisor  
Don Martin, Superintendent Advisor

Rob Jackson, Principal of the Year Advisor  
Jennifer Facciolini, Teacher of the Year Advisor  
Tyronna Hooker, Teacher of the Year Advisor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

Chairman William Harrison called the Thursday session of the January State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He welcomed onsite visitors, online listeners, and Twitter followers to the meeting, and 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 welcomed back Board members Mr. John Tate and Ms. Shirley Harris, and Principal Advisor Rob Jackson who were absent last month. Chairman Harrison noted the absence of Board member Chris Greene who is out of state attending a meeting of the American Association of State Counseling Boards which she is required to attend as a national officer.

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.

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 December 1, 2012, State Board meeting.

***Discussion/Comments:***

- Chairman Harrison noted a corrected page in the Board notebooks, noting motions for LFI items last month made by Vice Chair Ms. Chris Greene, not Ms. Bartlett who was, in fact, absent last month on Thursday.
- There was no discussion.

*State Treasurer Janet Cowell made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2012, meeting. Seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION – NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION LOCAL BOARD ADVISOR**

- **Mr. Earlie Coe, Local Board Chairman (Surry County Schools, 2012 Raleigh Dingman Award Winner)**

Chairman Harrison introduced Mr. Earlie Coe as the incoming State Board of Education Local Board of Education Advisor. Prior to serving on the Surry County Board of Education as Chairman, Mr. Coe taught middle school math, social studies, and physical education for more than 30 years. Mr. Coe was recently named the Raleigh Dingman Award winner by the NC School Boards Association. This award is the highest bestowed on a local board member. Chairman Harrison noted that Mr. Coe has long been active in his community and has served his local community and the surrounding county as well. He is known as a leader for progress in Surry County through efforts such as implementing a foreign language program beginning with students in the third grade, developing innovative technology programs such as a 1:1 project, and attending national and state conferences just for learning what he can bring back to Surry County Schools for the betterment of all students. Mr. Coe was welcomed to his first official meeting and was presented with a plaque, SBE briefcase, pin and mug. The presentation was photographed. Mr. Coe recognized and thanked Surry County Superintendent Ashley Hinson and Surry County Board of Education member Mr. Clark Goings who were present in the audience for the presentation.

**KEY INITIATIVES REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

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

Chairman Harrison announced that Mr. Levinson was absent due to a death in the family. He recognized State Superintendent Atkinson to provide the January 2012 Status Report on Career and

College Ready, Set, Go/Race to the Top Update. Superintendent Atkinson directed Board members to their notebooks for a copy of the comprehensive monthly report located in her Superintendent’s Report. She highlighted the work across the initiatives and progress to date.

**RttT Monthly Highlights of Activities Completed**

**RttT Management:**

- Provided regular RttT status report to Governor’s Education Transformation Commission
- Presented to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
- Continued developing (and processing with USED) amendments to State Detailed Scope of Work (DSW) and budget to submit to USED; continued preparing omnibus DSW update/budget update/amendment to reflect more detailed plans including spending plans for year 2 and beyond
- Continued approval of Local Education Agency (LEA)/Charter School DSWs submitted on 8/3; continued posting LEA/Charter School approved, fully completed DSWs to the website (140 of 142 approved and posted as of 12/12)
- Continued reviewing RttT Progress Report, State-Specific Summary Report, and Annual Progress Report Display, and submitted feedback 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 one teacher per school, each school principal, and a superintendent from each district
  - Continued preparations for the regional meetings for statewide rollout of the new accountability program (meeting dates and locations finalized for February/March 2012; dates are 2/28, 3/7, 3/8, 3/9, 3/12, 3/15, 3/22, 3/23)
  - Continued developing promotional materials (videos and slide presentations) 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 2/12
  - Sent “Save the Date” invitations to principals statewide and asked them to select one teacher representative to attend the regional meetings
- Continued creating parent resource podcasts about new standards, new student assessments, and new accountability model to distribute online and via social media in the fall of 2011 along with an online guide for parents to be posted by 6/12
- Continued distributing RttT Weekly Update to more than 1,200 LEA and charter school officials involved with Race to the Top

**Standards & Assessments:**

*Standards*

- Continued development and began review of documents for Unpacking Social Studies elective courses to be posted 2/29/12
- Posted drafts of Graphic Organizer tool on website for external feedback to be completed 2/12
- Began development of glossary of terms specific to each content area plan to post to the website by 3/16/12
- Continued development of Assessment Examples to be completed by 5/12; delayed due to more time for comprehensive approach

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- Continued work on reviewing and embedding video vignettes within NC FALCON to be completed 5/12
- Continue development and design of Learning Map exemplars to be posted for LEA use 5/31/12
- Continue to provide ad hoc Common Core and Essential Standards trainings, as requested, throughout the state
- Continue to provide ongoing content specific "live chats" to provide support to the district team on understanding the new standards (Health and PE 12/5/11, Arts Education 12/7/11, World Languages 12/8/11)
- Continue to post additional content specific curricular tools (posted Social Studies and Math recommended High School Sequencing documents)

### *Assessments*

#### **Data Systems to Improve Instruction:**

- Continued Instructional Improvement System (IIS) Workgroup meetings
- Worked with planning vendor to finalize RFP (delayed RFP release to 12/31/11), and Comprehensive Plan (delayed targeted release of implementation plan to 1/31/12 to allow for final edits to RFP)
- Continued refining "Vision, Goals, and Objectives," "A Day in the Life," "Roles Matrix" and "Web" documents to be finalized by 12/31/11
- Continued developing data guide to be completed by 3/12 and rollout by 8/12, this deliverable is delayed due to time it took to identify staff to develop the guide
- Continued meeting with other RttT states to determine what cross-state collaboration will be beneficial (e.g. developing embedded curriculum performance assessments, sharing benchmark or summative items, sharing code for system components)
- Continued engaging NC stakeholders through presentations, focus groups, and advisory groups
- Conducted webinar focused on how the new IIS will help teachers assess their students and target curricular resources to meet individual students' needs
- Continued meeting with Shared Learning Infrastructure (SLI) staff to further define how the SLI might interface with the IIS
- Met with IIS Stakeholder Advisory Committee and IIS User Groups

#### **Great Teachers & Principals:**

- Received SBE approval for Queens University School Executive Leadership Academy
- Finalized guide to approval process for potential alternative licensure programs to be published on NCDPI website by 12/31/11
- Continued to revise draft working paper to guide conversations with Institute of Higher Education (IHE) partners regarding how to improve educator pipeline for high-need content and specialty areas
- Continued work on new evaluation instruments; continued developing draft rubrics; prepared materials to take the performance standards to the State Board of Education in January 2012. (All new instruments will be ready for implementation during the 2013-14 school year. During the remainder of the 2011-12 school year, the new instruments will be designed and be piloted in a small number of LEAs. Field testing will occur in 2012-13.)
- Continued working with WestEd to select student academic growth model; plan to present recommendation in 1/12

