

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
January 9-10, 2008**

Education Building, Raleigh	Wednesday, January 9, 2008	Board Room, 3:30 PM
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Kathy Taft
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair	John Tate
Melissa Bartlett	Eulada Watt
Shirley Harris	Patricia Willoughby
Kevin Howell	

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Danielle Alston, Senior Student Advisor
Sue Stone, Local Board Member 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 January State Board of Education meeting to order. He explained that the Board was meeting as a committee of the whole and noted that the schedule was altered to allow Board members to participate in the Blue Ribbon Commission reports to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee this morning. Committee reports will be presented on Thursday morning instead of Wednesday afternoon, in the interest of time, and the agenda this afternoon is limited to information items, according to Chairman Lee.

Noting the unusual order of the agenda, Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt reminded staff that they should be available on Thursday for questions.

The Chairman then stated that if Board members had no objections, the Board will proceed in evaluating the recommendations and preparing for any subsequent policy or procedural changes that may result from the work of these Blue Ribbon committees. Hearing no objections, the reports will be received and referred to the following committees: Accountability and Testing is referred to the Globally Competitive Students (GCS) Committee and the Charter School report is referred to the Leadership for Innovation (LFI) Committee.

Blue Ribbon Committee members were presented a plaque at a luncheon held in honor of their hard work over the last few months on these very important topics.

The Chairman noted that Board Member Tom Speed will not be present for this meeting. In addition, Mr. James Bell, Teacher of the Year (TOY) advisor, and Ms. Deshera Mack, Principal of the Year (POY) advisor, will also be absent from the meeting due to other commitments.

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.

Next, the Chairman announced that *Education Week* released a state-by-state report in its annual “Quality Counts” issue. This year’s report includes additional indicators than in past years, and makes it difficult to compare to other years’ reports. However, included in the report for the first time is the use of a statewide teacher working conditions survey and the public reporting results. North Carolina, Rhode Island, and South Carolina were the only three states with public reporting. He further noted that, in this national paper, there is a four-page report titled “Working Conditions Trump Pay.” Governor Easley is mentioned in the article, and North Carolina is noted for its lead on this issue. He congratulated Governor Easley, Ms. Ann McArthur, and members of the State Board of Education for their leadership demonstrated on an issue that has become a national priority.

Chairman Lee then called on the priority chairs to present items in their respective areas for *Information*.

INFORMATION AGENDA

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

INFORMATION

GCS 8 – More at Four Progress Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

Policy Implications: House Bill 1473, Section 7.24 (c)

Presenter(s): Mr. John Pruette (Executive Director, Office of School Readiness)

Description:

SECTION 7.24.(c) of House Bill 1473 requires the Department of Public Instruction to submit an annual report on the status of the state-funded pre-kindergarten program “More at Four” to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division. The report is due by February 1, 2008.

Recommendations:

N/A

Discussion/Comments:

Mr. Pruette prefaced his presentation by noting that the annual More at Four (MAF) report is due to the General Assembly by February 1, 2008. He explained that in order to meet the State Board of Education meeting materials deadline, the numbers included in the Board material are accurate as of December 14, 2007. The numbers will be updated prior to submission to the General Assembly and the Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

Mr. Pruette then provided an overview of the content of the report, highlighting the need for MAF, the number of children served by year, commitment to quality, collaboration for school readiness, financial information, characteristics and population served, and outcomes. In summary, Mr. Pruette stated that MAF is a smart investment, the program is proving successful, more children are served, the target population is being reached, there are significant outcomes, commitment to quality has been maintained even in light of tremendous growth experienced over time, and has gained national recognition. Mr. Pruette noted that challenges remain including capacity, and national recognition has been achieved. However, Mr. Pruette noted that challenges remain including local capacity for expansion. Availability of local resources to support the full cost of the program are increasingly strained as is the availability of high quality placements to serve additional children. Mr. Pruette pointed to on-going conversations regarding capacity; including structuring a sustainable, adequate system of funding to support the program as it matures.

