

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina State Board of Education  
Education Building  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825  
September 5-6, 2007**

<b>Education Building, Raleigh</b>	<b>Wednesday, September 5, 2007</b>	<b>Board Room, 1:00 PM</b>
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Tom Speed
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair	Kathy Taft
Shirley Harris	John Tate
Kevin Howell	Eulada Watt
Beverly Perdue	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, Superintendent	Craig Hill, Principal Advisor
Danielle Alston, Student Advisor	Carr Ipock, Local Board Member Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor
Jay Bell, Teacher Advisor	Brandon Young, Junior Student Advisor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

After extending a warm welcome to all present, Chairman Lee called the Wednesday session of the September 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 extended a special welcome to the newest member of the State Board, Mr. Brandon Young from Enloe High School. Mr. Young is a scholar athlete who will serve on the Board as the High School Junior Advisor.

Chairman Lee announced that Ms. Melissa Bartlett received word that her father had passed away Tuesday evening and is enroute to Hickory. The Board extended its sympathies to Ms. Bartlett and her family.

The Chairman recognized Representative Annie W. Mobley who was present in the audience.

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.

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

### **INFORMATION AGENDA**

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

##### ***INFORMATION***

##### **LFI 2 – Briefing on Literacy Coaches**

##### **Policy Implications:**

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Ann McArthur (Education Advisor to Governor Mike Easley)

##### **Description:**

In 2006, Governor Michael F. Easley started a new initiative, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy Coaches, to improve reading scores in middle schools. The first 100 coaches were funded in the 2006 state budget for the 2006-07 school year; this year's budget places an additional 100 literacy coaches in the budget. This brief Information item presentation provides highlights of this work and how it is unique to North Carolina. Additionally, Ms. McArthur has invited Ms. Retha Smith, a Bertie County literacy coach, and a few of her students from last year to share some of the positive impacts this program has had in her community.

##### **Recommendations:**

N/A

##### **Discussion/Comments:**

- Ms. Ann McArthur shared a video entitled "Implementing the Vision." She introduced Ms. Retha Smith, Literacy Coach, Bertie County Schools. Ms. Smith was joined by her middle school principal Ms. Sandra Hardy, who spoke about the affects on the entire learning community, and several students who provided testimonies about the benefits of the literacy program and how it has prepared them for high school and beyond as better learners, listeners, and speakers. The students were Precious Bonwolfolk, Ty'recus Arrington, and Pierce Bryant.
- Ms. Smith explained that since the leadership team selected her, she was well received by the entire faculty. At Board Member Willoughby's request, Ms. Smith also addressed the importance of teamwork in terms of the interdisciplinary approach working across content areas.
- Board members expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to hear testimonies from the students as well as the examples of how this initiative has positively affected the community as a whole.
- Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue presented a mug to each of the presenters.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment LFI 2)

At this time, Chairman Lee thanked Representative Annie Mobley for her work and support of the education budget and invited her to make comments to the Board.

Representative Mobley was pleased to witness Bertie County's recognition by the State Board of Education for their literacy efforts. She recognized the presence of Ms. Emma Johnson who serves as a member of the Bertie County Schools' Board of Education. In addition, she commented on Bertie Middle School's new facility and invited Board members to visit. Representative Mobley also spoke briefly about Coach Herman Boone, who was portrayed by Denzel Washington in "Remember the Titans." Coach Boone spoke in Ahsokie this past weekend and talked about team spirit and the importance of a collaborative spirit in terms of literacy. She commended the Board for their efforts to make North Carolina public schools rise to the top in terms of literacy education.

Bertie County Schools' Board Member Johnson announced that effective October 1, Dr. Sydney "Chip" Zullinger will be the new superintendent for Bertie County Schools.

***INFORMATION***

**LFI 3 – High School Workforce Development Program (*Learn and Earn* Early College High School Initiative)**

**Policy Implications:** Session Law 2004-124, Sec. 7.22 (Chronological Schedule #'s 51&54)

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent for Leadership and Innovation for School Transformation) and Mr. Jeff Coltrane (Research and Communications Director, North Carolina New Schools Project)

**Description:**

On September 8, 2004, Governor Mike Easley launched the Learn and Earn Early College High School Initiative in response to workforce needs in North Carolina. The initiative is jointly administered by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina New Schools Project. It is designed to improve high schools, to better prepare students for college and career, to create a seamless curriculum between high school and college, and to provide work-based experiences to students. Based on the campuses of two- or four- year colleges and universities, *Learn and Earn* early college high schools will provide an academically rigorous course of study with the goal of ensuring that all students graduate with a high school diploma and two years of university transfer credit or an associate degree.

Thirteen *Learn and Earn* early college high schools opened for students for the 2005-06 school year, and an additional 20 opened for students for the 2006-07 school year. Part of their relationship with the North Carolina New Schools Project and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction will be to monitor them as individual schools and also compare them as a group of early college high schools. School-level student achievement data is not yet available for the thirty-three schools for the 2006-07 school year. A follow-up report that will be submitted in January will include student achievement data for all the schools for the 2006-07 school year. Data points around graduation rates and higher education persistence rates will probably be available in five years.

**Recommendations:**

N/A

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Coltrane provided a status report of the *Learn and Earn* Early College High School initiative. This is the first of two required reports. In addition, he shared a video highlighting three

programs across the nation one of which is Rutherford Early College located in Spindale, North Carolina.

- Board Member Wayne McDevitt suggested that the video be shared with entities outside of the education community, as it would be helpful for them to hear what is going on with this initiative.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment LFI 3)

### ***INFORMATION***

#### **LFI 4 – Briefing on Comprehensive, Consolidated Assistance Program**

##### **Policy Implications:**

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Leadership for Innovation and School Transformation) and Mr. Adam Levinson (Director, Policy and Strategic Planning)

##### **Description:**

An update on ongoing efforts to redefine and redesign the way the Department of Public Instruction supports continuous improvement in school and districts will be presented along with a new vision for “assistance” and address both short-term and long-term implications for agency structure and operations.