- 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 6/30/12
- Continued Sandhills RLA Cohort 1 participant administrative internships through 6/30/12
- Continued ongoing Teach For America support for corps members as they enter classrooms; support to occur throughout Corps member's two-year commitment through 6/30/13
- Hired NC Teacher Corps positions; Executive Director to start 1/12
- Continued New Teacher Induction Program in four regions with first cohort
- Entered into negotiations with identified strategic staffing vendor to ensure fit between LEA needs and services provided
- Held second round of Measures of Student Learning design group meetings for work on the Extended Content Standards and Occupational Course of Study for Exceptional Children
- Finalized data for Educator Effectiveness reporting to be released 1/20/12
- Continued fidelity support meetings across the state with local RttT Leadership Teams in collaboration with Regional Education Service Alliances (RESA) partners to ensure consistent and deliberate professional development (PD) action planning; began planning for Spring Fidelity Support sessions
- Held monthly meeting with PD Leaders to take inventory of identified needs of LEAs and charter schools
- Prepared Professional Development Initiative (PDI) Team for Learning Forward training in 1/12
- Continued work in design teams to outline, develop and design module content and delivery method for Phase II modules (Data Literacy, Literacy in Content Areas, Learning Maps, Digital Literacy, NC Principal Standards, NCEES, 21st Century Skills, Understanding Student Behavior, Student Ownership-NC FALCON) – to be completed by 6/12; initiated convenience contract with vendor to develop student simulation online module for Student Ownership-NCFALCON module
- Finalized content specific presentations, facilitators guide, and instructional tools for web to guide and support districts and charters as they design local professional development and plan for second Fidelity Support Session
- Continued Phase III Training for administrators (principal and assistant principal) on embedding the NC ITES (Information and Technology Essential Standards) and the Common Core and Essential Standards across the state to ensure consistency with implementation for all LEAs and charter schools; trainings conducted by NCDPI's Regional Instructional Technology Facilitators supported by the PD Leads; ongoing through 5/12
- Continued weekly meetings with PDI leadership team for planning of Summer Institute 2012
- Determined application process for next cohort of DLP principals and finalized locations for all 24 face-to-face sessions; DLP cohort 1 completed the online portion of DLP Component 4 (Improving Teaching and Learning)
- Continued the development of DLP Component 5 (Creating a Strong Student and External Stakeholder Focus)

#### **NC Virtual Public Schools:**

- Identified top three districts to replace Charlotte-Mecklenburg and Montgomery counties. Final two will be selected by 1/15/12 (replacement of the two districts has delayed the development and delivery of some professional development efforts). Final selection of replacement districts was

- delayed from the original target date of 11/30/11 because of the delay of final negotiations with the districts
- Continued to develop and create a promotion and marketing strategy for the RttT Blended STEM process for community, parents, students, and staffs to be completed by 1/12
- 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
- Posted an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for devices; award is expected in 1/12
- Continued writing criteria for the Mobile Web Application/ Application development RFP; plan to post RFP in 1/12

**Turning Around the Lowest-Achieving Schools (TALAS):**

- Completed Comprehensive Needs Assessments at:
  - Greene Central High School, Greene Early College, and West Greene Elementary
  - Warren County District Office
- Identified interim support for selected schools/districts until hiring process is complete for permanent positions
- Continued PD and coaching for currently served schools/districts
- Continued assignment process for deployment of PD and coaching staff in newly served schools – includes ongoing work with Human Resources (HR) to align positions on the organizational chart
- Held professional development for School Leaders Session #3 in three different regions of the state; in addition to principals from schools on the TALAS list, PD events were attended by those enrolled in the Sandhills and Piedmont Leadership Academies
- Began planning for February PD for School Leaders Session #4 for all principals in TALAS

**NC Education Cloud:**

- Continued aggregation of site survey data (aggregation to be completed by 1/20/12; analysis of data completed 1/31/12). This was originally targeted for completion by 11/30/11, but has been delayed due to LEAs taking more time than anticipated in completing their information for the business portion of the survey.
- Continued to plan jointly with IIS regarding participation in SLI
- Updated the Shared Services Advisory Council via webinar
- Continued 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, and Instructional Content Services Working Group
- Edited requirements for the Identity and Access Management RFP Process
- Worked on requirements for LEA/Charter School “Enterprise as a Service” to identify the opportunities to assist LEAs in moving strategic Enterprise solutions to Cloud providers; initiated formal Enterprise as a Service Project
- Participated in IIS RFP Planning session with IIS Project Manager on 12/8/11
- Continued development of detailed implementation plans for all projects identified in approved Cloud Blueprint

**Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM):**

- Met with Engineering Educators and Engineering Association leaders to begin drafting K-5, 6-8, 9-12 Standards for Engineering (NCDPI)
- Continued planning to host a National STEM Conference, April 16-18, 2012 (NSP)
- Completed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Yadkin Valley Regional Career Academy, an Affinity Network School to open for students in 2012-13 (NSP)
- Presented overview of the progress of the Anchor and Affinity Network Schools at the GETC meeting (NSP)
- Met with Kenan Institute to plan for the development of one teacher from each of the four anchor school disciplines to serve as a network master teacher who will contribute to the creation of interdisciplinary project-based units for use in STEM networks (NSP)
- Met with Industry Innovation Councils for Energy and Sustainability and Health and Life Science (NSP)
- Received adoption by State Board of Education of criteria for designating Future -Ready STEM High Schools of Achievement (NCDPI)
- Hosted Washington State STEM Center Staff and affiliates on a learning tour to Kinston to investigate the Community Engagement Guide (NCSTEM)
- Revised first drafts of Module 1: Community Engagement; Module 2: Community Visioning; and Module 3: Innovation Design; completed content of Module 4: Business Planning and Implementation (NCSTEM)
- Held STEM Webinar for 125-plus education leaders on “What is STEM?” (NCSTEM and NCDPI)
- Announced a NC STEM Learning Network web portal to be implemented in NC (NCSTEM)
- Participated in the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices STEM Summit held in NC from December 7-9, 2011 (NSP, NCSTEM, NCDPI)

**Evaluation:*****Cross-Cutting Evaluation Elements***

- Contacted NC WISE with data request for teachers’ email addresses for survey distribution
- Revised survey in preparation for Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval
- Continued classroom observations
- Continued (Carolina Institute for Public Policy-CIPP data administrator) working with NCDPI on data needed for Fall/Spring analyses

***Teacher and Leader Effectiveness***

- Completed 60 classroom observations and interviews (30 schools)
- Presented Value Added Model (VAM) brief to NCDPI
- Continued contacting superintendents, RttT coordinators and principals to request participation in classroom observations and interviews