- Mr. Wayne McDevitt asked how the 2009-2010 date change for kindergarten entry would affect the MAF program. Mr. Pruette explained that because MAF legislation requires that the child be served a year prior to kindergarten entry, MAF would adjust its age of eligibility in the 2008-09 program year. That way, all children exiting the MAF program in 2009 would be eligible for kindergarten entry. The impact of the change will be a reduced eligibility pool of children for MAF in the year of implementation. MAF is currently funded to serve 28, 655 children.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment GCS 8)

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

INFORMATION

LFI 6 – Comprehensive Support Pilot Program Update

Policy Implications: Session Law 2005-276, Senate Bill 622

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation) and Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, Assistance)

Description:

An update on the Comprehensive Support Pilot Program will be given. The pilot LEAs are Columbus County and Lexington City Schools. The update will describe the elements of the new framework including screening, needs assessment, support, and monitoring. The update will also review structure for collaboration between district and the Department.

Recommendations:

This item is being presented to the State Board of Education for information.

Discussion/Comments:

Mr. Logan provided an update on the status of DPI's work on the Comprehensive Support framework. He announced that the official title of the program is Comprehensive Support to Districts and Schools. The framework has been developed consisting of five key principles: Theory of Action, Screen, Assessment, Support, and Monitoring. Three cross-functional teams have been established in DPI and are working on the development of various processes, products and tools, and procedures. Procedures include: strategic and operational roundtables, internal holistic score cards, surveys, and a district and school needs assessment. Mr. Logan also spoke briefly about the process, the pilot districts -- Columbus County Schools and Lexington City Schools, and the program challenges. In his closing remarks, Mr. Logan introduced Ms. Carolyn Guthrie as the new project manager.

Next, Dr. Pat Ashley briefly shared information about the initial progress in the two pilot/partnership districts. The framework for Comprehensive Support is to serve all school districts in North Carolina. However, those school districts or schools that are selected by the screen and identified as tier 4 or 5 schools (schools and districts that have low resources and are challenged academically) are eligible for additional support to be more successful. She noted a lot of interaction with those two districts and their Boards to talk about how to create this partnership, which is somewhat different from how we have worked traditionally in supporting schools/districts in the past. In order to begin systemic change, the two pilot districts have signed a three-year contract. Dr. Ashley talked about the needs assessment process, customized district plans based on the needs of each district, and the role of the transformation coaches. She ended her presentation by stating that the framework for Comprehensive Support is highly customized and partnership oriented.

- Board members commended staff on this cutting-edge, customized model to address academic success and the graduation rate.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment LFI 6)

CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wayne McDevitt moved that the Board go into closed session to consider one or more personnel issues described in General Statute §143-3.18.11(a)(6) and to consult with our attorneys on attorney client privileged matters. Ms. Melissa Bartlett seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

Ms. Kathy Taft moved that the Board adjourn the closed session and return to open session. Mr. Kevin Howell seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to go into open session.

Following closed session and upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 10, 2008.

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

Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair	Kathy Taft
Melissa Bartlett	John Tate
Shirley Harris	Eulada Watt
Kevin Howell	Patricia Willoughby
Richard Moore	

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, Superintendent	Sue Stone , Local Board Member Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt welcomed all in attendance and noted Chairman Lee's absence to speak at the State of the State Forum hosted by Leadership North Carolina in Charlotte to present the State of Education. As such, Mr. McDevitt indicated that he would preside over today's meeting. He also called attention to the unusual schedule this month due to the Blue Ribbon Commission reports to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on Wednesday. He explained that the schedule is altered to include reports from committee chairs today as well as voting. These reports are usually presented on Wednesday afternoon, but this Wednesday's activities did not allow time. The Vice Chairman asked Board members for consensus about further altering the order of schedule, noting that it makes sense for the Board to vote after each item is discussed. The Board had no objections. He called the Thursday Board meeting to order and declared the Board in official session.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Vice Chairman McDevitt 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 Vice 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 Vice 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 Vice Chairman recognized Ms. Shirley Harris to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The invocation followed and was presented by Ms. Kathy Taft.

