

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
May 2-3, 2007**

Education Building, Raleigh	Wednesday, May 2, 2007	Board Room, 1:15 PM
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Wayne McDevitt
Jane Norwood, Vice Chair	Edgar Murphy
Melissa Bartlett	Beverly Perdue
Shirley Harris	Kathy Taft
Michelle Howard-Vital	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, Superintendent	Carr Ipock, Local Board Member Advisor
Danielle Alston, Student Advisor	Wendy Miller, Teacher Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Larry Price, Superintendent Advisor
Meghan Doyle, Principal Advisor	

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

After extending a warm welcome to all present, Chairman Lee called the Wednesday session of the May State Board of Education meeting to order. He explained that the Board was meeting as a committee of the whole and provided details about the committee structures and the meeting process to the audience.

The Chairman made several introductions. He welcomed new staff member Adam Levinson to the Department. Mr. Levinson will serve as Senior Policy Advisor for Strategic Planning and is assigned to Deputy Superintendent Buxton. In addition, the Chairman recognized the following superintendents: Mr. Jack Hoke, Alexander County; Dr. Shirley Prince, Scotland County; Dr. Ron Wilcox, Madison County; and Dr. Don Martin, Winston-Salem/Forsyth Schools.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Lee 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. No Board members indicated a conflict of interest 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 chair. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

At this time, Chairman Lee spoke about the Teacher of the Year banquet held on Tuesday evening. He thanked the North Carolina Automobile Dealer's Association (NCADA) for their generosity for hosting the event and for providing the Teacher of the Year winner with a new car. He also announced that Mr.

Rudy Turner, husband of Mrs. Dianne Turner, NCADA's Executive Vice President, passed away this week and that the Board extends its sympathies to Mrs. Turner and her family. He stated that Mrs. Turner takes the lead role in the corporate sponsorship by NCADA of the Teacher of the Year annual event.

Chairman Lee called on the priority chairs to present items in their respective areas for *Action, Action on First Reading, Discussion, and Information.*

INFORMATION AGENDA

BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING

Under the 21st Century Systems Priority:

(Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Chair; Mr. John Tate, Co-Chair)

INFORMATION

TCS 7 – Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Fund (DSSF) Pilot Evaluation: Report 1

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Dr. Gary Henry (William Neil Reynolds Distinguished Visiting Professor, UNC School of Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Description:

In 2004, Governor Mike Easley and the North Carolina State Board of Education established the Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Fund (DSSF) as a pilot program in 16 of the state's most educationally disadvantaged districts. The overarching goal of the program, which is the focus of this report, was to increase the learning and academic performance of students, especially disadvantaged students. During the 2004-2005 school year, the program provided \$22.4 million to the pilot districts. The program allowed districts flexibility in using the funds to attract and retain qualified, competent teachers and to provide enhanced instructional opportunities to students at risk of school failure. The NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI) was required to provide assistance and monitor the program through the Local Education Agency Assistance Program (LEAAP).

The pilot program continued with slightly increased funding for the 2005-2006 school year. In 2006-2007, the Governor recommended expanding the program statewide, and the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$49.5 million for DSSF along with significant increases in other state education programs.

In 2005, the General Assembly mandated an evaluation of the effectiveness of the strategies funded by the DSSF program, as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of DPI's LEAAP teams. This is the first of several reports from the evaluation team organized through the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The evaluation team assembled and analyzed data on expenditures, teachers, and students from a number of sources within the NC Department of Public Instruction. The team also collected implementation data from each of the districts through interviews with district administrators and principals, as well as focus groups with teachers.

Recommendations:

No action required.

Discussion/Comments:

- Lt. Governor Perdue stressed the importance of understanding that poverty is a huge factor in the academic performance of students. Another area of focus is that these students also begin to lose academic ground at the middle school level.
- Board members asked about measurable controls, within the research, relative to other districts on any of the categories. In addition, there was some discussion about Visiting International Faculty (VIF) and Teach for America teachers and how they fall into the categories.
- Another area of concern was professional development and other kinds of capacity building activities to ensure that the DSSF teachers know how to use technology to enhance student learning.
- Board members agreed that it was important to decrease the length of time it takes to analyze the data as well as use the baseline evidence to recommend actions to change the trend line.

This item was presented for information. (See Attachment TCS 7)

LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATION
(Ms. Melissa Bartlett and Mr. Tom Speed, Co-Chairs)

INFORMATION

LFI 7 – NC Virtual Public School – Director’s Report

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Dr. John Boling, (Director, NC Virtual Public Schools)

Description:

An update on projects and timeline, including course audits, teacher recruitment, summer and fall pre-registrations, teacher professional development.

Recommendations:

No action required.

Discussion/Comments:

- Dr. Boling reported that nearly 2,000 students have pre-registered for summer school and/or fall semester online courses. More than 400 teachers have expressed interest in teaching for NC Virtual and those in need of professional development are currently involved in online courses. He further reported that course revisions as suggested by the quality audit are completed. In closing, Dr. Boling stated that the Leadership for Innovation Subcommittee is examining those policies that need to be changed to better support the mission of NC Virtual Public School.
- After Dr. Boling’s presentation, Board members discussed the problems that come with growth specifically in terms of bureaucracy and entities other than public schools that are requesting NC Virtual’s services.