**Distribution of Teachers and Leaders*****Baseline Teacher Quality Analysis***

- Delivered report draft to NCDPI

### ***Regional Leadership Academies***

- Delivered report draft to NCDPI
- Conducted two site visits (Dawson Elementary, Halifax; Weldon Middle, Weldon City)

### ***Induction Program for Novice Teachers***

- Conducted preliminary analysis of CLASS observation data
- Revised SUCCEED survey for use in the spring

### ***Strategic Staffing/Incentives***

- Monitored approval of LEA DSWs
- Monitored ongoing selection of a contractor for the technical advising job

### ***NCVPS***

- No activities; initiative currently delayed

### ***Professional Development***

- Presented first annual report to pertinent NCDPI teams and GETC
- Developed and finalized all instruments and protocols for Spring 2012
- Contacted all schools and scheduled initial site visits
- Began CLASS observations, focus groups, and interviews with purposeful sample of schools
- Attended purposeful sample of RESA/Distinguished Leadership in Practice (DLP) and online module roll-out

### **District and School Transformation (DST) Including STEM Schools**

#### ***DST***

- Presented baseline DST report to SBE for final approval
- Publicly released baseline report
- Finalized protocol for District Transformation Coaches interviews
- Began reviewing documents
- Arranged for transcriptions services

#### ***STEM***

- Presented first report (baseline) to SBE for final approval
- Delivered second report to NCDPI
- Observed Industry Innovation Council meetings

### ***Local Spending***

- Continued developing online survey for school finance officers and interview questions for sample of school finance officers
- Worked on pre-RttT assessment of school funding in NC as a baseline

### ***Overall Impact***

- Met with full GETC to get input on plan for overall evaluation of RttT impact

- **“Building LEA and Regional Professional Development Capacity: First Annual Evaluation Report” - Introduction – Mr. Martez Hill (SBE Executive Director); Presentation – Dr. Jeni Corn (Director of Evaluation Programs, Friday Institute, NC State University)**

Mr. Hill introduced Dr. Jeni Corn to provide the First Annual Evaluation Report.

Dr. Corn prefaced this presentation by speaking about the report’s focus on the work done over the summer to build LEA and regional professional development capacity. Using a PowerPoint presentation, located in black Board notebooks, Dr. Corn described the role of evaluation in Race to the Top (RttT) which is to document the RttT activities; provide timeline formative data, analyses, and recommendations to improve ongoing work; and provide summative evaluation results to determine whether the RttT initiatives met their goals, and to inform future policy and program decisions. Dr. Corn spoke briefly about the major evaluation questions and described the reporting structure. In addition, she reported the findings and shared the recommendations related to Implementation and Support, and Teachers’ Baseline Data. Dr. Corn concluded the report by highlighting next steps which include evaluating DLP Principal Institutes, continue Omnibus Survey and Longitudinal Study for four years, implement a professional development participant data base, improve surveys for next round of data collection, and evaluate specific-purpose professional development activities for DST, STEM, NCVPS, and low-performing schools. In response to Vice Chair McDevitt’s request, Mr. Hill noted that Board members will receive a copy of the full report via email.

In response to Board member Tate’s question, Chairman Harrison explained that student achievement is the gauge of effectiveness. He shared that this is the most scientific approach toward assessing professional development in his tenure; however, he expressed concern that there are no professional development funds flowing from the state level, there are no professional development days due to action by the General Assembly this summer, and the Teacher Academy no longer exists. Board member Bartlett spoke briefly about the effectiveness of the training. She noted that she worked in a non-RttT receiving charter school and explained how her school sent one delegate to the regional meetings to bring back the professional development and set up a professional development community across disciplines to learn how to measure instructional effectiveness in terms of student outcomes. A brief discussion occurred about the components of the professional development as well as support, sustainability, and the importance of engaging higher education in this dialogue.

- **Connectivity Update – Mr. Joe Freddoso (President and CEO of MCNC)**

Chairman Harrison introduced Mr. Freddoso to provide the Board with an update on connectivity challenges and opportunities. He noted that Board members requested this update at a recent meeting.

Mr. Freddoso prefaced this report by providing the historical background of MCNC which is a non-profit that operates a high-speed optical backbone for community anchor institutions including 115 LEAs, 26 charter schools, 58 community colleges, 17 UNC System Institutions, 27 of 36 independent colleges and universities, public libraries, 55 public health and safety, and 30 non-profit hospitals. He spoke about the status and benefits of the School Connectivity Initiative noting that one of the largest successes has been the millions of dollars saved by the state. He explained that during the recent three-year renewal process, prices were basically flat, but the schools are currently using four times the

Internet bandwidth than in 2008 and currently five times the Intranet bandwidth than in 2008, according to the data. E-rate has more than doubled, and most of the funds are spent with profit service providers. He spoke briefly about the next phase which is the network support shared services. In addition, Mr. Freddoso explained the importance of why school connectivity is important in terms of high Bandwidth applications. He noted that Bandwidth needs in education continue to rise, and MCNC has been meeting rural institution bandwidth needs through contracts with private-sector service providers. MCNC's spending with private telephone and cable companies represents 63 percent of the service fees paid to MCNC by K-20 education to operate NCREN. Mr. Freddoso shared statistics from a yearly survey conducted by NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) of broadband use across the country; results were released in November 2011. Mr. Freddoso spoke about the importance of investing in rural North Carolina and necessary critical infrastructure. Using a map graphic of build, Mr. Freddoso provided an overview of the Golden LEAF Rural Broadband Initiative. In response to Board member Tate's question, Mr. Freddoso addressed the relevance issue as well as infrastructure. In closing, he reiterated that the School Connectivity Initiative has been successful to date and has been renewed for three years. Educators need to be concerned with home access and after-hour facility access. In response to Board member Woolard, Mr. Freddoso spoke briefly about progress as it relates to rural broadband and the need to build public/private partnerships to reach underserved areas in rural North Carolina as well as data gathering of assets available market by market. Board members applauded the work of MCNC and the quality leadership provided by Mr. Freddoso.

➤ **Professional Development: Common Core and Essential Standards - Superintendent Jack Hoke (Alexander County Schools)**

Chairman Harrison welcomed back former Board Advisor Jack Hoke to provide the Board with an LEA perspective of the challenges, strengths, and benefits of the teacher and administrator evaluation program.