##### **Recommendations:**

N/A

##### **Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. John Tate’s question about funding spurred a brief conversation. Mr. Logan explained that the Department was hoping to redirect existing resources. As the pilot is implemented in several targeted chronically low-performing districts around the state, the Department will look at the resources necessary to deploy assistance statewide and will ask the Board for their assistance is obtaining legislative support. According to Deputy Superintendent Buxton, we are currently spending about \$9-10 million on assistance in North Carolina. He felt that the pilot could be implemented within that framework because it is just a different way of doing business. In addition, he noted that the Department has extraordinary professional development resources in Exceptional Children Programs, Career-Technical Education and Reading First. These resources sometimes, but not always, have been coordinated where we need to target them most and conversations are now occurring about consolidating some of those efforts.
- Ms. Kathy Taft expressed concern about the new terminology in the model. Mr. Logan explained that there have been many conversations about the new terminology such as transformation districts, transformation coaches and regional leads during the development process. The new terminology and model are drastically different and alter the focus to help LEAs build capacity to support themselves through this transformation effort and customized assistance. In making that paradigm shift, the terminology will create a common language and understanding across the state.
- Chairman Lee stated that the pilot will allow the testing of a number of concepts as well as the labeling itself. The pilot also allows the Board to have continuous hands on of the progress and ongoing activity of the pilot. The pilot results should be measurable to the extent that we know whether or not it is working and where the problems exist. In the final analysis everyone is held accountable - DPI, the State Board, LEAs, and schools.
- Dr. Rebecca Garland noted that Board Member Melissa Bartlett is on the Steering Committee working with the Boston Consulting Group and will ensure that the Board is apprised of all the steps prior to the pilot implementation.

- Principal Advisor Craig Hill expressed appreciation for the LEA involvement. He stated that the new system empowers the local boards and forces them to be more involved. Lt. Governor Perdue also noted the stakeholder involvement with accountability at all levels.
- Board members asked Dr. Logan to describe assistance for those schools not selected for the pilot this year. Mr. Logan stated that there are actually two frameworks prepared, one within the other. The Department has planned assistance for the low-performing schools and a few others that aren't designated as low performing. He noted that it is from within that core of schools, that the Department will identify the districts for the pilot.
- In closing, Superintendent Atkinson stated that the graduated differentiated consequences are a key concept in the model that aligns so well with the Board's recommendations about changing No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment LFI 4)

**GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS**  
(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)

***INFORMATION***

**GCS 5 – Update on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability**

**Policy Implications:** Senate Bill 1463 (2007 Session)

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, SBE Office)

**Description:**

In May, the Board convened an independent Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability to provide a comprehensive review of the state's accountability system including student testing. The Commission is exploring a number of issues including: testing requirements in state and federal law and potential modifications; the value of state-developed tests versus commercially available nationally-normed tests; and potential modifications to the state's high school, middle school, and elementary school accountability systems. An overview of and update on the Commission's work will be presented.

**Recommendations:**

N/A

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Dr. Kathy Sullivan provided a summary of activities of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability.
- A brief conversation ensued about the issue of time, recurring themes, and public communication, and that this review is in no way a reflection on the tremendous work of the Department's Testing and Accountability Division.
- Ms. Patricia Willoughby noted that she did not see an emphasis on the Graduation Project as an assessment reflected in the report. Dr. Sullivan explained that the Commission has discussed back-mapping the curriculum based on what it is that the Board wants to see demonstrated in the Graduation Project.
- Dr. Rebecca Garland announced that on October 30, the Board and members of the Blue Ribbon Commission are invited to dinner with Mr. Doug Reeves who is one of the leading experts on power standards. More information will be forthcoming.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment GSC 5)

**ACTION ON FIRST READING AND DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**GLOBALY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS  
(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)**

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**GCS 2 – The 2006-07 ABCs Report and 2007-08 Assistance Program**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-105.20.40 (Article 8B)

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division), Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Leadership For Innovation and School Transformation) and Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, High School Turnaround)

**Description:**

The 2006-07 ABCs results are presented for approval. The report is published electronically at <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org>. The site reports results for ABCs growth and performance and the AYP status for each individual school. The report includes results for all schools, including Honor Schools of Excellence; Schools of Excellence; Schools of Distinction; Schools Making High Growth; Schools Making Expected Growth; Schools of Progress; Priority Schools and Low-Performing Schools. PDF and Excel formats are available, and links to Schools Not Included in the ABCs and Schools with Unresolved Data Issues are provided.

The ABCs Executive Summary, containing an overview of the accountability year and statistical summary of the 2006-07 ABCs and Technical Notes, will be presented at the meeting.

Mr. Robert Logan also will present information about the work of the high school assistance teams over the last school year and will present recommendations for assignment of the teams for the 2007-08 school year.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the ABCs of each school, the designation of low-performing schools, and the assignment of assistance teams.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- This item will be presented on Thursday morning.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, September 6. (See Attachment GCS 2)

***DISCUSSION***

**GCS 3 – Field Testing and Special Studies for the 2007-08 School Year**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-174.12; SBE Policy # HSP-A-015

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

**Description:**

General Statute § 115C-174.12 (b1) states:

*“The Superintendent shall notify local boards of education by October 1 of each year of any field tests that will be administered in their schools during the school year, the schools at which the field tests will be administered, and the specific field tests that will be administered at each school.”*

Attached is the list of the 2007-08 field tests and special studies. Consistent with General Statute § 115C-174.12(a2) and SBE policy HSP-A-015, no school will be required to participate in more than two field tests at a given grade.

LEAs are permitted to file an official appeal requesting that a school be excluded from a specific field test sample based on the written justification submitted by the LEA superintendent along with the Request for Appeals form. All Requests for Appeals will be collected by the Division of Accountability Services and presented to the Compliance Commission for Accountability at a special conference call meeting held in late September. The appeals, along with the Compliance Commission recommendations regarding each of the appeals, will be provided to the SBE at the October SBE meeting.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the SBE approve the 2007-08 field test and special studies list and make subsequent decisions regarding any appeals at the October meeting.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in September and will be presented at the October meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 3)

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 4 – Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C; SBE Policy #HSP-D-000-008, EEO-E-001

**Presenter(s):** Mr. J.B. Buxton (Deputy State Superintendent) and Mrs. Mary N. Watson (Director, Division of Exceptional Children)

**Description:**

Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities (Policies) will replace Procedures Governing Programs and Services for Children with Disabilities (Procedures). The current Procedures are a combination of law and best practices and no longer meet the requirements of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004 and the accompanying regulations (34 CFR Part 300). The name change from Procedures to Policies will clearly indicate that the document reflects the state and federal laws and regulations.