This item was presented for information. (See Attachment LFI 7)

ACTION AND DISCUSSION AGENDA

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION
GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)**

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 6 – Update Performance Level Descriptors for U.S. History, Civics and Economics, Mathematics EOG Grades 3-8 and NCCLAS for U.S. History, Civics and Economics, and mathematics EOG Grades 3-8

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-C-010, HSP-C-018, HSP-C-024;
Federal NCLB Peer Review Requirement

Presenter(s): Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

Description:

The department is submitting a request to update the Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) to describe the academic achievement standards performance expectations for the following tests: U.S. History, Civics and Economics, Mathematics EOG Grades 3-8 and NCCLAS (North Carolina Checklist for Academic Standards) for U.S. History, Civics and Economics, and Mathematics EOG Grades 3-8. The SBE has approved new academic achievement standards (cut scores) for each of the tests which require that the PLDs be updated to reflect the changes in the standards. This is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Education (USED) as a component of the Peer Review Process. The PLDs are updated once a test-based standard setting method is used as a resource in the standard setting process validation. Actual changes to the policies will be provided at the May 2007 SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the SBE adopt the revisions to HSP-C-010, HSP-C-018 and HSP-C-024 effective with the 2006-07 school year.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 3. (See Attachment GCS 6)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 7 – Changes to NC’s NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #EEO-I-005; NCLB

Presenter(s): Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

Description:

On February 15, 2007, North Carolina responded to the US Department of Education (USED) letter to State Superintendents, which laid out the structure for States to propose amendments to their Accountability Workbooks. North Carolina anticipates receiving another letter from the USED outlining the changes to make to the State’s Accountability Workbook. The SBE will be sent a copy of the Workbook with the appropriate changes highlighted prior to the next SBE meeting. It is critical that the

amended Workbook be submitted to the USED as soon as possible for their final review and approval so that the LEAs can be informed of the rules for calculating AYP prior to their data submissions scheduled for June 29, 2007. The revisions reflect the use of equated scores for students in the 10th grade who took the new editions of the Algebra I and English I End-of-Course tests; changing the threshold for the graduation rate from 90 percent to 80 percent in acknowledgement of the new cohort rate calculations; and inclusion of the new 2 percent regulation for certain students with disabilities.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 3. (See Attachment GCS 7)

DISCUSSION

GCS 8 – Future-Ready High School Core Curriculum Framework

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Executive Director, Office of the North Carolina State Board of Education) and Dr. Wandra C. Polk (Director, Middle and Secondary Education Division)

Description:

The North Carolina State Board of Education in December 2006 directed Board and Department of Public Instruction staff to conduct a series of regional meetings on the future-ready high school core curriculum framework that the Board adopted. This discussion item will provide feedback to the Board from the series of regional meetings on this topic.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education review and comment on changes to the policy prior to submission for approval at the June 2007 meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board members deliberated at length about the complexity of this issue as it relates to the block of endorsements, staffing problems, and what is best for students. The overarching goal is to ensure that all students have an appreciation for the arts, experience in Career-Technical Education, and experience in second languages.
- Superintendent Don Martin, Winston-Salem/Forsyth, spoke in support of the inclusion of arts and the CTE requirement as a part of the core.
- Dr. Shirley Prince, Superintendent, Scotland County Schools, commended the Board for taking feedback from the regional meetings and incorporating those suggestions into the recommendations on the table. She reminded Board members to be mindful that many high schools are redesigning their high school experience and curriculum where they integrate appreciation for the arts in their humanities courses, for example. She questioned a waiver process for these types of schools to incorporate some of the competencies into an integrated approach. Ms. Willoughby advocated for flexibility in these circumstances and cautioned the Board about being overly prescriptive.

- Chairman Lee asked the Board to delay action on this item for another 30 days to meet with the House and Senate Education Committees to provide information and garner input from the members.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 8)

DISCUSSION

GCS 9 – Annual Report: State Advisory Council on Indian Education

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-210; SBE Policy #EEO-B-001

Presenter(s): Dr. Elsie C. Leak (Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and School Reform Services), Mr. Marvin R. Pittman (Community Liaison, State Board of Education) and Dr. Louise Maynor (Chair, State Advisory Council on Indian Education)

Description:

In 1988, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted an Indian education policy to provide a process for identifying issues pertaining to the education of Indian students in grades K-12. In the same year, the General Assembly passes House Bill 2560 that established a fifteen-member State Advisory Council on Indian Education to serve as the mechanism for advising the SBE on issues pertaining to the education of Indian students in grades K-2. More specifically, House Bill 2560 charges the Council to:

- advise the SBE on effective practices for educating Indian students;
- explore programs that raise academic achievement and reduce the dropout rate among Indian students;
- advise the SBE/DPI on ways to improve coordination and communication for the benefit of Indian students affected by state and federal programs administered at the state level;
- prepare and present an annual report to the SBE, tribal organization, and to conferees at the annual North Carolina Indian Unity Conference; and
- advise the SBE on pertinent Indian education issues when requested to do so.

The report will be posted to <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/racg/resources/reports/indianed/indianed07.pdf> prior to the May SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is requested to review the report and provide feedback on the content as well as the recommendations provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- A brief conversation was occurred on the recommendations focused on adding targeted staffing in the NC Department of Public Instruction that would focus exclusively on American Indian students.
- Chairman Lee assured Dr. Daniel Bell, member, State Advisory Council on Indian Education, that the Board would have more extensive conversation that clearly defines the value of actions that the Board is being asked to take that would focus exclusively on one group versus another. Taking action to set up an office for a specific group may lead to multiple requests in the future from many groups and interests and could be a distraction from focusing on the big picture according to the Chairman.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 9)

DISCUSSION

GCS 10 – Proposed Standards for Standard Course of Study in American Sign Language (ASL)

Secondary Level

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-F-009

Presenter(s): Dr. Elsie C. Leak (Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and School Reform Services), and Mrs. Mary N. Watson (Director, Exceptional Children Division)

Description:

Currently, the Department of Public Instruction does not have student standards for the instruction of American Sign Language (ASL) in the public schools. The proposed standards for the ASL *Standard Course of Study* have been developed and are presented to the State Board of Education for discussion.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education review and comment on the ASL student standards.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 10)