Mr. Hoke prefaced the presentation by thanking Board members for being proactive in adopting the Common Core and Essential Standards, and implementing in 2012-13. In addition, he thanked the Board for requesting and approving waivers for the LEAs that chose to use the five days for professional development in response to the General Assembly's calendar law. Finally, he thanked the Board for seeking the advice of the Board advisors who implement the Board's policies on a daily basis.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Hoke spoke about planning and preparing for the implementation of the Common Core and Essential Standards in 2012-13. He introduced Dr. Jennifer Hefner (Elementary School Director) and Mrs. Teresa Smeeks (Testing and Accountability) to share Alexander County Schools' plan for implementation. Dr. Hefner spoke about the development of the Core Team as a result of the initial webinar. She noted that everyone is training in a specific subject area, including central office personnel and principals to try to maximize the Core Team's expertise. She explained that at the summer institute, Alexander County developed a timeline for planning professional development. Mrs. Smeeks provided a comprehensive overview of the required five professional development days. The Core Team was eventually expanded to include "content" experts. Alexander Schools has received support from the Northwest RESA, including fidelity checks. In addition, Dr. Hefner commended Dr. Ric Vandett (Executive Director, Southwest RESA) for accommodating Alexander Schools on January 9 due to a calendar conflict, while the other half of the team will go to the Northwest RESA on January

19. Dr. Hefner spoke in-depth about the benefits of having the five professional development days added to the calendar. She provided an overview of the five required professional development sessions noting the benefits including links to the training blogs and the use of LiveBinder. She explained that logistics have been difficult in terms of moving only content team trainers. In addition, speech therapists will be examining the standards per grade level and extracting anything that is speech/language relevant and writing IEP goals/objectives that correlate. Dr. Hefner explained that once they are finished with the workdays, they will have a compendium of IEP goals/objectives to use as a reference when working with their students, and the NC Speech/Language Pathologist Consultant has already requested they share the final product with all the other speech therapists in the state. Dr. Hefner also shared future plans which include:

- Revise and Improve Curriculum Maps/Pacing Guides
- Development of Benchmark Assessments
- Exploration of More On-line Assessments/Open-ended Assessments
- Development of Student-centered Lessons
- Continue Collaboration
- Continue Planning and Revising
- Continue to Survey Teachers to Determine Needs

Board member Harris commented that she appreciated that Alexander County Schools is using the term “teacher leaders” and spoke about the importance of doing so.

In response to Board member Tate’s request, Mr. Hoke shared that he will be retiring as Superintendent of Alexander Schools at the end of February and will begin in his new role as Executive Director for the NC School Superintendents’ Association the following day.

➤ **District and School Transformation Update, Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, District and School Transformation; Jones County District and School Transformation Report, Dr. Michael T. Bracy (Superintendent, Jones County Schools)**

Dr. Ashley shared that the purpose of this update is to showcase Jones County School District as an example of significant gains in student achievement. Prior to introducing Dr. Bracy for the report, she recognized members of the Jones County Schools’ administrative staff who were present in the audience Mr. Otis Smallwood (Executive Director, Testing and Accountability); Ms. Chris Meadows (Principal, Jones Senior High School); Mr. Michael White (Principal, Jones Middle School); Ms. Cindy Parker (Principal, Maysville Elementary School) and Mr. Pascal Mabenga, (District Transformation Coach and former Principal of Jones Senior High School).

Dr. Bracy prefaced this presentation by providing Jones County School district demographics. Of the 1194 students, 78.09 percent receive free or reduced lunch (Economically Disadvantaged sub-group), three percent are English Language Learners, 14 percent receive Special Education Services, 100 percent of the teachers are highly qualified and teacher turnover has decreased by 11.6% from 25.6% in 2008 to 14% in 2011. Dr. Bracy used PowerPoint graphs, to show the Performance of Students in Grades 3 – 8 in End-of-Grade Reading and Mathematics noting that between 2008 and 2011, Jones County elementary and middle school students moved above the state average in both reading and math. In addition, he used a performance composite graph to show that as a NC Turnaround High School, the

student proficiency rate at Jones County Senior High School increased from 50.1 percent in 2006 to 88.7 percent in 2011, and the graduation rate increased from 54.3 percent in 2008 to 77 percent in 2011. Dr. Bracy explained that in 2008, Jones County embarked on a vision to change the culture in their schools. He elaborated on their strategies for success including strong instructional leadership, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), building positive relationships with students, data focused groups, and 1:1 implementation - STEM Lab.

## **STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **Project K-Nect**

In December 2011, educators from San Diego visited Onslow County Schools to determine the effective implementation strategies the school district is using to implement effective uses of smartphones and computer tablets to teach mathematics. As evidenced by a third-party evaluator, Onslow County continues to improve mathematics achievement, including taking higher levels of math.

### **Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Grant Application Submitted**

On December 15, 2011, the NC Department of Public Instruction submitted a grant application for federal support to increase the capacity of the state's Preschool to Workforce Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). If awarded, the grant from the U.S. Department of Education would provide up to \$4 million over three years to link data systems across the state and support the Governor's College & Career: Ready, Set, Go! initiative. North Carolina would use the awarded funds to establish common infrastructure for each student in postsecondary education systems and coordinate Unique Identification (UIDs) with workforce data. The SLDS would allow North Carolina to provide key data to empower the legislature and NC policy makers to make better decisions concerning funding and program assessments, as well as identifying trends in North Carolina education.

NCDPI partnered with the University of North Carolina System, the NC Community College System, the NC Independent Colleges and Universities and the Division of Employment Security to prepare the application. In addition to the five partner agencies, letters of support were provided by Governor Perdue, the NC Division of Motor Vehicles, and the NC Early Childhood Data System Workgroup. While this grant opportunity is focused specifically on connecting K-12 with higher education and the workforce, it would allow the state to leverage work funded by the recently awarded Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant to create a data system linking North Carolina students from birth to workforce. States will be notified of grant awards in May 2012.

### **Winter 2012 Activities**

Meetings scheduled in January 2012 include

- Gates Foundation Summit to discuss teacher effectiveness models
- U.S. Department of Education's workshops about RtT initiatives, progress, and state strategies
- CCSSO technical assistance for states submitting waivers for ESEA in February
- Small group meetings with local superintendents (three scheduled)
- Superintendent's Principal and Teacher Advisory Committee meetings

### Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

#### Delivered remarks/keynote address at

- National Governor's Association STEM Summit
- Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee – Race to the Top
- Wilson Chamber of Commerce/County Officials Briefing
- North Central Teacher of the Year Announcement Ceremony
- Central Region Superintendents' Council
- Northwest Region Superintendents' Council
- Annual Pacesetters Graduation/Youth Chamber of Commerce

#### Attended

- Public School Forum Board of Directors
- Governor's Education Transformation Commission

## **BOARD MEETING AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

### **INFORMATION AGENDA**

#### **21st CENTURY PROFESSIONALS**

**(Ms. Shirley Harris, Chair, and Mr. John Tate, Vice Chair)**

#### ***INFORMATION***

#### **TCP 5 – Measures of Student Learning Design Groups: Progress Update**

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

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

#### **Description:**

During the week of October 24-27 and December 16-17, over 800 educators from more than 100 local education agencies, charter schools, and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention convened to identify and define meaningful assessment for all areas of the Common Core State Standards and NC Essential Standards. Educators received training on assessment design, including reliability and validity, as well as their content standards. Teachers worked through a series of feedback protocols to reflect on their specific content standards and how to assess student growth.