Following the 1997 reauthorization of the IDEA amendments and the publication of the implementing regulations in 1999, the process of revising the North Carolina Procedures began. Because of the format of the document, it was difficult to ascertain that the requirements of IDEA were included in the Procedures. As a result, the process of approval by the Office of Special Education Programs required

approximately five years. The proposed Policies are constructed utilizing the same format as the IDEA regulations with the inclusion of the requirements of Article 9 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes and policies from the 2004 North Carolina Procedures.

**Recommendations:**

Replace the current Procedures with the document entitled Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities. The Policies will bring North Carolina in compliance with both the federal law and the state statute.

Implement Policies upon approval with the exception of Section 1508, Class Size. It is recommended that this section become effective on July 1, 2008. The class size requirements in current Procedures will remain in effect until June 30, 2008. This will allow school systems time to prepare for implementation of the changes in this section.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Ms. Watson highlighted several important aspects of this item including that these are a change from the State Board procedures to State Board policy. Staff extracted items that were in the old procedures that were best practice and will publish a best practices' document. Everything in the document is regulatory by state or federal law, or State Board policy. Ms. Watson cited several examples where State Board policy exceeds state and federal law.
- Mr. Wayne McDevitt commented that the current administration has gone to rule making on significant reductions in Medicaid reimbursements to LEAs, which would also affect IEPs and would be a great loss to LEAs. Ms. Watson stated that staff is working with the Division of Medical Assistance. In addition, State Directors of Special Education are working collaboratively to write comments to try to influence Congress on the impact that this will have for students with disabilities in public schools. Mr. McDevitt also suggested that perhaps the Chief State School Officers and NASBE should weigh in on this issue as well.

This item is presented for discussion in September and will be presented at the October meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 4)

***NEW BUSINESS REPORTS***Graduation Project Update

Ms. Taft reported that Mr. Bryar Cogle presented the GCS Committee with the Graduation Project Implementation Guide. According to Ms. Taft, the Committee is concerned that the Graduation Project not be seen as any one specific content area's duty, but that connections are made across all content areas.

Financial Literacy Update

The GCS Committee received an update on the Personal Financial Literacy initiative. The Committee expressed consensus for staff to find an assessment that is ready to implement. Staff has scheduled professional development sessions across the state at the request of the Committee.

Middle School Courses for High School Credit Update

The GCS Committee also received an update on middle school courses for high school credit. The Committee plans to make recommendations to accept additional middle school courses for high school credit at the State Board's October meeting.

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
**(Ms. Shirley Harris and Ms. Eulada Watt, Co-Chairs)**

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 3 – 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, SBE Office)

**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. 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:**

- 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, September 6. (See Attachment TCP 3)

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 4 – Final Decision in Contested Cases: Stallings v. SBE**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §150B-36

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Thomas J. Ziko (Special Deputy Attorney General)

**Description:**

Ms. Stallings filed a petition for a contested case to challenge the Board's failure to waive her repayment obligation for failing to complete the NBPTS certification process. The Administrative Law Judge ruled that the Board acted erroneously in making its decision, thus disapproving the agency's action. Board attorneys have reviewed the matter further and will present their final decision recommendation.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board is requested to adopt the final decision presented by the Office of the Attorney General.

**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, September 6. (See Attachment TCP 4)

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 5 – IHE Performance Reports**

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

**Presenter(s):** Charlotte N. Hughes (Special Assistant, Curriculum and Instructional Services)

**Description:**

G.S. §115C-296(b1) requires an annual performance report on undergraduate and graduate teacher education programs. The IHE Performance Reports for the 2006-07 school year will be distributed at the Board meeting. Separate reports will be issued for undergraduate programs, master's level programs, and school administration programs. Upon approval, the IHE Performance Reports will be forwarded to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

**Recommendations:**

It is requested that the State Board of Education approve the IHE Performance Reports so that they may be forwarded to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Ms. Hughes highlighted some of the key findings of the report.
- There was no additional discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, September 6. (See Attachment TCP 5)

***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 6 – Revision of the License Renewal Requirements to Reflect Legislation**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-005; Senate Bill 1292, Session 2007

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Larry Simmons (Chief, Licensure Section) and Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, SBE Office)

**Description:**

In July the General Assembly enacted legislation directing the State Board of Education to adopt a policy requiring teachers to take credits in their academic subject area as part of the license renewal process. Proposed revisions to license renewal requirements to reflect this legislation are attached. The proposed revisions would become effective for teachers renewing their licenses on or after July 1, 2009.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the proposed revisions to the license renewal policy be approved by the State Board.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in September and will be presented at the October meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 6)

## ***NEW BUSINESS REPORTS***

### Update on the Status of the Lateral Entry Committee and the Task Force on Teacher Recruitment Recommendations

Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris noted that Board members have a copy of the recommendations at their places for review. Dr. Sullivan divided the reports into three parts - recommendations that have been implemented, those where no action has been taken, and those where the focus is now regarding the recommendations. Dr. Sullivan will provide Board members with an additional attachment that will show which recommendations require funding or a reprioritizing of funding in order to implement the recommendations.

The TCP Committee will continue to examine and request additional data to give more clarity on certain recommendations. Mr. Tate interjected that it would be helpful to send this information back to the original Task Force members to reassure them that there is value in their work by updating them about the status of the recommendations. Dr. Sullivan stated that all of the committees were disbanded because they completed their objectives, but she would provide an update to the members at Mr. Tate's suggestion.

A brief discussion occurred regarding the Board's committee structure, which is to allow such information to flow through the appropriate committee and then come back to the Board with positive action or disposable recommendations. Mr. McDevitt reminded the Board that recommendations should be comprehensive in nature so as not to bring unintended consequences to other areas.