MINUTES

Vice Chairman McDevitt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5-6, 2007, Board meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Mr. John Tate. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the December 5-6, 2007, meeting as presented.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS ON ACTION, ACTION ON FIRST READING,
AND DISCUSSION AGENDA**

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

ACTION

GCS 1 – Achieve Algebra II Assessment

Policy Implications: N/A

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education directs the Department to locate the resources and develop incentives to encourage schools to participate.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to direct DPI to locate the resources and develop incentives to encourage schools to participate in the Achieve Algebra II Assessment to be administered between May 1 and June 13, 2008. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 2 – Changes to the 2006-07 Accountability Status Reports

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-105.20.40 (Article 8B), 115C-105.35

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

Description:

Changes to the 2006-07 Accountability Status Reports are presented to the State Board of Education (SBE) for Action on First Reading at the January 2008 meeting.

There may be additional changes to the 2006-07 ABCs/AYP Report once the results of the special evaluations for schools that require site visits are completed.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the changes to the 2006-07 Accountability Status Reports.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the changes to the 2006-07 Accountability Status Reports. (See Attachment GCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 3 – Recommended Interim Achievement Level Descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 OCS English I and Mathematics

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-C-030; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

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

Description:

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel’s review of the testing program in 2001, the recommended interim achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 OCS English I and Mathematics are being provided for adoption on first reading at the January 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. The NCEXTEND2 OCS English I and Mathematics alternate assessments were implemented initially as operational alternate assessments effective with the 2006-07 school year for students with disabilities who are enrolled in those courses in the Occupational Course of Study in order to access the statewide testing program at the high school level as required by the NCLB Act of 2001. Interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for these tests were approved by the SBE for the 2006-07 school year in August 2007. A group of practitioners that included the NCDPI Test Development staff generated the interim achievement level descriptors. The consequential data used to inform decisions about the descriptors for the NCEXTENDED2 OCS assessments in English and Mathematics were derived from the 2006-07 administration of the assessments. The recommended interim achievement level descriptors are to be effective with the 2006-07 school year and until the final standards (cut scores) and descriptors are adopted for these tests.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-030 and that the final achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 OCS English I and Writing be approved as provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to amend policy HSP-C-030 and adopt the final achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 OCS English I and Writing. (See Attachment GCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 4 – Recommended Final Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) for NCCLAS EOC Assessments of Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I, and Achievement Level Descriptors for NCCLAS EOC Algebra I, Geometry, and English I

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-C-024; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) of 2001

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

Description:

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel’s review of the testing program in 2001, the recommended *final* academic achievement standards (cut scores for Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I) and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC tests of Algebra I, Geometry, and English I are being provided for adoption on first reading at the January 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. (The NCCLAS EOC test of Algebra II achievement level descriptors will

be presented to the SBE at the February 2008 meeting at the same time as the general EOC Algebra II descriptors.) The NCCLAS EOC tests are to be implemented effective with the 2007-08 school year for students with disabilities and students with Limited English Proficiency who require an alternate assessment with a different format in order to access grade-level course content and standards with the same degree of challenge and rigor in order to access the statewide testing program as required by the NCLB Act of 2001. The final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors were generated by a group of panelists who are practicing special educators in a session held at NCDPI on December 11, 2007. The session was facilitated by an external facilitator who used the Reasoned Judgment method along with analyses and recommendations by NCDPI Test Development staff. After an extensive analysis of all of the data, the department recommends the final academic achievement standards (cut scores for Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I) and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC (Algebra I, Geometry, and English I) alternate assessments for students with disabilities and limited English proficiency. The recommended final standards and descriptors are to be effective with the 2007-08 school year and beyond.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-024 and that the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the NCCLAS EOC alternate assessments in the areas of Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I be approved as provided. In addition, the department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-024 for the final descriptors for Algebra I, Geometry, and English I as provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to amend policy HSP-C-024, accept the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the NCCLAS EOC alternate assessments in the areas of Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I as provided, and amend policy HSP-C-024 for the final descriptors for Algebra I, Geometry, and English I as provided. (See Attachment GCS 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 5 – Recommended Final Achievement Level Descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Writing Grades 4 and 7

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-C-027; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

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

Description:

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel’s review of the testing program in 2001, the recommended *final* academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG writing assessment at grades 4 and 7 being provided for adoption on first reading at the January 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. The NCEXTEND2 EOG writing modified alternate assessments were implemented initially as operational modified alternate assessments effective with the 2005-06 school year for students with disabilities who require the modified assessments in order to access the statewide testing program as required by the NCLB Act of 2001. Interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for these tests were approved by the SBE for the 2005-06 and the 2006-07 school years pending the adoption of the final regulations by the USED. The

final achievement level descriptors were generated by a group of panelists who were practicing ELA educators in sessions held with Pearson Educational Measurement facilitating the sessions along with analyses and recommendations by NCDPI Test Development staff. The consequential data used to inform decisions about the descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG writing assessments were derived from the 2005-06 and the 2006-07 administrations of the assessments. After an extensive analysis of all of the data, the department will recommend the achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 writing alternate assessments at grades 4 and 7 for students with disabilities who require the use of the NCEXTEND2, a modified alternate assessment, in order to access the statewide testing program. The recommended final descriptors are to be effective with the 2007-08 school year and beyond.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-027 and that the final achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Writing Assessments at grades 4 and 7 be approved as provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to amend policy HSP-C-027 and adopt the final achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Writing Assessments at grades 4 and 7 as provided. (See Attachment GCS 5)

DISCUSSION

GCS 6 – Revision of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Mathematics K-12

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-F-002

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert L. Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Ms. Everly Broadway (Section Chief, Middle and Secondary Mathematics), and Ms. Donna Thomas (Consultant, Elementary Mathematics)

Description:

The *North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Mathematics* was last revised in 2003. A schedule for revision was approved at the State Board of Education meeting in May 2007.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Chair Kathy Taft recommended no discussion at this time in light of the Blue Ribbon Testing and Accountability Commission Report. This item will be held for another month for further vetting, according to Ms. Taft.

(See Attachment GCS 6)

DISCUSSION

GCS 7 – High School Courses Taken in the Middle School – Considerations Beyond Mathematics and Second Language

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-M-001

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Mr. Edd Dunlap (Middle/Secondary Science Section Chief), and Dr. Eleanor Hasse (Secondary Science Consultant)

Description:

The GCS Committee has requested information on expanding the current policy HSP-M-001 that allows students to take high school mathematics and foreign language courses for high school credit while they are in middle school.

Recommendations:

State Board members are requested to approve the expansion of existing policy to include science courses.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported consensus by the GCS Committee that staff recommendations be approved.
- Mr. Wayne McDevitt shared that it is helpful to participate in the committee meetings to hear the discussions and encouraged fellow Board members to take part in these discussions.

This item is presented for discussion in January and will be presented at the February meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 7)

HEALTHY, RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS
(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair, and Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice Chair)

New Business Report

- SBE Physical Activity Policy Implementation Update

Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported on the five non-reporting LEAs on the Healthy Active Children Policy: Hyde County Schools, Lee County Schools, Perquimans County Schools, Rutherford County Schools, and Stanley County Schools. LEAs were contacted beginning in the fall of 2006 announcing the survey and the offer by the Healthy Schools Institute to assist schools with the survey process. The LEAs also received a minimum of three emails to remind them of the report which was due July 15, 2007.

Repeated calls and emails were sent to non-reporting LEAs through the School Health Advisory Council Chairs and Superintendents.

Superintendent Atkinson stated that if it pleased the Board, she would contact the five Superintendents who have not provided the data as requested. There were no objections.

Pre-K Age of Eligibility

Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby reported that the HRS Committee received a report from Mr. John Pruette regarding the Pre-K Age of Eligibility, which is tied to General Statute. The change of the start date for kindergarten entry will affect the More at Four program.

Child Nutrition Emerging Issues

Ms. Willoughby also noted that the Committee received a report about Child Nutrition Emerging Issues.

In closing comments, Ms. Willoughby reiterated Vice Chair McDevitt's invitation to Board members to attend the GCS Committee meetings on Tuesday afternoons.