The design group meetings brought together NCDPI's Educator Recruitment and Development, Curriculum and Instruction, Instructional Technology, and District and School Transformation divisions to provide training. The Race to the Top Reform Support Network also provided technical assistance with the training and facilitation of group discussion.

#### **Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education will discuss the design process for the Measures of Student Learning and the implications of this work.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Harris recognized Drs. Garland and Johnson to provide an update on the Measures of Student Learning (MSL) Design Groups.
- Dr. Garland noted that due to time restrictions, the report will be provided at a high level. Board members were directed to a copy of the PowerPoint presentation located in their black notebooks behind the “TCP” tab.
- Dr. Garland reminded Board members that as part of the Race to the Top (RttT) proposal, the Department was required to address teacher effectiveness. ARCC, North Carolina’s Federal Regional Lab, provided the Department with the opportunity, via federal funding, to visit with Memphis, Hillsborough County Schools in Florida, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. She explained that these school systems have been involved in this work for several years as part of the Gates Foundation grant.
- The purpose of this update is to provide the context for educator effectiveness work, to provide quick facts about measures of student learning, the design process, teacher feedback, challenges ahead, and next steps for 2011-12. Dr. Garland explained that the primary purpose of this work is to ensure that every student has an effective teacher and leader. North Carolina currently has in place a statewide NC Educator Evaluation System that all 115 school districts and many charter schools are using. She noted that standard, statewide measures of student growth and achievement are in place in the following areas: English Language Arts, Mathematics, some years of Science, and Career and Technical Education. According to Dr. Garland, we still need a required, standard, objective measurement of the effect each teacher has on each student’s learning (completed in Summer 2011 – added sixth and eighth standards); measures of growth in all content areas (in progress this year, 2011-12, phase one of three completed); and a common statewide process for determining effectiveness (targeted for completion by February 2012 – Second set of SBE policies on educator effectiveness).
- Next, Dr. Garland elaborated about three guiding principles for MSLs: 1) North Carolina’s experienced teachers know their students and their content; 2) they are best qualified to provide input on meaningful assessment of currently non-tested grades and subjects; and 3) valid measures of what students know and are able to do will likely exceed traditional multiple-choice assessment.
- Dr. Garland further explained that MSLs are measures of what students know and are able to do after completing a course or grade. They should be tightly linked to the instruction that a teacher delivers. MSLs are only one part of how North Carolina will evaluate the effectiveness of its teachers and they are similar to the common summative assessments that many districts already have in place. In addition, Dr. Garland explained what MSLs are not. For instance, they are not multiple-choice standardized exams for all areas of the Standard Course of Study, assessments that need to be delivered with the same level of security as EOCs and EOGs, part of the school accountability model, etc.
- Dr. Garland talked about the implementation timeline beginning this year through 2013-14. She explained that this year, teachers who have tested subjects and VoCATS teachers will have individual data to populate Standard 6 once the test scores come back. They will be placed back with this current year’s evaluation observable data so that the data and evaluation protocol are from the same instructional year. She explained that Standard 6 will be populated by school data for teachers who do not have their own data this year; According to Dr. Garland, this is only so everyone can begin to see how the process works. She reiterated that no teacher will be held personally accountable with any kind of sanctions for school-wide data. Next year, 2012-13, the

majority of NC teachers will be evaluated with their own measures of student learning. NCDPI will be administering MSLs with the non-tested areas; therefore, once the scores are returned, most teachers in our state should have their own student growth data. By 2013-14, teachers and administrators with three years of data receive sixth/eighth standard ratings (with mandated consequences). Teachers in formerly non-tested grades and subjects “own” their own growth data. The only teachers and administrators not receiving sixth/eighth standard ratings are those without three years of data; it is a rolling timeline.

- Dr. Johnson explained that the MSL design process is a three-phase process. The first phase was the convening of approximately 1,000 teachers to design item specifications for all currently non-tested grades and subjects. Phase II is the collecting of all of the feedback to share with the vendor to create test items. In Phase III, teachers will provide additional feedback to the vendor and return to create guiding documents, administering, scoring and creating rubrics.
- Dr. Johnson spoke briefly about the preliminary feedback for K-2 English Language Arts and the Arts. Challenges moving forward include resources. Dr. Johnson shared that originally, North Carolina budgeted \$120,000 for this effort. With an RttT amendment, North Carolina has \$1.6 million to pay for a vendor to generate items and \$720,000 to involve more teachers more frequently. Dr. Johnson shared that \$1.6 million may not be enough funding to generate the robust item set described by the teacher design groups. In addition, Dr. Johnson talked about bias and reliability in grading and equality among content areas.
- Dr. Johnson shared that in December and early January, the Department engaged a vendor to generate items. Next steps on the timeline for 2012 include design groups returning in March to vet items created by the vendor; returning in April/May to design rubrics, administration instructions, and guidance on grading of the MSL; and late Spring/early Fall, the Department will pilot-test the MSLs.
- In response to Lt. Governor Dalton’s question, Dr. Garland spoke briefly about incorporating professional learning communities in Standard 1 and 6 in the teacher evaluation process. After making comments about the importance of this issue, Chairman Harrison asked Board members to ensure that their constituents understand the involvement and inclusiveness of this process. He directed that this item be placed on the TCP Committee meeting agenda in February for additional discussion.
- There was no further discussion.

## **HEALTHY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS** (Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair)

### ***INFORMATION***

#### **HRS 2 – 2011 Healthy Active Children Policy Report**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # GCS-S-000

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Paula Hudson Hildebrand (Chief Health and Community Relations Officer, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction)

#### **Description:**

State Board of Education Policy GCS-S-000 requires the annual reporting of information in the section of the Healthy Active Children Policy. Data from the LEAs reflect implementation of local School

Health Advisory Councils (SHACs), physical activity and physical education, recess, and coordinated school health programs.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the Healthy Active Children Policy report as submitted,

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Due to time constraints, Chairman Harrison requested that the presentation of this item be held until the February Board meeting. There were no objections.

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS  
(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair)**

***ACTION***

**GCS 1 – Changes to North Carolina’s NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCS-I-005; No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

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

**Description:**

Each year the U.S. Department of Education (USED) allows the states to make amendments to their Accountability Workbooks. The change for the 2011-12 school year, pending USED approval, will be the elimination of the Grade 10 Writing Assessment as a component of the Adequate Yearly Progress reporting for No Child Left Behind.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the revision to the North Carolina Accountability Workbook.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby thanked Chairman Harrison for his notes regarding the discussion of this item since she was absent from the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday. She also reported a thorough discussion of this item during the December meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revision to the North Carolina Accountability Workbook as presented. (See Attachment GCS 1)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**GCS 2 – Articulation Agreement with North Carolina Community College System**

**Policy Implications:** APA # 23 SBCCC 02E .0501

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support), Ms. Jo Anne Honeycutt (Director, Career and Technical Education) and Ms. Felicia Gray-Watson (Section Chief, Career and Technical Education Support Services)

**Description:**

The North Carolina High School to Community College Articulation Agreement provides a seamless process that joins secondary and postsecondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs of study. This statewide articulation agreement is comprised of approximately 50 high school CTE courses that match the knowledge and skills taught in similar community college courses. The articulation agreement ensures that if a student is proficient in their high school course, the student can receive college credit for that course at any North Carolina community college. This streamlines the student's educational pathway by eliminating the need to take multiple courses with the same learning outcomes.