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION
21ST CENTURY PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital and Ms. Shirley Harris, Co-Chairs)**

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 1 – Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher

Licensing Requirements

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #QP-A-021

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst)

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, 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. A panel chaired by a member of the State Board evaluates requests. Panel recommendations will be presented in closed session.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the actions related to each request be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- This item was discussed in closed session.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 4. (See Attachment TCP 1)

DISCUSSION

TCP 2 – Response to the Report on Professional Development from the Center for School Leadership Development

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-12(26) and #116-11(12a); Session Law 2005-276, Section 9.34 (a) and (b)

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst)

Description:

The General Statutes require the State Board of Education, in collaboration with the UNC Board of Governors, to identify and make recommendations regarding meaningful professional development programs for professional public school employees. The General Statutes also require the UNC Board of Governors to submit to the State Board an annual report evaluating the professional development programs administered by the Board of Governors. The report from the Center for School Leadership Development on the professional development programs administered by the UNC Board of Governors was presented to the Board for information in February. Representatives from the Center met with the Board's TCP Committee in April. The attached report is presented for discussion this month and will be presented for approval next month.

Recommendations:

That the Response to the Report on Professional Development from the Center for School Leadership Development be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 2)

DISCUSSION

TCP 3 – Revision of the Standards for Teacher Evaluation

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #QP-C-006

Presenter(s): Ms. Carolyn McKinney (Executive Director, NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission [NCPTSC]), Ms. Carolyn Williams (Chair, NCPTSC), and Dr. Jack Hoke (Member, NCPTSC)

Description:

The different demands on 21st Century education dictate new roles for teachers in their classrooms and schools. In line with the State Board of Education's new goals, the NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission was charged with reviewing and revising the standards for the evaluation of teachers to ensure their alignment with SBE goals. The proposed new standards have been widely vetted. Upon Board approval, work will begin on the development and validation of a new evaluation instrument for teachers.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the proposed new/revised standards for the evaluation of teachers be approved by the State Board.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 3)

DISCUSSION

TCP 4 – Proposed Standards for Licensure in American Sign Language (ASL)

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #TCP-B-002, TCP-A-001, and TCP-A-002

Presenter(s): Ms. Rachael Ragin (Consultant, Exceptional Children's Division) and Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst)

Description:

Currently, North Carolina does not have any teacher education programs that prepare individuals to teach American Sign Language (ASL) in the public schools. Proposed standards for ASL teacher education programs have been developed and are presented for discussion. Also proposed are alternative criteria for a lateral entry license in ASL.

Recommendations:

That the proposed standards for ASL teacher education programs and the proposed requirements for a provisional license in ASL be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- Proposed standards for American Sign Language (ASL) teacher education programs and requirements for a provisional license in ASL were discussed. Currently, North Carolina does not have any teacher education programs that prepare individuals to teach ASL in the public schools.
- Board Member McDevitt clarified that American Sign Language is counted as meeting the foreign language requirement for admission to the university system.
- Ms. Ragin explained that every country has its own form of signing systems. She gave a brief demonstration of some differences. The Chairman asked if Ms. Ragin felt there would be opposition to selecting American Sign Language versus any other system. She stated that there is an enormous amount of support for the bill as it is moving through the Legislature and she did not anticipate resistance.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 4)

DISCUSSION

TCP 5 –Proposed Revisions to Praxis II Testing Requirements for Exceptional Children’s Teachers

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #QP-A-003; PL 107-110 (the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst)

Description:

No Child Left Behind requires that exceptional children’s teachers be “highly qualified” in the content areas they teach. Currently, new exceptional children’s teachers do not have a way to be designated “highly qualified” for the core academic areas at the middle school and high school levels without taking individual subject area tests. A single test that covers English, math, science, and social studies is proposed. It is also proposed that one of the current tests required for the initial exceptional children’s license be deleted so that exceptional children’s teachers do not have to complete three tests to be licensed.

Recommendations:

That the proposed revisions to Praxis II testing requirements for exceptional children's teachers be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 5)

DISCUSSION

TCP 6 – Proposed Revision to Praxis I Testing Requirements for Admission to Teacher Education Programs

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-A-003

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst)

Description:

Undergraduate students seeking admission to a North Carolina approved teacher education program must satisfactorily complete the ETS Preprofessional Skills Tests in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics (Praxis I) or meet prescribed SAT or ACT scores. Based on requests for waivers of Praxis I testing requirements due to extenuating circumstances, which have been submitted to the Board, an adjustment of Board policy, is proposed. This proposed policy would allow individuals to satisfy Praxis I testing requirements with a composite score. North Carolina currently uses a similar composite scoring model for Praxis II.

Recommendations:

It is requested that the proposal to allow individuals to satisfy Praxis I testing requirements based on a composite score of 522 (960 for the computer-based assessments) be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital announced that the TCP Committee recommends that this item be moved to Action on First Reading. There were no objections.

This item will be presented for Action on First Reading at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 4. (See Attachment TCP 6)

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION
TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS
BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Chair, and Mr. John Tate, Vice-Chair)**

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 1 – Request by Pine Lake Preparatory Charter School to Relocate to Mecklenburg County from Iredell County

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-238.29B(c)(3)(ii)

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

NC GS 115C-238.29B(c)(3)(ii) states the following:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, if the State Board of Education finds that an applicant (i) submitted an application to a local board of education and received final approval from the State Board of Education, but (ii) is unable to find a suitable location within that local school administrative unit to operate, the State Board of Education may authorize the charter school to operate within an adjacent local school administrative unit for one year only. The charter school cannot operate for more than one year unless it reappplies, in accordance with subdivision (1), (2), or (3) of this subsection, and receives final approval from the State Board of Education.