21ST CENTURY PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Shirley Harris and Ms. Eulada Watt, Co-Chairs)

ACTION

TCP 1 – Program Approval Recommendations from the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-B-003

Recommendations:

It is requested that the program approval recommendations of the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education be approved as presented.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from discussion and voting since he is an employee at NC State University; NC State's School of Education is among the programs with approval recommendations.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted to approve the program approval recommendations of the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education as presented. Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment TCP 1)

ACTION

TCP 2 – Proposed Revision of the Teacher Education Program Approval Process

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-B-002, TCP-B-004, TCP-B-005

Recommendations:

That the Board approve the proposed revisions to the program approval process.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from discussion and voting since his employer (NC State University) would be subject to program changes.
- Mr. Wayne McDevitt asked for clarification about proposed change #9 on page 2, specifically who would develop the "power" standards for the specialty areas (math, science, English, etc.) that reflect 21st century knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Committee Co-Chair Harris and Dr. Kathy Sullivan explained that DPI is responsible for revising the specialty area standards for these areas.
- Ms. Kathy Taft expressed concern with #7 on pg. 2: "Make the 2.5 GPA a licensure requirement, rather than a program admission requirement." Ms. Harris provided the backdrop for this recommendation, explaining that the Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) have provided numerous reports and data about the obstacles and barriers to attracting teachers, which include the 2.5 GPA. She explained that honoring the recommendations from the IHEs, giving them

- flexibility to maintain standards and the integrity of the program, will allow opportunities to produce more teachers who will actually get the training they need in the classroom. Ms. Willoughby clarified that this proposal does not lower the standards in terms of licensure requirements. The Board recognized the seriousness of this proposal and held a lengthy discussion regarding the effects the proposal will have on attracting qualified individuals into the profession.
- Mr. McDevitt suggested monitoring the impact of this decision over the next few years as a part of the IHE report.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted to accept the proposed revisions to the Teacher Education Program approval process. Ms. Kathy Taft voted in opposition. Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment TCP 2)

ACTION

TCP 3 – Annual Report on the Reasons Teachers Leave the Profession

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-12(22)

Recommendations:

That the report on the reasons teachers leave the profession be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris noted that the TCP Committee’s recommendation is to accept the report with a directive for DPI to implement a more accurate means of reporting data for the annual report. A brief discussion occurred about the need to collect, analyze, and report the data in a way that will provide clarity and more reflective reasons teachers are leaving the profession.
- Mr. McDevitt asked for a list of the LEAs who did not respond to the survey. Dr. Sullivan noted Mr. McDevitt’s request and will provide the Board with that information.
- A brief conversation ensued about next steps and utilizing the Teacher Working Conditions (TWC) survey as a part of the reporting to provide greater insight.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to accept the report on the Reasons Teacher Leave the Profession as submitted (See Attachment TCP 3)

ACTION

TCP 4 – Request to Establish an Additional Regional Alternative Licensure Center

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-002

Recommendations:

That the Board approve the request to establish a fourth Regional Alternative Licensure Center.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris explained that this recommendation stems from the volume and numbers that the existing centers are serving. The Committee has asked Dr. Sullivan to provide the data which will drive the location of the fourth center. Mr. McDevitt asked that some

- consideration be given to geographic distance. Ms. Harris invited Board members to weigh in on finalizing the location of the new site.
- A brief discussion occurred regarding the funding of this fourth center. It was noted that an additional center will not open prior to July 1.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request to establish a fourth Regional Alternative Licensure Center. (See Attachment TCP 4)

ACTION

TCP 5 – Policy on Financial Incentives for the State and Regional Teachers of the Year

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-E-000

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the policy on financial incentives for the state and regional teachers of the year.

Discussion/Comments:

- The Board briefly discussed the funding aspect of the recommended financial incentives for the state and regional teachers of the year.
- Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris clarified that the purpose of this policy change is to encourage more teachers of the year to return to the classroom. Board members applauded the policy recommendations.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the policy on financial incentives for the state and regional teachers of the year. (See Attachment TCP 5)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 6 –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:

- Discussion and action on this item occurred in closed session.

(See Attachment TCP 6)

DISCUSSION

TCP 7 – Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Professional Development for School Leaders

Policy Implications: N/A

Presenter(s): Mr. John Tate (Member, State Board of Education) and Dr. Alan Mabe (Vice President for Academic Planning and University-School Programs, UNC-General Administration)

Description:

In July 2007, the State Board of Education and the University of North Carolina-General Administration convened an ad hoc committee to consider professional development for school leaders. The committee has met monthly and considered a variety of issues including the professional development and on-going support needed to re-tool current administrators for 21st Century schools and possible delivery systems for this professional development and ongoing support. The committee's report is presented for discussion this month.