**Recommendations:**

The Department of Public Instruction recommends that the State Board of Education endorse the North Carolina High School to Community College Articulation Agreement.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Willoughby explained that this agreement provides a seamless process for aligning high school and community college Career and Technical Education coursework.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to endorse the North Carolina High School to Community College Articulation Agreement as presented. (See Attachment GCS 2)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**GCS 3 – Race to the Top College Readiness Performance Measure**

**Policy Implications:** Race to the Top Goals & Measures

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Adam Levinson (Director, Race to the Top Program, Office of the State Superintendent) and Ms. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services & Instructional Support)

**Description:**

North Carolina needs to make several technical adjustments to the College Readiness performance measure "Average SAT composite and % students taking" on page 1 of the State Race to the Top (RttT) Detailed Scope of Work (DSW). Though we will continue to report SAT data in order to provide longitudinal comparison, the adjustments are needed for two reasons:

- 1) As a result of the State Board's implementation of ACT statewide beginning in school year 2011-12, North Carolina needs to shift from using SAT composite and participation rate to using the ACT

composite and participation rate as the College Readiness performance measure of record for the RttT grant for 2012-13 and 2013-14. This adjustment will enable North Carolina to set appropriate target figures for both average composite score and participation rate for 2012-13 and 2013-14; however, while we can, at present, set 100% as the target participation rate for both years, we will need to use actual scores not yet available from initial implementation in 2011-12 as a baseline against which to set targets for the two preceding years. The RttT Leadership Team will present these suggested targets to the State Board in fall of 2012; until then, the RttT DSW goals and measures will show "TBD" for the average composite targets for 2012-13 and 2013-14.

2) As a result of reporting methodology changes by the College Board, in order to be able to track progress on the state's average SAT composite (verbal and math) and participation rate between the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years, North Carolina must adapt its 2009-10 baseline and target figures to be comparable with the most recent (and future) SAT data produced by the College Board. This adjustment will also enable North Carolina to set appropriate target figures for average composite score and participation rate for 2011-12, a year for which the USED-approved RttT DSW had a "TBD" placeholder. The following statement from the College Board explains the change in methodology that necessitates this adjustment: "Prior to 2010, SAT trend data were reported for all students who took the test in high school through March of their senior year (when most students were expected to have taken the test). However, the College Board observed in 2010 that a significant segment of students was taking the test for the first time in May or June of their senior year, which the College Board felt compelled to report. As such, 2010 was used as the transition year, and data were collected for both cohorts: March and June. Only scores for the March cohort were reported in fall 2010 for comparability with previous year's trend data. However, in 2011 trend reports, scores for the June cohort are reported for both 2010 and 2011."

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to approve this action.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Willoughby noted thorough discussion of this item over the past year.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve several technical adjustments to the College Readiness performance measure based on previous Board action. (See Attachment GCS 3)*

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 4 – Approval of State Pre-Kindergarten Curricula**

**Policy Implications:** Request from Child Care Commission

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Mr. John Pruette (Director, Office of Early Learning)

**Description:**

In August 2008, the State Board of Education approved a list of pre-kindergarten curriculum choices that are aligned with NC's Early Learning Standards. This list of curricula was the result of a

comprehensive curriculum review process conducted by a panel of experts. In 2009-10, selection from this list became a requirement for the state-funded pre-kindergarten program, More at Four. In November 2010, this curriculum review panel was re-convened to extend the review process for a second round of reviews. The second round included curricula with significant revisions since the first round, as well as curricula not reviewed in 2007- 08. The resulting recommendations of the committee are submitted for State Board approval for inclusion in the requirements for NC Pre-K at the request of the NC Child Care Commission.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to review the expanded list of curricula for use in the North Carolina Pre-K program. The additions to this list will become effective in the 2012-13 school year.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Willoughby shared her understanding that there was consensus during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday to move this item from Discussion to Action on First Reading. There were no objections.
- Board member Tate recused himself from discussion and voting on this item.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted to approve the expanded list of curricula for use in the North Carolina Pre-K program as presented. Mr. Tate recused himself from voting. (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 21<sup>st</sup> century focus and to develop a new high school accountability model (p. 5, items 6 and 7).

At the December 2011 meeting, the SBE approved six indicators for the high school accountability model. At the January 6, 2012, State Board meeting, feedback on the reporting of the new accountability model will be shared.

**Recommendations:**

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

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Willoughby shared that from all reports, she missed a very good discussion of this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- Chairman Harrison added that GCS Committee members approved, by consensus, the reporting model that was presented during the meeting, and staff was directed to move forward from this point.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the January 2012 meeting and will return for additional discussion at the February meeting. (See Attachment GCS 5)

**New Business:**

GCS Committee Chair Willoughby reported that the GCS Committee received an update about the Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted Program on Wednesday.

**HEALTHY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT  
(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair, and Mr. Reginald Kenan, Vice Chair)**

***DISCUSSION***

**HRS 1 – Revisions to SBE Discipline Policies/Conversion to Rules**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # HRS-A-000, 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Katie Cornetto (State Board of Education Attorney) and Dr. Kenneth Gattis (Coordinator, Support Services Section, Federal Program Monitoring and Support)

**Description:**

State Board policies HRS-A-001, HRS-A-002, HRS-A-003, HRS-A-004, HRS-A-005, and HRS-A-007 are outdated and are recommended for elimination. Revisions are recommended for policies HRS-A-000 and HRS-A-006. These revised policies are recommended for adoption as rules in the NC Administrative Code.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the specified SBE policies be deleted and the content of other specified policies be modified per the attached documents.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the January 2012 meeting and will return for action at the February meeting. (See Attachment HRS 1)

**21<sup>ST</sup> 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)

**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 Harris reported that there were no requests received for this item; therefore, it was pulled from the agenda.
- There was no further discussion.