Pine Lake Preparatory Charter School seeks to relocate from Iredell County to Mecklenburg County for the 2007-2008 school year. The current site of the school's facility in Iredell County will not be available at the start of the upcoming school year. The facility is located approximately three tenths of a mile into Mecklenburg County and less than two miles from the proposed new facility site and would serve the same population of students. The proposed temporary school facility is currently occupied by a private school and will be vacated in the summer of 2007.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the SBE approve the request.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. McDevitt explained that this item is non-controversial. He stated that from the TCS Committee's perspective, the Leadership for Innovation Committee (LFI) should address this item. Co-Chair Bartlett of the LFI Committee agreed.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 4. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 2 – Approval of Grant – Children's Trust Fund

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Dr. Elsie Leak (Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and School Reform Services), and Ms. Jackie Colbert (Director, Elementary Education Division)

Description:

The grant listed below is being submitted for approval of distribution of funds to selected school systems. Please see attachment for description of grant.

- Attachment 1 – NC Children's Trust Fund – Recommended Monetary Awards 2007-2008

Recommendations:

The attached grant is being submitted for State Board approval.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 4. (See Attachment TCS 2)

DISCUSSION

TCS 3 – Governor’s School/Board of Governors

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-D-009

Presenter(s): Dr. Elsie C. Leak (Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and School Reform Services) and Ms. Mary N. Watson (Director, Exceptional Children Division)

Description:

In accordance with the State Board of Education policy, membership on the Board of Governors, Governor’s School, is being updated. This is an advisory board appointed by the State Board of Education to assist in development and approval of student selection criteria and nominating procedures. The Board assists in the preparation of the school’s budget. Representation is made up of persons in public school education, higher education, and from the lay community. The Board is chosen to give statewide representation.

The current list of the Governor’s School/Board of Governors’ membership indicates two (2) members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2007. Both members have served two consecutive terms and are no longer eligible to serve on the Board.

A third seat held by Genie Wilson’s expires on June 30, 2007, for her first term. She has agreed to serve a second term if approved by the State Board of Education.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is asked to forward any nominations from Districts #1 and #7 to the State Board of Education Office for final recommendation and approval at the June meeting.

The State Board of Education is asked to consider the reappointment of Genie Wilson for a second term.

Discussion/Comments:

- Ms. Kathy Taft pointed out that she submitted a recommendation for membership. Ms. Watson explained that she had received the nomination from Ms. Taft but it was her understanding that this item would be brought before the Board for discussion before names were disclosed. She also noted that she had received a nomination for District 7 as well. It was clarified that the names should be discussed during the TCS Committee meeting.
- Board members were asked to forward any nominations from Districts 1 and 7 to the Board office for final recommendation and approval at the Board’s June meeting.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCS 3)

DISCUSSION

TCS 4 – Utilization of State Board Reserve for Innovative/Special Projects

Policy Implications: Special Provision

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services)

Description:

The State Board reserves \$500,000 from the At-Risk Student Services/Alternative Schools allotment to implement/support specific initiatives as a pilot or for program start-up. Funding has been utilized in the past for numerous start-up initiatives; including, in recent years, support of the Closing-the-Gap priorities

of the State Board project recovery programs and Senior Projects. The State Board is being presented initiatives for FY 2007-08 (beginning July 1, 2007) that will utilize the \$500,000 reserve funds.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board approve the reserve funds to be used for the projects presented.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. Wayne McDevitt stated that the TCS Committee recommends that part of this item be moved to Action on First Reading on Thursday. Specifically, the Committee recommends that \$125,000 be used in partnership support for the Asheboro High Zoo School to help with the start-up cost to equip a first-class science laboratory, to support curriculum development, and other expenses that will help establish the school. Fifty thousand dollars was requested to make preparations for introducing Personal Financial Literacy in the curriculum. The funding will provide professional development and resource materials for the Civics and Economics component.
- Ms. Kathy Taft questioned the \$25,000 attached to Personal Financial Literacy for material development. She cautioned redesigning something that was already available, citing a wealth of material online. Superintendent Atkinson clarified that the issue is not so much about finding instructional material but more about the major challenges associated with condensing the available PFL materials and incorporating those materials to equate to the amount of time appropriated to the Civics and Economics curriculum.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCS 4)

DISCUSSION

TCS 5 – Pre-Approval of Financial and Business Services’ Policy Manuals

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #EEO-T-000; EEO-M-003; QP-D-003

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), and Mr. Paul LeSieur (Director, School Business Division)

Description:

The State Board of Education (SBE) is requested to approve, in advance, the issuance of the following manuals upon the adjournment of the General Assembly. This will allow the Department to incorporate changes approved by legislative action that does not require State Board approval to change any policy directives. It will also allow the Department to distribute resources and disseminate these documents to the local education agencies (LEAs) and charter schools in a timely manner (example, the state salary schedules cannot be implemented by the LEAs until passed in legislation and approved by the SBE). The documents impacted are as follows:

- Public School Personnel State Salary Schedules and Manual (SBE Policy #EEO-T-000)
- Allotment Policy Manual (SBE Policy #EEO-M-003)
- Benefits and Employment Policy Manual for Public School Employees (SBE Policy #QP-D-003)

Should circumstance and/or legislative action require the SBE to revise a current policy or institute any new policies referenced in these documents, these items would be brought to the SBE for separate action as appropriate.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education discuss the pre-approval of the manuals at the May SBE meeting and take action in June by approving the issuance of the Public School Personnel State Salary Schedules and Manual, the Allotment Policy Manual, and the Benefits and Employment Policy Manual for Public School Employees upon adjournment of the General Assembly or the passage of the budget bill for Fiscal Year 2007-08 and supporting legislation.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCS 5)

DISCUSSION**TCS 6 – Federal Reauthorization of ESEA/No Child Left Behind****Policy Implications:**

Presenter(s): Mr. J.B. Buxton (Deputy Superintendent)

Description:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)/No Child Left Behind has placed greater emphasis on student achievement and the accountability of schools for student learning. It has called attention to the achievement gaps among racial, ethnic, and socio-economic subgroups of students. It has called attention to the critical role of the teacher in student achievement. However, as the Act is reauthorized, modifications and adjustments are needed. Suggested recommendations are presented for Board consideration.