Recommendations:

That the Board accept the recommendations in the report.

Discussion/Comments:

Mr. Tate summarized the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Professional Development for School Leaders. He reviewed the Committee's membership, its charge/focus, guiding principles, findings, and recommendations. Mr. Tate spoke briefly about the Committee's vision of a centralized nerve center for leadership development for the executives in the field, and the costs associated with the center. Based on Committee discussions, funding could come from private support/corporate, local districts and the state, according to Mr. Tate.

- State Superintendent June Atkinson commented about the need for this concept to give ongoing support to professional development for leadership and its potential for moving our state forward in public education. In addition, she noted that the concept is a great tie-in to the efforts of the Comprehensive Assistance to Districts and Schools.
- Mr. Wayne McDevitt noted the issue of time as the unintended consequence of leadership training. There is a need for commitment by local boards of education and others to understand that funding substitutes may be needed to support the training. In addition, Mr. McDevitt encouraged partnerships with other training programs across the state as it relates to leadership. He recommended the following book to Board members: *Upside Down Leadership* by Dr. Michael C. Blackwell, President, Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina.

This item is presented for discussion in January and will be presented at the February meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 7)

DISCUSSION

TCP 8 – Clarification of the Lateral Entry Licensure Policies

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-001

Presenter(s): Ms. Nadine Ejire (Assistant Section Chief, Licensure Section)

Description:

Individuals who have not completed an approved teacher education program may be issued a lateral entry license for up to three years if they meet the requirements detailed in Board policy. Based on requests from and discussions with personnel administrators, two elements of the current policy need to be clarified. Revisions that focus on these areas in need of clarification are presented for discussion.

Recommendations:

That the Board approve the proposed revisions of the lateral entry licensure policy.

Discussion/Comments:

- Staff were asked to clarify some of the wording before the item returns for action in February.

This item is presented for discussion in January and will be presented at the February meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 8)

DISCUSSION

TCP 9 – Policy on Eligibility for State Teacher of the Year

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-11(a2); SBE Policy # QP-E-000

Presenter(s): Mr. Danny Holloman (Section Chief, Center for Recruitment and Retention)

Description:

Currently, the SBE policy is titled, Policy on the Regional Teacher of the Year position. The policy does not provide any information on the eligibility requirement for the State Teacher of the Year. The policy is being revised to define eligibility requirements. Another policy will be developed to address financial incentives for both the State and Regional Teachers of the Year.

Recommendations:

That the State Board of Education approve the proposed revisions to State Teacher of the Year policy.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris stated that this item provides clarifying qualifications for the state teacher of the year. In response to Ms. Willoughby's query, she confirmed that the policy language would be amended to provide more specificity.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in January and will be presented at the February meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 9)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris reported that the TCP Committee held discussions about the New Evaluation Instrument(s) Deployment Plan and Non-Teaching Work Experience Credit.

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

ACTION

TCS 1 – Reaching One’s Potential for Excellence (ROPE) Scholars Program

Policy Implications: Session Law 2007-277, Senate Bill 1030

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board accept this report.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the report on Reaching One’s Potential for Excellence (ROPE) Scholars Program. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION

TCS 2 – Joint Technology Commission Report

Policy Implications: N/A

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the report as written.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Joint Technology Commission Report. (See Attachment TCS 2)

ACTION

TCS 3 – Appointment of Individuals to the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #EEO-B-004; APA #16NCAC6C.0201

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the three members eligible for reappointment be reappointed and that the three nominees for vacant positions be appointed.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Chair Howell directed Board members to the list of recommended individuals for appointment and reappointment in their Board notebooks. He pointed out that this was the first time a teacher has been recommended to serve on this committee.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment and reappointment of the recommended nominees to the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education. (See Attachment TCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 4 – New Members for the BETA

Policy Implications: N/A

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

Description:

The State Board of Education receives recommendations from various organizations for members to serve on the Business Education Technology Alliance. The members are being submitted for SBE approval as required in GS115C-102.15.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the members as recommended by the organizations.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Chair Kevin Howell directed Board members to the list of recommended individuals for appointment and reappointment in their Board notebooks.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended nominees for BETA. (See Attachment TCS 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 5 – Individual Class Size Waiver Requests