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

### ***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

#### **TCS 1 – Approval of Grants**

**Policy Implications:** Grants

**Presenter(s):** Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Leadership for Innovation & School Transformation), Ms. Frances Bradburn (Director, Instructional Technology Division), Dr. Lynn Warren (Director, Student Support Services), Dr. Wandra Polk (Director, Middle and Secondary Education Division), Ms. Everly Broadway (Section Chief, Secondary Mathematics and Science), Ms. Jackie Colbert (Director, Elementary Division), and Mr. John Pruette (Director, Office of School Readiness)

#### **Description:**

The grants listed below are being submitted for approval of distribution of funds to selected school systems. Please see attachments for description of grants.

- Attachment 1 – NCLB Enhancing Education through Technology Grant Awards- IMPACTing Leadership Grant Awards
- Attachment 2 – Even Start Family Literacy Programs-Supplemental Allocations 2007-2008
- Attachment 3 – Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Grant Cohort IVb
- Attachment 4 – K-12 School-Based Learn and Serve America 2007-2008

- Attachment 5 – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs
- Attachment 6 – Reading First Schools’ Additional Allocation

**Recommendations:**

The attached grants are being submitted for State Board approval.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Committee Chair Howell announced that he would be recusing himself from discussion and voting as it relates to the Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Grant Cohort IVb due to a conflict of interest.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, September 6. (See Attachment TCS 1)

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCS 2 – Additional Legislation Requiring Immediate Action for Fiscal Year 2007-08**

**Policy Implications:** House Bill #1473, Section, 7.39(a)(b)

**Presenter(s):** Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Leadership for Innovation & School Transformation), Rob Hines (Divisional CIO for Finance), and Frances Bryant Bradburn (Director of Instructional Technology)

**Description:**

Listed below is an additional item funded in the 2007-2008 budget:

**1:1 Laptop Pilot:** (Requires State Board Approval of Plan)

Recently funded by House Bill 1473, Section 7.39 (a), and supplemented by the generous support of the Golden Leaf Foundation and SAS, will be implemented in seven Learn and Earn schools and Hunt High School during the 2007-2008 school year. The project’s evaluation will be conducted by the NCSU Friday Institute. Each school will receive the hardware, software, personnel, and professional development necessary to assist it in effectively and successfully implementing a 1:1 laptop program for each teacher and student. The State Board of Education must approve both the preliminary plan and the budget before this project can move forward. The implementation of this project is immediate: initial professional development will begin in September, teacher laptops will be delivered by mid-October, and student laptops will be delivered in February. Below is a list of the schools:

- Davidson Early College High School
- Edgecombe Early College High School
- Sand Hoke Early College High School
- Macon Early College High School
- Nash Rocky Mount Early College High School
- Rutherford Early College High School
- Wayne Early College High School
- Wilson County/Hunt High School

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the additional items listed that have been funded for the 2007-2008 budget.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Committee Chair Howell announced that he would be recusing himself from discussion and voting as it relates to this item due to a conflict of interest.
- Committee Vice Chair Tate spoke briefly about the value of connecting students to the world of the Internet and the ability to communicate readily amongst one another. He expressed appreciation to the Legislature for funding the pilot as it holds great potential for additional funding in the future. He noted that the Committee has discussed tracking the academic achievement of the students during the pilot to report to the Legislature in very specific objective and measurable terms the gains that can be associated and linked to this connectivity. Mr. Tate was hopeful that the gains would provide incentive to increase the investment beyond the pilot to a much broader basis to high schools across the state.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, September 6. (See Attachment TCS 2)

***UPDATE ON CONTRACTS***

(See Attachment in book)

***NEW BUSINESS REPORTS***

Committee Chair Kevin Howell noted that the Legislature has adopted a provision in the budget to study all 11 allotment formulas before they reconvene in May. Mr. Philip Price is leading the efforts to ensure that committee members are familiar with the details of the formulas. Mr. Howell invited fellow Board members to attend the hearings.

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

***DISCUSSION***

**LFI 1 – Recommendations for Preliminary Approval of 2007 Charter School Applications**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-238.29D(b)

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

**Description:**

As per General Statute § 115C-238.29D(b), the State Board of Education may authorize no more than 100 charter schools. There will be two (2) openings for new charter applications at the beginning of the 2007-08 school year. Eight (8) applications were received and reviewed by a Charter School Application Review Panel. After the initial review process, three (3) applications met the minimum criteria. The Review Panel recommends three (3) applications be submitted to the State Board of Education. (See attached chart)

The applications can be found at the below links.

Duplin Charter School-

[http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe\\_meetings/0705/charterschools/duplincharter.pdf](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0705/charterschools/duplincharter.pdf)

Triad Math and Science Academy-

[http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe\\_meetings/0705/charterschools/triadmthscience.pdf](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0705/charterschools/triadmthscience.pdf)

Endeavor Charter School-

[http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe\\_meetings/0705/charterschools/endeavorcharter.pdf](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0705/charterschools/endeavorcharter.pdf)

Any school receiving preliminary approval will undergo rigorous training as per the expectations set by the state and federal government for operation of a public charter school. Each applicant will further develop the policies and procedures that are deemed necessary for the effective and efficient operation of a charter school. The SBE will review the progress of the school(s) no later than the March 2008 SBE meeting when final approval may be granted.

**Recommendations:**

The Office of Charter Schools recommends the State Board of Education review all three (3) applications.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Committee Co-Chair Tom Speed noted lengthy committee discussions concerning this item.
- Mr. John Tate asked about how this item will evolve in October. He requested a summary about the recommendations to understand the Committee's logic.
- Dr. Rebecca Garland stated that she would provide the full Board with a copy of the Committee minutes, which will include the discussion and comments.

This item is presented for discussion in September and will be presented at the October meeting for action. (See Attachment LFI 1)

**Presentation of Resolution Honoring Retiring SBE Staff Attorney Harry E. Wilson**

- Mr. Harry Wilson

Chairman Lee spoke of the valuable contributions by Mr. Wilson as the SBE staff attorney and of his commitment to the SBE and Department of Public Instruction. Superintendent Atkinson presented the following resolution on behalf of the State Board of Education.

***NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION***  
***Resolution Honoring***  
**HARRY E. WILSON**  
**For His Service to the State Board of Education**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina State Board of Education takes pride in the extraordinary qualities and dedication of the citizens who have served public education through the position of the Staff Attorney of the Office of the North Carolina State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Harry E. Wilson has reflected uncommon passion and zeal during his years of service to the North Carolina State Board of Education and to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his tenure with the Board, he has diligently and relentlessly performed his duties of investigating and initiating disciplinary actions against those in the public school system who have engaged in wrongdoing; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Wilson has sought out and maintained a high level of professional development regarding effective disciplinary actions and investigations and has delivered effective workshop presentations to local school systems; and

**WHEREAS**, he has attended to the Board's work in a professional manner, performing consistently at the highest level in working with local education agency Board attorneys and personnel directors throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Harry has been an exemplary role model for all those who will follow in his footsteps in years to come, both in dispensing his duties for the Board and consulting with schools systems on issues of educator ethics, especially to protect North Carolina's most vulnerable citizens – our children; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the State Board of Education have benefited greatly from their professional and personal associations with Mr. Wilson and wish him health, happiness, and the luxury of time to pursue hobbies, travels, and other work and pleasures; and

**WHEREAS**, his loyalty and selfless sense of working on behalf of the children and the public schools has made him a cornerstone of the Professional Ethics Committee and a stalwart resource for local school systems;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Wilson is highly respected and admired for his work and has become known across the state and the nation as a crusader against wrongdoing, especially when it hurts and imperils schools and children;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the State Board of Education hereby expresses its sincere appreciation to Mr. Harry E. Wilson for the dedication he has exhibited in ensuring excellence in all that he has accomplished on behalf of the State Board of Education, and

**THAT** the State Board of Education members and staff wish for him and his family their best wishes and much happiness in the future, and

**THAT** the Board, influenced by Mr. Wilson's commitment to public education and service to his state and community, directs the Secretary of the State Board of Education to enter a copy of this resolution into the official minutes of the State Board of Education, and that an appropriately signed copy shall be provided to Harry E. Wilson.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Howard N. Lee, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
September 5, 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

After the resolution was presented, the public was invited to join the Board for a reception honoring Mr. Wilson.

**CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Wayne McDevitt moved that the Board go into closed session to discuss possible litigation, personnel, and other legal matters. Mr. John Tate seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.*

*At the end of the closed session, upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to recess the SBE meeting until 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2007.*

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

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Tom Speed
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair	Kathy Taft
Shirley Harris	John Tate
Kevin Howell	Eulada Watt
Richard Moore	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, Superintendent	Mr. Craig Hill, Principal Advisor
Danielle Alston, Student Advisor	Carr Ipock, Local Board Member Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor
Jay Bell, Teacher Advisor	Brandon Young, Junior Student 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.

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.

Following the ethics statement reading, the Chairman recognized Mr. Kevin Howell to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The invocation followed and was presented by Ms. Patricia Willoughby.

### **MINUTES**

*Chairman Lee asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 1-2, 2007, Board meeting. A motion was made by Vice Chair Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the August 1-2, 2007, meeting as presented.*

**Special Presentation – Welcome to the New State Board of Education Student Advisor**

- Mr. Brandon Young, Junior Student Advisor, Enloe High School, Wake County Public Schools

Chairman Lee recognized Mr. Brandon Young as the newest State Board of Education Student Advisor. Mr. Young received a Board pin, mug, plaque and crystal apple from Board members and the Superintendent. His parents, Reuben and Pamela Young, joined Mr. Young for a picture commemorating the presentation. Mr. Young expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the State Board of Education.

**Special Recognition – NC Graduation Project Awards**

- Student Award – Ms. Ashley Barrow, John A. Holmes High School, Edenton/Chowan Schools
- Coordinator’s Award – Ms. Beverly Alford, Ms. Michelle Ammann, Ms. Holly Danley, and Ms. Diane Gill, Graham High School, Graduation Coordinator Team, Alamance County Schools.
- School Award – John A. Holmes High School, Edenton/Chowan Schools.

Mr. Bryar Cogle, Special Assistant to the Director of the Middle/Secondary Division, presented the 2007 recipients of the NC Graduation Project awards to the Board for recognition. These individuals demonstrated commitment to the project and expended considerable efforts to implement the process in their schools.

The Board awarded Ms. Ashley Barrow, John A. Holmes High School, the 2007 Student Award in recognition of an exceptional Graduation Project and community contributions to animal welfare, and for establishing a county program entitled “Ally Cat Angels,” a project to trap, neuter, and release sterile cats.

In recognition of outstanding leadership for the implementation of the NC Graduation Project, the Board awarded the 2007 NC Graduation Project Coordinator’s Award to Graham High School’s NC Graduation Project Team. Members of the team are Ms. Beverly Alford, Ms. Michelle Ammann, Ms. Holly Danley, and Ms. Diane Gill, Graham High School, Graduation Coordinator Team, Alamance County Schools. Also present were Mr. Todd Wirt, Principal, and Ms. Melissa Brown, Curriculum Facilitator.

In recognition of praiseworthy efforts with the NC Graduation Project and its impact on students, schools, and community, the State Board awarded the 2007 NC Graduation Project High School Award to John A. Holmes High School, Edenton/Chowan Schools. Mr. William Moore, Principal, and Ms. Lois Lassiter, Graduation Project Coordinator accepted the award.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Wayne McDevitt spoke briefly about the importance of community involvement as panelists and mentors.
- Superintendent Atkinson commended the Board for their courage in having the Graduation Project as a high school graduation requirement. She stated that the Graduation Project has the potential of changing the culture of North Carolina’s schools as well as the involvement of the community. She thanked staff members for shepherding the initiative.

### **Good New Presentation**

- Ms. Karen Wells, Executive Director of NC Arts

Ms. Wells presented the Arts Education Awareness Campaign video: “Arts Education = More Than You Think.” She explained that the video is designed to connect arts education programs, educators and parents through a grassroots advocacy effort to support arts education in the local community. Ms. Wells stated that NC Arts was vitally concerned about the existence and growth of arts education in North Carolina’s public schools and requested that the State Board continue to focus on arts education because without a statewide policy about what students receive in terms of arts education, art becomes discretionary.