Recommendations:

It is requested that the recommendations related to the reauthorization of ESEA/NCLB be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- In preparation for their June trip to Washington D.C. to meet with North Carolina's House and Senate members, Board members and staff discussed the draft document outlining recommendations they would like to make related to the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind. Discussion included Adequate Yearly Progress, school choice and supplemental education services, supporting schools' and districts' technical assistance and improvement status/corrective actions, special populations, teacher quality, state authority and flexibility, and resources.
- Superintendent Atkinson suggested that the Board consider showing how the current law has had a negative impact on our state and to cite specific examples. In addition, she suggested that the delegation write members who are on the House and Senate committees responsible for making the decisions. Following the Superintendent's suggestions, Mr. McDevitt spoke about the importance that the Board is provided a briefing session prior to the trip.
- Mr. Buxton noted that multiple education organizations and associations have provided feedback to the original draft of these suggested recommendations and that the Department would continue to refine the document to reflect the field perspectives.
- Chairman Lee announced that representatives recently approached him from the Chinese Embassy asking if this Board would be interested in discussing a Teacher Exchange Program between China and North Carolina. That initial conversation has resulted in the possibility of a

discussion over lunch at the Chinese Embassy while the Board is in Washington. More information will be forthcoming.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment TCS 6)

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION
LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATION COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Melissa Bartlett and Mr. Tom Speed, Co Chairs)**

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 5 – Approval of Charter School Technology Plans

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-102.6C

Presenter(s): Mr. Peter Asmar (Associate Superintendent/CIO, Office of Technology Services) and Ms. Frances Bryant Bradburn (Director, Instructional Technology Division)

Description:

In accordance with Public School Law 115C-102.6C, the technology plans for the following charter schools have been approved by both ITS and DPI technology consultants. ITS consultants have evaluated the plans to comply with the statewide architecture guidelines; DPI instructional technology consultants have evaluated the plans for their instructional components. All 115 LEA technology plans have been approved. Thirty charter schools will be accounted for with the approval of Downtown Middle School and Magellan Charter School. Final approval by the State Board of Education qualifies these charter schools for the School Technology Trust Fund, No Child Left Behind, and federal eRate monies, as well as a variety of private technology grants. The charter schools follow:

<u>Charter School</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>District</u>
Downtown Middle School	Winston-Salem	Forsyth	Fifth
Magellan Charter School	Raleigh	Wake	Third

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve these school technology plans.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, May 4. (See Attachment LFI 5)

DISCUSSION

LFI 6 – Renewal Recommendation for Less Than 10 Years for the Academy of Moore County

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #EEO-U-007

Presenter(s): Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

As per State Board Policy EEO-U-007, The Academy of Moore County was approved for a ten (10) year renewal at the January 5, 2006, State Board of Education Meeting. The Office of Charter Schools has

concerns regarding with granting the renewal for 10 years. As stated in a letter dated, January 11, 2006, to the Academy of Moore County,

“This renewal is based upon your school’s compliance in ABCs Accountability, finance, governance, exceptional children, and enrollment as stated in the rubric of your renewal application. This compliance must be maintained through June 30, 2007, in order to receive your renewal.”

The Academy of Moore County is currently on Financial Probationary Status from the Division of School Business. It is the recommendation of the Office of Charter Schools that the Academy of Moore County be granted a three (3) year renewal. In addition, they will implement and maintain a corrective action plan of the financial concerns for the three (3) years of the renewal.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the SBE approve the renewal for three (3) years.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in May and will be presented at the June meeting for action. (See Attachment LFI 6)

Chairman Lee reminded those present that June would be the last full Board meeting until August. The July meeting is scheduled to be a conference call board meeting with a minimal agenda including only Action and Action on First Reading items. The staff is also in the planning process to schedule meetings away from Raleigh; however, it is more difficult logistically due to the new committee structures and meetings. More information will be forthcoming.

The Chairman stated that the Board would engage in a working dinner following its closed session. Dr. John Bransford from the University of Washington would lead board members in a discussion on the topic of formative assessment. The meeting is open to the public.

CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jane Norwood moved that the Board go into closed session to discuss possible litigation and personnel matters. Ms. Patricia Willoughby seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

At the end of the closed session, upon motion by Dr. Jane Norwood, seconded by Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital, the Board voted unanimously to recess the SBE meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2007.

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

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Richard Moore
Jane Norwood, Vice Chair	Edgar Murphy
Melissa Bartlett	Tom Speed
Shirley Harris	Kathy Taft
Michelle Howard-Vital	Patricia Willoughby
Wayne McDevitt	

Also, present:

June St. Clair Atkinson, Superintendent	Carr Ipock, Local Board Member Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Melissa McCoy, Student Advisor
Meghan Doyle, Principal Advisor	

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Chairman Lee called the Thursday Board meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He provided a brief overview of the committee structure and reminded the audience that Board members held their discussions of the agenda items yesterday and that today's agenda includes voting on the Board's action items.