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-301

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

Description:

It shall be the responsibility of local boards of education to assure that the class size and teaching load requirements set forth in G.S. 115C-301 are met. Requests for individual class size waivers are required to be submitted to the State Board of Education after the second school month and the remainder of the school year, if the individual class exceeds the allotment ratio by three students so long as the LEA-wide average class size maximums is not exceeded. There may be additional waivers submitted for the March SBE meeting. The information is currently under review and will be e-mailed to the Board members once the review is complete.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the State Board of Education approve the attached waivers pertaining to the class-size exception request submitted by Clinton City Schools and Wake County Public Schools, the Department will then notify the LEA(s) of the action taken by the State Board of Education.

Discussion/Comments:

- Ms. Kathy Taft stated that, historically, she never votes for class size waivers. However, she commended the work of the TCS Committee, and, in light of the committee's in-depth work, she will support this motion.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the waivers pertaining to the class size exception requests submitted by Clinton City Schools and Wake County Public School System, on condition that no later than February 11, 2008, Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) provide the State Board of Education with a report which contains:

- 1. A detailed description of the actions that WCPSS has taken to notify parents who have students in the 114 classes subject to these waivers, that their students are in classes that do not meet the State's class size requirements, the efforts that WCPSS has made to grant any of those parents' requests to reassign their children from those 114 classes to classes that meet State class size requirements, and an explanation of why any parental request for such a transfer was not granted;*
- 2. A detailed description of the actions that WCPSS has taken and will take during the 2007-08 school year to mitigate the impact of class size overages on students' educational opportunities; and*
- 3. A detailed corrective action plan which describes how WCPSS will manage to reduce class sizes in the 2008-09 school year to eliminate the overages. (See Attachment TCS 5)*

DISCUSSION**TCS 6 – Educational Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) Teacher Module****Policy Implications:**

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Jackson Miller (Social Research Assistant, Financial and Business Services)

Description:

The teacher module is a statistical analysis program provided by SAS that uses student performance data, collected over a number of years, to assess a teacher's pedagogical strengths and weaknesses. It is a tool that administrators can use to design and implement professional development programs that will address the unique needs of their teachers.

Recommendations:

This item was presented for discussion at the December 2007 State Board of Education meeting and is being brought back for further discussion at the January 2008 meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. John Tate spoke in support of EVAAS as a good tool to address teacher needs.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in January and will be presented for action in February. (See Attachment TCS 6)

DISCUSSION

TCS 7 – 2008-09 Supplemental Budget

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-12(1a)

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Ms. Becky McConkey (Director, Financial Services Division)

Description:

Supplemental budget requests for 2008-09 must be finalized and submitted to the Governor in March 2008. At this meeting, there will be an initial discussion of unfunded requests pending from the 2007-09 biennium, new requests submitted by DPI staff, and other budget needs. Any additional budget requests can be provided to staff at this meeting for costing and for further discussion in February.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education discuss future budget needs and specific budget requests in order to construct the SBE's 2008-09 Supplemental Budget Request.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board members asked staff for additional and for clarifying information in February.

This item is presented for discussion in January and will be presented at the February meeting for action. (See Attachment TCS 7)

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

(See Attachment in book)

- Mr. Wayne McDevitt expressed concern about the timeframe on some of the contracts. Mr. Price explained that, in most cases, the contracts are undergoing an amendment process.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

ACTION

LFI 1 – Enrollment Increase Requests Above 10% and Charter School Grade Changes

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-238.29D(d); SBE Policy #EEO-U-000

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE accept the enrollment increase requests and/or grade expansions as recommended by the Leadership for Innovation Committee.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett directed Board members to a revised attachment including school by school changes recommended by the LFI Committee.
 1. *Gaston College Preparatory – Committee agreed number should be reduced to 100.*
 2. *Pine Lake Preparatory – Committee agreed to not recommend the increase request.*

3. *Kennedy Charter – Committee agreed to only recommend adding K-2.*
 4. *Sallie B. Howard – Committee denied request, but encourages school to continue to make plans for the future.*
- Ms. Kathy Taft acknowledged the work of Ms. Bartlett, as it relates to this issue, noting that the process is working well.
 - There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to accept the enrollment increase requests and/or grade expansions as recommended by the Leadership for Innovation Committee for all of the recommendations with the exceptions noted on the revised attachment. (See Attachment LFI 1 and revised copy)

ACTION

LFI 2 – Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2008

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-238.29D(d) SBE Policy #EEO-U-007

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE accept the renewal recommendations of the Leadership for Innovation Committee.