***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 2 – Approval of Revised Teacher Education Programs**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-B-003

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Elissa Brown (Director, Teacher Preparation Programs) and Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director, Educator Recruitment and Development Division)

**Description:**

In January 2008, the SBE adopted a proposal for a new program approval process. As part of the new process, IHEs were required to revision their teacher education and school executive preparation programs to meet the new standards adopted by the Board and to submit their proposals, known as Blueprints, for their new programs leading to licensure. These Blueprints were reviewed by trained teams of public school practitioners, content experts, and higher education faculty. In December 2009, August 2010, and December 2010, the Board approved revised undergraduate and graduate programs. This list includes new programs and re-submitted programs.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the programs on the updated list be approved by the SBE.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Harris noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the January 2012 meeting and will return for action at the February meeting. (See Attachment TCP 2)

***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 3 – North Carolina New Schools Project: STEM Teacher Education Program (NCNSP STEP)**

**Policy Implications:** Session Law 2007-376, Senate Bill 1115; SBE Policy # TCP-B-010

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

**Description:**

The North Carolina New Schools Project *Innovative Pathways to STEM Teaching Careers* (IPSTC) is a statewide proposal to provide an alternate route to teacher licensure for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics college graduates. This proposal, submitted to the U.S. Department of Education, was recently funded for five years under the Transition to Teaching grant opportunity. The proposal seeks to address the need for STEM teachers in North Carolina school districts that are challenged with recruiting and hiring. In year one, the program will begin by placing prospective teachers as interns in four NCNSP Learning Laboratory Initiative (LLI) Schools.

The State Review Panel and the State Evaluation Committee have reviewed this proposal and provided feedback.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the STEM Teacher Education Program (NCNSP STEP).

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Harris reported that there was consensus during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday to move this item from Discussion to Action on First Reading. There were no objections.
- There was no further discussion.

<p><i>Upon motion by <u>Ms. Shirley Harris</u>, and seconded by <u>Mr. Jean Woolard</u>, the Board voted unanimously to approve the STEM Teacher Education Program as presented. (See Attachment TCP 3)</i></p>
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***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 4 – Revisions to Career and Technical Education Licensure**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-001

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support), Ms. Jo Anne Honeycutt (Director, Career and Technical Education) and Ms. Carol Short (Student Certification Consultant)

**Description:**

In June 2011, the NC State Board of Education approved the North Carolina Career and Technical Education Essential Standards, which will be effective with the 2012-13 school year. The Essential Standards has necessitated changes to Career and Technical Education teacher licensure requirements. Board members will receive an electronic copy of the proposed policy revisions prior to the January Board meeting.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the revision to the North Carolina Accountability Workbook.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Harris reported that the TCP Committee met as the State Board of Career and Technical Education on Wednesday to hear the discussion about this item. She encouraged Board members to review the information available in the Board books prior to the February Board meeting when the Board will take action on the recommendations.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the January 2012 meeting and will return for action at the February 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 (RttT) Sanctions for Non-Compliance**

**Policy Implications:** Race to the Top (RttT)

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Samiel Fuller (RttT Accountant, Financial Services Division)

**Description:**

As a condition of receiving Race to the Top (RttT) funding, LEAs/Charters agreed to activities that align with the Common Core standards established by the state's RttT plan. RttT has four common goals:

- Adopting standards and assessments,
- Building data systems,
- Recruiting and developing effective teachers and principals; and
- Turning around lowest-achieving schools.

If a local education agency (LEA) or charter school does not abide by its RttT agreement, appropriate actions to facilitate adherences must be identified.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board adopt the sanctions provided.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- After Board members voted to approve the sanctions, TCS Committee Chair Howell noted that the Board's legal counsel will initiate the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) rulemaking proceedings.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the the Race to the Top (RttT) sanctions as presented. (See Attachment TCS 1)*

***ACTION*****TCS 2 – Replacement of Compliance Commission Members**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy #TCS-B-000

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

**Description:**

The State Board of Education (SBE) established the Compliance Commission for Accountability in July 1996. This Commission was charged with making recommendations to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and State Board of Education related to ABCs issues. In September, one member resigned from the Commission. Attached is the current list of Commission members. The SBE was informed of the need for a replacement at the November 2011 meeting. A replacement will be recommended at the January 2011 meeting.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the recommendation for the new member of the Compliance Commission for Accountability.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCS Committee Chair Howell noted thorough discussion of this item over several months.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. Jeffrey D. Dishmon as the new member of the Compliance Commission for Accountability as recommended. (See Attachment TCS 2)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING*****TCS 3 – Additional Flexibility for Career and Technical Education Funds and Textbooks**

**Policy Implications:** House Bill 200

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), and Mrs. Alexis Schauss (Director, School Business Division)

**Description:**

The State Board of Education has granted maximum flexibility to LEAs regarding expenditures of state funds for the fiscal year 2011-12. Local education agencies (LEAs) have requested that the Board provide additional flexibility for Career and Technical Education (CTE) and textbook funds. The request is to provide flexibility on the transfer of CTE funds, up to 7% of the initial allotment, and to remove the restriction on textbook transfer, which is limited to the current year appropriation only.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the additional flexibility for career and technical education and textbooks funds.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCS Committee Chair Howell noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCS Committee meeting on Wednesday. He reiterated that the additional flexibility for the career and technical education and textbook funds is only for this fiscal year. He explained that there is little impact on the maintenance of the Perkins Law and the reductions have already been taken.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted to approve the additional flexibility for career technical funds and the textbook funds for fiscal year 2011-12 as recommended. Board members Ms. Jean Woolard and Ms. Shirley Harris voted in opposition. The motion carried. (See Attachment TCS 3)*

***ACTION***

**TCS 4 – Membership for the State Advisory Council on Indian Education**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-210.1; SBE Policy # TCS-B-001

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Debora Williams (Special Assistant, Graduation and Dropout Prevention Initiatives, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

**Description:**

The General Assembly, in 1998, passed House Bill 2560 that established a fifteen-member State Advisory Council on Indian Education. The purpose of this Council is to advise the State Board of Education on ways to effectively meet the needs of Indian students; advocate meaningful programs designed to reduce and eventually eliminate low achievement among American Indian students; prepare and present an annual report on the status of Indian education to the State Board of Education and to the various Indian tribal organizations at the statewide Indian Unity Conference, work closely with the Department of Public Instruction to improve coordination and communication between and among programs; and upon request advise the State Board of Education on any other aspect of Indian education.

American Indian educators and parents on the Council serve staggered two-year terms but not more than two consecutive terms, and the remaining members serve unspecified terms at the discretion of their appointing authorities. Nominees to the Council are submitted by their respective tribal organizations to

the chairman of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs who then submits recommendations to the State Board of Education for approval and appointment.

Legislation requires that American Indian members of the Council be broadly representative of North Carolina Indian tribes and organizations, specifically, Coharie, the Eastern Band of Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi; Lumbee, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, Sappony, Waccamaw-Siouan, the Cumberland County Association for Indian People, the Guilford Native American Association, the Metrolina Native American Association, and any other Indian tribe gaining state recognition in the future.

Three individuals are being recommended by the NC Commission of Indian Affairs for appointment to the Council. Mrs. Teresa Cunningham-Brown (Senior Director, Human Resources, Wake County Public School System, Meharrin); Mr. Brett Locklear (Education Committee Chairperson, NC Commission on Indian Affairs, Lumbee); and Dr. Chris Scott (Principal, Fuller Gifted and Talented Magnet Elementary School, Wake County Public School System, Lumbee).