Following the video presentation, Chairman Lee thanked Ms. Wells for her advocacy and leadership, and assured her that the Board would continue its commitment to arts education in North Carolina.

## **ACTION ON FIRST READING AND DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS**

**(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)**

#### ***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

#### **GCS 2 – The 2006-07 ABCs Report and 2007-08 Assistance Program**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute #115C-105.20.40 (Article 8B)

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division), Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Leadership For Innovation and School Transformation) and Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, High School Turnaround)

#### **Description:**

The 2006-07 ABCs results are presented for approval. The report is published electronically at <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org>. The site reports results for ABCs growth and performance and the AYP status for each individual school. The report includes results for all schools, including Honor Schools of Excellence; Schools of Excellence; Schools of Distinction; Schools Making High Growth; Schools Making Expected Growth; Schools of Progress; Priority Schools and Low-Performing Schools. PDF and Excel formats are available, and links to Schools Not Included in the ABCs and Schools with Unresolved Data Issues are provided.

The ABCs Executive Summary, containing an overview of the accountability year and statistical summary of the 2006-07 ABCs and Technical Notes, will be presented at the meeting.

Mr. Robert Logan also will present information about the work of the high school assistance teams over the last school year and will present recommendations for assignment of the teams for the 2007-08 school year.

#### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the ABCs of each school, the designation of low-performing schools, and the assignment of assistance teams.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Following the ABC's Report briefing by Dr. Fabrizio, a brief discussion ensued about the increase in schools not making AYP, and the all-or-nothing nature of the NCLB requirements.
- Prior to the press conference, the Board voted to approve the report.

*Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the ABCs of each school, the designation of low-performing schools, and the assignment of assistance teams. (See Attachment GCS 2)*

- Ms. Vanessa Jeter acknowledged Vice Chair McDevitt's request for a copy of the press conference remarks made by Superintendent Atkinson and Chairman Lee.
- The Board conversed briefly about the cohort rate and how initiatives such as Learn and Earn are measured in the cohort. The discussion turned to a potential five-year path as an option for students. Ms. Taft agreed to pursue this issue with the GCS Committee. There were no objections by the Board. Superintendent Atkinson noted that there was a connection with recent legislation passed about studying graduation dropout rates as well as a connection with the Commission on Testing and Accountability and its recommendations related to holding high schools accountable.
- Mr. Robert Logan provided an overview of the work of the high school assistance teams over the last school year and presented recommendations for assignment of the teams for the 2007-08 school year.
- Ms. Kathy Taft expressed concerned with the title, 07-08 Temporary Assistance Model. After a brief discussion about the logic behind the title, Ms. Taft suggested dropping the word "temporary" from the title. There were no objections.
- At Ms. Taft's request, Mr. Buxton provided clarity about the role of the Center for School Leadership Development. He explained that the Center received an appropriation of \$607,000, essentially with the Department, from the General Assembly to provide training to principals of low-performing schools.
- Board members questioned the process for identifying the pilot schools. Mr. Logan explained that the Department would use the information from the ABCs Performance Report that the Board approved earlier today. He further explained that the first criteria would be to apply the screen to the chronically lowest-performing school districts; districts with low capacity and historically chronically low performance. In addition, a self-assessment will be conducted, and the Department will assist the schools in the development of a more robust framework for action using the information from the self-assessment. A roundtable will then look at what resources presently exist at the Department. By identifying the root causes through the assessment, resources will be allocated to address those areas that need improvement. Deputy Superintendent Buxton interjected that the Center for School Leadership Development/Kenan Flagler School of Business is a resource for principal training. In addition, we would look at existing Departmental resources such as the Reading First grant and Exceptional Children Programs, that we may be able to apply and allocate those resources based on what the assessment informs us of what the deficiencies are in those schools. Therefore, the assistance is more customized.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

In his Chairman's Remarks, Chairman Lee recognized and expressed appreciation to Ms. Agnes Wong for her assistance as an interpreter for the Board when the Chinese delegation visited the Board and the Department in August.

The Chairman announced that the State Board is convening two committees: one to pilot the efficacy of the new evaluation instrument that measures the quality of school executives and one to investigate a new evaluation process for higher education. Ms. Carolyn McKinney and Dr. Kathy Sullivan will be working with these committees. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Lee directed the State Board staff to implement and staff these two committees.

Ms. McKinney reported that North Carolina is the only state to have 21<sup>st</sup> Century standards for teachers, administrators, and after today, superintendents. In addition to that, North Carolina will be the only state to have new evaluation instruments based on 21<sup>st</sup> century standards for principals, teachers, and superintendents. Further, she reported that McRel is going to work with the Department and schools of higher education to redesign their programs so that they will be able to meet the standards adopted by the Board. She spoke briefly about the training and the aggressive timetable in order to roll out the plan in 2008-09. In closing, Ms. McKinney noted the significance of everything aligned at the same time from the Board's mission and goals, new standards and evaluation instruments and the redesign of IHE's in our MSA programs.

The Chairman reminded the Board that it is required to approve all agreements between Community Colleges and school systems when they are implementing Early College or Learn and Earn programs. Either the Board needs to act on each of these agreements or they need to designate someone to sign on behalf of the State Board. Chairman Lee recommended the designation of Mr. Tom Ziko to review these agreements and authorize the SBE Executive Director Rebecca Garland to sign on behalf of the Board upon Mr. Ziko's approval. There were no objections.

Board members were also reminded that the October meeting is scheduled off-site in Dare and Hyde counties.

Several Board members and staff will be attending the fall conference of the National Association of State Boards of Education to be held in Philadelphia, October 11-13.

Chairman Lee noted also that the Board's annual retreat is scheduled for October 28-30 in Greensboro. More information/details will be forthcoming.

The Chairman reported that Wake County Schools has completed their curriculum management audit. He requested that copies of the Executive Summary be made available to Board members and suggested that at some point, the Board may want to invite Superintendent Del Burns to talk about this audit experience.

In closing, the Chairman requested that the License Appeals Panel be assigned to the Twenty-First Century Professionals Committee for review and recommendations if deemed appropriate. There were no objections.