The Chairman called attention to the new flags in the Board Room. He thanked the Woodmen of the World for generously donating the new flags to replace the flags that were tattered and worn. The Woodmen of the World is one of the leading presenters of U.S. flags to school and non-profit groups. This organization performs volunteer, patriotic, and charitable activities that benefit individuals and communities. Woodmen lodges have presented more than 1.4 million U.S. flags over the past 60 years.

Following this announcement the Chairman recognized Ms. Melissa Bartlett to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The invocation followed and was presented by Dr. Jane Norwood.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Lee 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. No Board members indicated a conflict of interest 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 chair. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

MINUTES

Chairman Lee asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 4-5, 2007, Board meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the April 4-5, 2007, meeting as presented.

Special Recognition**• Blue Ribbon Schools**

- Brawley Middle School, Iredell-Statesville Schools
- Davis Drive Elementary School, Wake County Schools
- Eastover Central Elementary School, Cumberland County Schools
- Laurel Hill Elementary School, Scotland County Schools
- W.A. Bass Elementary School, Gaston County Schools

State Board members recognized North Carolina's 2006 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools. This program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, recognizes elementary and secondary schools that exemplify the great promise of the No Child Left Behind Act and its call for high standards and accountability for results. The program honors schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at the highest levels. Specifically, it recognizes schools that have at least 40 percent of their students with disadvantaged backgrounds and have dramatically improved student performance at high levels in reading and mathematics. Second, it recognizes schools whose students, regardless of background, achieve in the top 10 percent of schools in the state. The following representatives of these schools were presented with a plaque and mug.

Brawley Middle School (Iredell-Statesville Schools), Region 7

Jimmie Dancy, Principal, and Bobbie Ellis, Former Principal

Eastover Central Elementary School (Cumberland County Schools), Region 4

Ronald Parker, Principal, Jennifer Butler, Sue Spruill, and Daphne Humphries

Davis Drive Elementary School (Wake County Public School System), Region 3

Patricia Andrews, Principal, Dr. Del Burns, Superintendent, Kathy Knezevic, Assistant Principal, and Donna Sheats, Third Grade Teacher

Laurel Hill Elementary School (Scotland County Schools), Region 4

Cindy Goodman, Principal, and Dr. Shirley Prince, Superintendent

Also receiving the award, but not present:

W.A. Bess Elementary (Gaston County Schools) Region 6

Dr. Tim Dubois, Principal, and L. Reeves McGlohan, Superintendent

Special Recognition**• Southeast Raleigh High School Band**

- Mr. Clifford Scott, Band Director

Southeast Raleigh High School Band Director Clifton Scott and students shared a pictorial visual and discussed with Board members the band's decision to assist students in New Orleans who had been affected by Hurricane Katrina. The students raised funds for "Project Make a Difference" to provide band instruments, uniforms, school supplies and art supplies for Joseph Clark High School, an inner city school that suffered significant losses in the storm. The campaign is ongoing. Band members were recognized by the SBE members and congratulated for their good citizenship and caring attitude toward others.

Special Presentation

- **Out-Going Student Advisor to the State Board of Education**
 - Ms. Melissa McCoy

The Chairman and Superintendent thanked Ms. McCoy for her service to the State Board as the senior student advisor. They recognized her for being insightful in her comments to the Board and for comporting herself with great dignity and showing respect for the Board and its work. Board members thanked outgoing Ms. McCoy and presented her with a plaque in recognition of her service and dedication to the Board. Ms. McCoy plans to attend NC State University following graduation. She thanked the Board for allowing her the honor to represent North Carolina's students and was sincerely thankful for the opportunity.

Special Presentation

- **Razor Walker Award**
 - Dr. Elsie C. Leak

Chairman Lee recognized Dr. Elsie Leak as one of the 2007 recipients of the Razor Walker award, presented by the Watson School of Education at UNC-Wilmington. This award honors people whose vision, tenacity, courage, and sacrifice have made a difference in the lives of young people in North Carolina. The Board congratulated Dr. Leak for induction into this important society.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Lee recognized Mr. Wayne McDevitt to present a request from the Clement Early College High School at NC Central University for a grant from the Education Foundation for a special trip for Learn and Earn students to Washington, D.C. to take part in discussions related to high school dropouts. Mr. McDevitt provided Board members with a copy of the letter from Nicholas King, Principal, requesting the use of funds from the SBE Foundation in order to support travel costs for this unique opportunity for these students.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to approve \$5,000 from the State Board of Education's Education Fund to be used to support travel costs for students at Clement Early College High School at North Carolina Central University to attend a dropout summit being held in Washington, D.C.

Executive Director's Report

SBE Executive Director Rebecca Garland reported that three of the major activities that have occurred in the last month included the High School Innovation and Standards Retreat in Carolina Beach about high school reform issues. Board members will receive a comprehensive report from that meeting. Dr. Garland represented the Board at the Education Commission of the States meeting on the Teacher Working Conditions Survey and how the results are being used to drive student achievement. She commended Mr. Buxton for outstanding leadership at the Science, Math, and Technology (SMT) banquet. In addition, she reported that ACHIEVE, Inc., will visit North Carolina to look at our High School Accountability Model. They will be hosting focus groups in Asheville City Schools, Pitt County, and Guilford County. They will be meeting with various principals, central office administrators, teachers,

parents, and students and talking about high school accountability. When they do their report, their comments and recommendations will go directly through the new Testing Commission for the Committee to consider.

The trip to Washington is scheduled for June 13-14. Board members will receive a detailed agenda from Ms. Betsy West as she finalizes the components of the trip.