**Recommendations:**

The State Board is asked to approve the individuals submitted by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs for membership on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCS Committee Chair Howell recused himself from discussion and voting on TCS 4. He asked Vice Chair McDevitt to manage the item.
- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Vice Chair McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted to approve the three individuals submitted by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs for membership on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education. Board member Kevin Howell recused himself from voting. (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 ON FIRST READING**

**LFI 1 – NCVPS Process for Approval of Online Courses: Addendum to Standards for Approval of Online Courses**

**Policy Implications:** Session Law 2011-145 SECTION 7.22.(h).(2); SBE Policy # GCS-M-001

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Ross White (Executive Director, NC Virtual Public School)

**Description:**

Language in Session Law 2011-145 SECTION 7.22 (h).(2) requires local education agencies and charter schools to obtain permission from NCVPS before offering any virtual course for credit other than ones administered through NCVPS. Therefore, it is not legal to offer non-NCVPS courses to any public school student without written permission from NCVPS. Standards for Online Courses were approved by the SBE at the December 2011 meeting.

This process clearly defines the scope of online course materials which must be approved by NCVPS. Per e-Learning Commission's requests: (1) NCVPS must be given access to each third party course providing for random, periodic spot-checks and (2) vendors must require students to complete an end-of-course student survey to substantiate student satisfaction and high-quality teaching.

**Recommendations:**

N/A

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett reported that there was an addendum to the standards for approval of online courses which was reviewed during the Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the addendum to the standards for online courses as recommended. (See Attachment LFI 1)*

**DISCUSSION**

**LFI 2 – Enrollment Increase Requests Above 20% and Charter School Grade Expansion**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 238-29D(d); SBE Policy # TCS-U-000

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

**Description:**

As per General Statute § 115C-238.29D(d), beginning with the charter school's second year of operation and annually thereafter, the State Board of Education shall allow a charter school to increase its enrollment by 20 percent of the school's previous year or as otherwise provided in the charter. This enrollment growth shall not be considered a material revision of the charter application and shall not require prior approval of the State Board.

Seven charter schools submitted requests for consideration by the State Board of Education -- three requests are for enrollment and grade expansion, three requests are only for enrollment increases, and one request is only to expand the grades served. The requests are considered material changes to the charter and, as such, require SBE approval.

The SBE may approve additional growth if the State Board finds that:

- 1) The actual enrollment of the charter school is within ten percent of the requested maximum growth;
- 2) The charter school has commitments for ninety percent of the requested maximum growth;
- 3) The board of education of the local school administrative unit in which the charter school is located has had an opportunity to be heard by the SBE on any adverse financial impact the proposed growth would have on the unit's ability to provide a sound basic education to its students;
- 4) The charter school is not currently identified as low performing;
- 5) The charter school meets generally accepted standards of fiscal management; and
- 6) It is otherwise appropriate to approve the enrollment growth.

LEAs, wherein the charter schools are located, were contacted and asked to submit an impact statement. Two districts provided impact statements, and they are included in the attachments.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the SBE accept the enrollment and grade expansion recommendations as presented.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Bartlett noted a thorough discussion of this item during the LFI Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the January 2012 meeting and will return for action at the February meeting. (See Attachment LFI 2)

***DISCUSSION***

**LFI 3 – Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2012**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-238-29D(d); SBE Policy # TCS-U-007

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

**Description:**

Based on General Statute § 115C-238.29D(d) and SBE Policy # TCS-U-007, the following schools are requesting renewal of their charters:

- Cape Lookout Marine Science High School
- PreEminent Charter School
- Sandhills Theatre Arts Renaissance School

As part of the renewal process, the Office of Charter Schools examined DPI compliance forms and made renewal site visits to each schools. That information, along with academic and enrollment data, was compiled into a renewal portfolio and was presented to the fifteen-member NC Public Charter School Advisory Council. On December 14, 2011, the Council met to consider the renewal information and interviewed each of these charter schools before formulating the attached recommendations.

The submitted materials include the Council's recommendation, each school's renewal portfolio, and the process followed by the Office of Charter Schools.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the SBE accept the Council's renewal recommendations as presented.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Bartlett reported a thorough discussion of this item during the LFI Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- Chairman Harrison noted a number of questions and legitimate concerns raised during the discussion of this item on Wednesday. He encouraged Board members to carefully read the requests and impact statements, and suggested contacting Mr. Joel Medley prior to the February Board meeting if Board members need additional clarification.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the January 2012 meeting and will return for action at the February meeting. (See Attachment LFI 3)

**New Business**

LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett provided a brief overview of the new business item that was presented during the Committee meeting on Wednesday.

- NCVPS Director's Update

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

**Legislative Update**

Ms. Ann McColl (Legislative Director)

Ms. McColl reported that the General Assembly was in town on Wednesday at the request of the Governor to address the 2009 Racial Justice Act. She explained that the House went into recess yesterday afternoon while the Senate was deliberating the issue. Speaker Thom Tillis requested, in a press conference, that the Governor appoint the replacement for Representative David Guice with Representative Trudy Walend rather than wait the seven days. Governor Perdue made the appointment and then last evening the Republicans decided to call an additional session today. At 1:15 AM today, the House Republican's overrode Governor Purdue's veto of SB 727 and voted to stop the state from collecting membership dues from public school employees. NCAE is currently considering its options in court. Ms. McColl explained that DPI will have a role in informing LEAs of their responsibilities. The legislation went into effect immediately. In addition, she spoke about the importance of working on the legislative agenda for schools. In advance of the January 31 planning session, staff will send Board members materials to consider.

**Announcements/Reminders, and Comments****Committee Assignments**

Chairman Harrison reminded Board members of changes in committee assignments which will begin in February. Concerns about the assignments should be directed to him so adjustments can be made if necessary.

**Planning Session**

Chairman Harrison reminded Board members that the follow-up one-day planning session is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31. He noted that Board members have already received an outline of the day and will receive additional information in the next few days.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was brought before the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board member Willoughby announced the next webinar in a series of sessions co-hosted by NCBCCE and the NC Department of Public Instruction on January 30, 3:30-4:30 p.m. The topic is to learn more about Career & College Promise. The panel includes State Superintendent Atkinson, Chairman Harrison and NC Community College President Scott Ralls.

Board member Bartlett announced that in February, the LFI Committee will begin the discussion of the Fast-track Applications for Charter Schools. She noted that Mr. Joel Medley has been directed to send the link for the applications to State Board members for review in advance.

**Meeting Highlights**

At this time, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members that in January 2011, 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. At that time, 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 noted the Board's reaffirmed commitment to project-based learning, working with local partners in providing authentic assessments, i.e., graduation projects. Board member Tate noted Measures of Student Learning (MSL) and its focus on teacher effectiveness.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the January 5, 2012, meeting of the State Board of Education.*