**Executive Director's Report**

SBE Executive Director Rebecca Garland noted that the committee structures have worked rather well with the only logistical challenge being handouts. Staff are working to figure out a way to make sure that Board members receive every handout from every committee but do not receive duplicates.

Dr. Garland directed Board members to an invitation, at their places, from Executive Director Vann Langston from the High Five Regional Partnership to attend a dinner on October 30 with Dr. Doug Reeves who will talk about power standards. Also invited are members of the Testing Commission. As this will be considered part of the State Board meeting, all Board members will be registered unless Dr. Garland hears differently from individual Board members.

Dr. Garland also reminded Board members about the NCCAT Gala which is scheduled for Saturday, September 8. Interested Board members should request information from Dr. Garland.

In closing, Dr. Garland thanked the Board for allowing her to represent them at the National Conference of State Legislators in Boston. The focus was on high school reform and the process for changing high school requirements. According to Dr. Garland, the rest of the states are in awe of the work and courage of the State Board of Education in North Carolina as it relates to this issue.

Assistant Executive Director Betsy West provided a brief summary of the soft schedule of the historic trip to the East Coast, October 2-4. Board members received a copy of the schedule.

### **Legislative Update**

Legislative Liaison Rita Joyner reviewed the 2007 Education Legislation Report, the Chronological Schedule of Reports Due and Actions Required by the General Assembly, and Bills to Watch. In addition, Ms. Joyner briefed Board members on the following legislative bills.

- House Bill 966 - an act directing the State Board of Education to establish a pilot program authorizing the implementation of alternative teacher salary plans.
- House Bill 1030 – An act directing the State Board of Education to develop a framework for reaching one’s potential for excellence (ROPE) scholars program.
- Senate Bill 1115 – An act directing the State Board of Education to establish a pilot program for lateral entry teachers.
- Senate Bill 1479 – An act to provide additional support to high need schools.
- Excerpts from the Committee Report on Continuation, Expansion and Capital Budget on House Bill 1473 – Focused Education Reform Pilot Program and School Technology Pilot.

### **Presentation of Resolution Honoring Ms. Rita Joyner, Outgoing SBE Legislative Liaison**

Board Member Kevin Howell presented the following resolution to Ms. Joyner for her service.

*NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION*  
*Resolution Honoring*  
**RITA L. JOYNER**  
**For Her Service to the State Board of Education**  
**2006-2007**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina State Board of Education takes pride in the extraordinary qualities and dedication of the citizens who have served public education through the

position of the Legislative Liaison of the Office of the North Carolina State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Rita L. Joyner has held this position with the State Board of Education for a short but important time; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Joyner lost no time in establishing her name and her effective style amongst all in the Legislative Land, the Department Land, and the Board Land; and

**WHEREAS**, she has endeared herself mightily to all in the wide path of the swath that she has cut while performing her duties; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Rita L. Joyner worked long days and nights on behalf of the Board, schools, educators, children and parents; and

**WHEREAS**, she has convinced us all of the need for more time to complete a prodigious education project so she can join her husband in Washington, D.C. where a new and wonderful life awaits them; and

**WHEREAS**, she has both amused and delighted Board members and colleagues with her wit, wisdom, and spiritedness while earning both their respect and admiration; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Joyner sacrificed much of her personal time during the legislative season for two sessions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the State Board of Education hereby expresses its sincere appreciation to Ms. Rita L. Joyner for the dedication she has exhibited in ensuring excellence in all that she has accomplished on behalf of the State Board of Education, and

**THAT** the State Board of Education members and staff wish for her and her husband Vincent their best wishes and much happiness in the future, and

**THAT** the Board, influenced by Ms. Joyner's commitment to public education and service to her state and community, directs the Secretary of the State Board of Education to enter a copy of this resolution into the official minutes of the State Board of Education, and that an appropriately signed copy shall be provided to Rita L. Joyner.

Howard N. Lee, Chairman

September 6, 2007

**STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

In her Superintendent's Report, Dr. Atkinson reminded the Board that in 1957 a historical activity took place in Charlotte, North Carolina, when Dorothy Counts had the courage to be the first teenager to step into the door of Harding High School, which was an all white school. She commemorated the courage of Ms. Counts along with three other African American teenagers who followed her into Harding High School.

**NCLB Update**

The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor posted a 435-page "discussion draft" of NCLB reauthorization last week. The entire Miller-McKeon discussion draft is available at <http://edlabor.house.gov/bills/MillerMcKeonNCLBDiscussionDraft.pdf> and a short summary is available at <http://edlabor.house.gov/bills/MillerMcKeonNCLBDiscussionDraftSummary.pdf>

DPI staff participated in a conference call with CCSSO stakeholders on August 30. (There was a very short turnaround time to submit comments.) The agency submitted feedback on the draft to the CCSSO on September 4, and those same comments were submitted directly to the House of Representatives on September 5. These comments are consistent with the State Board's recommendations presented to the Congressional delegation in Washington in June. Those findings and recommendations are available for review at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/nclb/reauthorization/2007reauthorrecommend.pdf>.

The feedback on the Miller-McKeon discussion draft will be posted on DPI's NCLB web site.

**2007 Annual Agency-Wide Meeting**

Superintendent Atkinson reported that on August 28, the Annual Agency-Wide Meeting was held at NCSU McKimmon Center in Raleigh. The theme of the meeting was "Building on Our Treasures for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Success." The featured speakers were Gene Causby and Dudley Flood. A copy of the program was provided to Board members.

**NC-DPI Employee Recognition**

At the recent agency meeting, 146 DPI employees were recognized for service to North Carolina. There were 27 employees recognized for having 30-plus years of service. Three performance awards highlighted the event.

- State Superintendent's Award: Agnes Wong, IT Operations Support
- Performance Excellence Award: Faye Atkinson, Accountability Services Management Team
- Team Excellence Award: Charles Ball, Steve Beachum, Kevin Harrison, James Hawkins, Randy Henson, Jean Strickland, and Craig Warren, Transportation Services

**Jumpstart's Read for the Record Campaign**

Jumpstart's Read for the Record day is September 20, 2007. Jumpstart Read for the Record is a national campaign to raise money for early education in low-income communities and the experience will raise public awareness about the early education gap that exists between income levels. Dr. Atkinson provided a copy the Jumpstart Fact Sheet to Board members and encouraged them to purchase *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munroe Leaf and visit schools on September 20 to read to kindergarten or first graders across the state.