Legislative Update

Dr. Garland stated that this has been a challenging session in the General Assembly because of the extreme amount of work. Dr. Garland presented a copy of the 300 bills related to education that the Agency is tracking. Board members will be provided with the link so that they will have immediate access to all of the bills. She gave a brief synopsis of the major bills with activity over the past week:

- HB 150-Every Child Ready to Learn
- HB 183 (HB253) – Ban Cell Phone Use by Bus Drivers
- HB 357 – Modify Social Studies Curriculum
- HB 359 – Restore Flexibility to the School Calendar
- HB 485 - Amend Health Education Curriculum
- HB 1449 – 4-Year Terms/Teaching Standards Commission
- HB 1474 – Raise Compulsory School Attendance Age
- HB 1742 – Modify Law Re: School Capital Projects
- SB 1110 – Clarify Calculation of the Dropout Rate
- SB 1115 – Pilot Program for Lateral Entry Teachers
- SB1292 – Modify Requirements/Teacher License Renewal
- SB1532 – High School Core Curriculum Study/Delay

Mr. Edgar Murphy asked about the status of HB 633 and SB1187. Chairman Lee reported that he visited with Senator Larry Shaw who sponsored the bill, and it is not the intention of the bill to limit our emphasis to just the Wilmington riots. Senator Shaw is pleased with the Board for moving to position itself to be more inclusive and to have a segment on the process of civil rights in the state that will include more than the riots. He was enamored with the thought that if we incorporate a unit in the curriculum that the unit would be online and not just in written form. Therefore, Senator Shaw has agreed to hold the bill and to give the State Board a chance to work and prepare a memorandum with a proposal of intent for the curriculum.

The dropout problem in the General Assembly is still gaining attention. Dr. Garland reported that a hearing on high school dropouts occurred on Tuesday night and another hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

CCSSO Legislative Conference

State Superintendent June Atkinson reported that she recently attended the Council of Chief State School Officers' May conference which focused on the reauthorization of NCLB. CCSSO proposed that reauthorization should:

- Promote innovative models and reinvent the peer review process
- Improve accountability determinations
- Differentiate consequences
- Improve assessment systems
- Properly include students with disabilities

- Properly include English language learners
- Enhance teacher quality
- Strengthen resources

A special session was held about recruiting and retaining teachers – what matters most and what can states do.

NE Leadership Summit

Superintendent Atkinson reported that she and Board Member Taft would be in Elizabeth City for the NE Leadership Summit. The summit is a collaboration of UNC General Administration, the Community College System, New Schools Project, and DPI. The purpose of the summit is to bring together economic developers, business people and educators to focus on 21st century needs.

Education NC

Next, the Superintendent announced a new initiative by Education North Carolina, which is an educational outreach program that is highlighting The Lost Colony's 70th anniversary year. The program is tailored to the state's fourth and eighth graders and is aligned with the Standard Course of Study. Beginning September 2007, a three-member company will take the program to every fourth grade student in the state with the kick-off at The Lost Colony. The traveling program will add an eighth-grade presentation in the fall of 2008.

Recent Activities

Other activities by the Superintendent in April included:

- Visit to Sandhoke Early College/High School, Raeford
- Representation at the Holocaust Day of Commemoration, Meredith College
- Attendance at the High School Innovation and Standards Retreat, Carolina Beach
- Representation at the National Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony, Washington, DC
- Speaker at SkillsUSA Annual State Conference, Greensboro
- Speaker at National History Day State Competition, Raleigh

Important Dates

- National Teacher Appreciation Day, May 8
- DPI Employee Appreciation Day, May 11

ACTION AGENDA

The Board moved into the Action Agenda and Chairman Lee requested that the priority chairs present items under their priority area.

ACTION AGENDA

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS CHAIR REPORT

Facilitator(s): Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair, and Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice Chair)

ACTION

GCS 1 – Approval of Supplemental Educational Service Providers for 2007-2008

Policy Implications: PL 107-110, No Child Left Behind

The State Board is requested to approve the attached list of providers.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital, the Board voted unanimously to approve the list of supplemental service providers for 2007-08 with the exception of #13-Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION

GCS 2 – Ready Schools Task Force Recommendations

Policy Implications:

This item was pulled from the agenda.

ACTION

GCS 3 – Middle Grades Education and High School Graduation Requirements

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-M-001, HSP-N-004

State Board members are requested to approve the amendment to HSP-M-001 as recommended.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amendment to HSP-M-001 as recommended. (See Attachment GCS 3)

ACTION

GCS 4 – Revision of the North Carolina Mathematics Standard Course of Study

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-F-012, HSP-F-002

The State Board of Education is asked to grant approval for revision to the *North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Mathematics K-12*.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital, the Board voted unanimously to approve revision to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Mathematics K-12. (See Attachment GCS 4)

ACTION

GCS 5 – Personal Financial Literacy

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-81

The State Board of Education is asked to approve the staff recommendations.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Middle and Secondary Division to develop a module for Personal Financial Literacy instruction that is aligned to the Civics and Economics Standard Course of Study's goals and objectives and focus on the topics of budget, savings, investment and credit. Staff will develop professional development for Social Studies teachers based on the module for delivery in the summer of 2007 for implementation by teachers in the 2007-08 school year. Staff will identify a student assessment instrument for Personal Financial Literacy that is aligned to the major topics outlined in the Civics and Economics course and incorporate that assessment on a voluntary basis into the existing end-of-course

assessment cycle. Staff will infuse personal financial literacy topics into the Algebra I and Integrated Mathematics I Standard Course of Study during the revision cycle. (See Attachment GCS 5)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 6 – Update Performance Level Descriptors for U.S. History, Civics and Economics, Mathematics EOG Grades 3-8 and NCCLAS for U.S. History, Civics and Economics, and Mathematics EOG Grades 3-8

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-C-010, HSP-C-018, HSP-C-024; Federal NCLB Peer Review Requirement