***A Whole New Mind***

Superintendent Atkinson provided each Board member with a copy of the book, *A Whole New Mind* by Daniel Pink that, in her opinion, will be an excellent backdrop for the retreat in November.

The Superintendent also distributed a Declaration by the members of the North Carolina Technology Association, *The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Student* which aligns with the State Board of Education's goals and

objectives about the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The declaration was presented at the NC Technology Association's Annual meeting.

Superintendent Atkinson was pleased to unveil the new Department logo available on the Website. She thanked the Communications Division for redesigning the logo to reflect 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning.

#### Personnel Actions

Superintendent Atkinson recommended that the State Board approve Ms. Tabitha Grossman as the new director for Learn and Earn as presented in closed session on Wednesday, September 5, 2007.

*Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board unanimously approved Ms. Tabitha Grossman as the new director for Learn and Earn presented on Wednesday, September 5, in closed session and available now to the public.*

In conclusion, Dr. Atkinson provided Board members with a summary report of her recent activities and future engagements.

### **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 – K-2 Literacy Assessment**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-174.11; SBE Policy #HSP-C-016

In keeping with G.S. §115C-147.11 which states that local school administrative units "may use" this Assessment, the SBE is requested to grant permission for DPI to revise the content of the current K-2 Assessment.

*Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to grant permission for DPI to revise the content of the current K-2 Assessment. (See Attachment GCS 1)*

**ACTION AGENDA**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
**Facilitator(s): Ms. Shirley Harris and Ms. Eulada Watt, Co-Chairs**

***ACTION***

**TCP 1 – Proposed Revision of the Standards for the Evaluation of Superintendents**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy #QP-C-006

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

*Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed new/revised standards for the evaluation of superintendents. (See Attachment TCP1)*

***ACTION***

**TCP 2 – Job Description and Salary Upgrades for Occupational Therapist Assistant and Physical Therapist Assistant**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # QP-C-009

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the job descriptions and salary upgrades as listed.

*Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the job descriptions and salary upgrades for Occupational Therapist Assistants and Physical Therapist Assistants. (See Attachment TCP 2)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 3 – 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. The State Board is requested to adopt the final decisions presented by the Office of the Attorney General.

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendations from the advisory board on the requests for exception from teacher licensing requirements. (See Attachment TCP 3)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 4 – Final Decisions in Contested Case: Stallings v. SBE**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute #150B-36

The State Board is requested to adopt the final decision recommendation presented by the Office of the Attorney General.

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge's decision and affirm our decision to revoke Billy Ray Brown's North Carolina teaching license in the contested case: Billy Ray Brown vs. NC Department of Public Instruction. (See Attachment TCP 4)*

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge's decision and affirm our decision to deny David Chesney's request for waiver from his obligation to repay the promissory note in the contested case: David Chesney vs. Public Schools of NC, State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction, and Janice O. Davis. (See Attachment TCP 4)*

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Eulada Watt, the Board voted unanimously, in order to give additional time to review the record, the Administrative Law Judge's decision and the law applicable to the decision, to extend the time for making a final decision in this matter sixty (60) days to October 31, 2007, in the contested case: Jason Forrister vs. North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. (See Attachment TCP 4)*

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to reject the Administrative Law Judge's decision, affirm our earlier decision and deny Karen Stallings's request for waiver from her obligation to repay her promissory note in the contested case of Karen Stallings vs. North Carolina State Board of Education & National Board Certification Appeals Panel. (See Attachment TCP 4)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 5 – IHE Performance Reports**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute #115C-296(b)(1) SBE Policy #QP-B-008

It is requested that the State Board of Education approve the IHE Performance Reports so that they may be forwarded to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the IHE Performance Reports to subsequently forward to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. (See Attachment TCP 5)*

**ACTION AGENDA**  
**TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS REPORT FROM THE**  
**BUSINESS/FINANCE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR**  
Facilitator(s): Mr. Kevin Howell, Chair, and Mr. John Tate, Vice-Chair

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCS 1 – Approval of Grants**

- NCLB EETT Grant Awards – IMPACTing Leadership Grant Awards
- Even Start Family Literacy Programs – Supplemental Allocations 2007-08
- Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Grant Cohort IVb
- K-12 School-Based Learn and Serve America Grant 2007-08
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs
- Reading First Schools’ Additional Allocation
- Policy Implications:

**Policy Implications:**

*Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the grants listed above with the exception of the Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant Cohort IVb, as recommended (See Attachment TCS 1)*

The Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Grant cohort IVb was excluded from the motion because Committee Chair Howell recused himself from discussion and voting on this grant.

*Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted to approve the Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant Cohort IVb, as recommended. Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment TCS 1)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCS 2 – Additional Legislation Requiring Immediate Action for Fiscal Year 2007-08**

**Policy Implications:** House Bill 1473, Section 7.39(a)(b)

It is recommended that the Board approve the additional items listed that have been funded for the 2007-2008 budget

*Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted to approve the additional items listed that have been funded for the 2007-08 budget. Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment TCS 2)*

**DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Deputy Superintendent J.B. Buxton thanked Superintendent Atkinson for recognizing the outstanding employees of the Department. He wanted to make sure that the Board was aware that nominations came from not only within the Department but from LEAs as well in recognition of their service. He thanked the Personnel Office and the Agency Impact Team for their work on this effort.

Mr. Buxton highlighted the ongoing efforts of approximately 40 staff members on the Conference Coordination Committee, led by Ms. Sherry Ward. The Committee's charge is 1) to ensure that the conference and conference content are align with the new SBE mission and goals, 2) to ensure that as have new employees are hired that we are getting both time and cost savings with a coordinated/standardized approach, and 3) to ensure coordination between divisions especially when several conferences are serving the same targeted audiences.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Chairman Lee asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Mr. Tom Speed, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the September 5-6, 2007, meeting of the State Board of Education.*