The department recommends that the SBE adopt the revisions to HSP-C-010, HSP-C-018 and HSP-C-024 effective with the 2006-07 school year.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Treasurer Richard Moore, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the revisions to HSP-C-010, HSP-C-018 and HSP-C-024 effective with the 2006-07 school year. (See Attachment GCS 6)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 7 – Changes to NC's NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #EEO-I-005; NCLB

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

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revisions to the North Carolina Accountability Workbook. (See Attachment GCS 7)

ACTION AGENDA

21ST CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT

Facilitator(s): Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital and Ms. Shirley Harris, Co-Chairs)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 1 – Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #QP-A-021

It is recommended that the actions related to each request be approved

This item was acted on in closed session. The Board voted unanimously to approve the actions for each request as discussed in closed session. (See Attachment TCP 1)

DISCUSSION TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 6 – Proposed Revision to Praxis I Testing Requirements for Admission to Teacher Education Programs

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-A-003

It is requested that the proposal to allow individuals to satisfy Praxis I testing requirements with a composite score of 522 (960 on the computerized assessment) be approved.

Upon motion by Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to accept the proposal to allow individuals to satisfy Praxis I testing requirements with a composite score of 522 (960 for the computerized versions). (See Attachment TCP 6)

ACTION AGENDA

**TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS REPORT FROM THE
BUSINESS/FINANCE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Facilitator(s): Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Chair, and Mr. John Tate, Vice-Chair

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 1 – Request by Pine Lake Preparatory Charter School to Relocate to Mecklenburg County from Iredell County

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-238.29B(c)(3)(ii)

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the SBE approve the request.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Dr. Jane Norwood, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request by Pine Lake Preparatory Charter School to relocate to Mecklenburg County from Iredell County. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 2 – Approval of Federal Grant – Children’s Trust Fund

Policy Implications:

The attached grant is being submitted for State Board approval.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Dr. Jane Norwood, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Children’s Trust Fund grant awards to allow funding to be distributed to selected school systems in a timely manner. (See Attachment TCS 2)

DISCUSSION TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 4 – Utilization of State Board Reserve for Innovative/Special Projects

Policy Implications: Special Provision

It is recommended that the State Board approve the reserve funds to be used for the projects presented.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the reserve funds as amended to be used for the Innovative/Special Projects presented. (See Attachment TCS 4 – additional information in the blue folder.)

**ACTION AGENDA
LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATION COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Melissa Bartlett and Mr. Tom Speed, Co Chairs)**

ACTION

LFI 1 – The Cooperative Innovative High School Program Act – Waivers for Educational Purposes

Policy Implications: General Statute # Senate Bill 656

The State Board of Education is requested to approve the calendar waivers for educational purposes as submitted.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the list of calendar waivers for educational purposes as submitted.
(See Attachment LFI 1)*

ACTION

LFI 2 – Program Approval and Exemption Requests Under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act

Policy Implications: General Statute # 115C-238.50 Part 9
(General Session 2003-277 - Senate Bill 656)

It is requested that the SBE approve the exemption requests and school programs at the May 2007 meeting.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the exemption requests under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act.
(See Attachment LFI 2)*

ACTION

LFI 3 – Exemption Requests Under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act – Turnaround High Schools

Policy Implications: General Statute # Senate Bill 1741 (Joint Conference Committee Report on Continuation Expansion and Capital Budgets;

It is requested that the SBE approve the exemption requests and school programs at the May 2007 meeting. Ms. Bartlett noted an editorial correction on item #14.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Edgar Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the exemption requests and school programs as amended. (See Attachment LFI 3)

ACTION

LFI 4 – Renewal Recommendations of Alternative School Model Charter Schools

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #EEO-U-011

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the SBE approve the renewals of the six schools seeking Alternative School Model Status.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the renewals of the six schools seeking alternative school model status. (See Attachment LFI 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 5 – Approval of Charter School Technology Plans

Policy Implications: General Statute #115C-102.6C

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve these school technology plans.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. Edgar Murphy expressed concern about the amount of work required versus the benefit. Chairman Lee suggested that the LFI Committee take a closer look at this issue.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the charter school technology plans as submitted. (See Attachment LFI 5)

OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business.

ON-GOING BUSINESS

Deputy State Superintendent J.B. Buxton updated Board members on a couple of ongoing projects.

Boston Consulting Group

The Gates Foundation has provided 100 percent of the funds needed to contract with the Boston Consulting Group to perform a comprehensive review and overhaul of the state's assistance programs over the next four months. This review will provide staff an opportunity to see what is working and create a unified, comprehensive consolidated assistance program. Over the next six months, the Boston Consulting Group will come back once a month to review progress and make sure benchmarks are being met.

Learn and Earn Online College Course Opportunity

Efforts to provide high school students with the opportunity to participate in the Learn and Earn Online College Course program are underway. Approximately 250 high schools are on board to participate in this initiative. Five working groups (Geographic Distribution, Student Support, Technology, Policy Barrier and Funding Issues, and Communication) comprised of members from the Department and the University and Community College Systems are spearheading efforts to identify and resolve issues related to implementation of this project.

Highly Qualified Teachers

Board Member Shirley Harris provided copies of the North Carolina's *Equity Plan for Highly Qualified Teachers* report to Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Superintendent Atkinson recommended that May 2-3, 2007 meeting of the State Board of Education be adjourned in honor and memory of the families, students, and teachers whose lives were cut short due to the recent Virginia Tech shootings.

Chairman Lee asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Treasurer Richard Moore, Board members were asked to stand in silence as a way of voting in favor of the motion. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the May 2-3, 2007, meeting of the State Board of Education in honor and memory of the families, students, and teachers from Virginia Tech University.