Discussion/Comments:

- Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett directed Board members to a revised attachment with the following recommendations:
 1. Cape Lookout – Committee recommends a 2-year renewal.
 2. Dillard – Committee agreed to pull the request for renewal at this time awaiting more information.
 3. Kennedy – Committee agreed to pull the request for renewal at this time awaiting more information.
- Upon receiving a note at her desk stating that the summary report on pg. 13 does not represent the updated information for SPARC Academy, Ms. Shirley Harris asked Mr. Moyer to note the changes in the report to document the corrections. After a brief discussion occurred regarding this issue, Mr. Moyer stated that the updated information does not change the recommendation.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the renewal recommendations and amendments of the Leadership for Innovation Committee for charter schools with charter schools expiring in June 2008. (See Attachment LFI 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 3 – Approval of Charter School Technology Plans

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-102.6C

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation) and Ms. Frances Bradburn (Director, Division of Instructional Technology)

Description:

In accordance with Public School Law 115C-102.6C, the technology plan for the following charter schools has been approved by both ITS and DPI technology consultants. ITS consultants have evaluated the plan to comply with the statewide architecture guidelines; DPI instructional technology consultants have evaluated the plan for its instructional components. All 115 LEA technology plans have been approved. Thirty-six charter schools will be accounted for with the approval of the two charter schools listed below. 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>
Queen’s Grant Community	Mint Hill	Mecklenburg	Sixth District
PreEminent Charter	Raleigh	Wake	Third District

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted to approve the charter school technology plans. (See Attachment LFI 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 4 – Evaluation of Learn and Earn Early College High Schools

Policy Implications: Session Law 2007-323, Sec. 7.18(b)

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation) and Ms. Tabitha Grossman (Director, Learn and Earn, 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 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina New Schools Project jointly administer the initiative. 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 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 within five years.

Thirty-three Learn and Earn early college high schools were open for students for the 2006-07 school year, and an additional nine have opened for the 2007-08 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 compare them as a group for early college high schools. While the evaluation of the Learn and Earn early college high schools is ongoing and much of the evaluation data, including data points around graduation rates and higher education persistence rates, will not be available for several years, this report provides data on the schools’ progress over the 2006-07 school

year. Data points around graduation rates and higher education persistence rates for these schools will be available over the next five years.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the report on the Evaluation of Learn and Earn Early College High Schools.

Discussion/Comments:

- According to Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett, the figures for the Learn and Earn early college high schools are remarkable and urged Board members to review the data.
- Ms. Kathy Taft stated that she was appreciative of Ms. Grossman’s presentation which raised her level of understanding.
- There was no additional discussion.

<p><i>Upon motion by <u>Ms. Melissa Bartlett</u> and seconded by <u>Ms. Kathy Taft</u>, the Board voted to approve the report on the Evaluation of Learn and Earn Early College High Schools. (See Attachment LFI 4)</i></p>
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ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 5 – Evaluation of Small Structured High Schools (Redesigned or Conversion High Schools)

Policy Implications: Session Law 2007-323, Sec. 7.21

Presenter(s): Mr. Robert L. Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation) and Dr. Tony Habit (President, North Carolina New Schools Project)

Description:

In August 2003, Governor Easley and the North Carolina Education Cabinet launched the North Carolina New Schools Project, a private-public partnership to focus leadership and financial resources on change in the state’s high schools. The initiative is backed by a \$21 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The North Carolina New Schools Project (NCNSP) is forming partnerships with local school districts and higher education institutions to provide financial support and technical assistance to create over one hundred small, autonomous high schools across the state. These schools will either be new start-up schools or conversion schools that use an existing comprehensive facility to house one or more discrete, small and autonomous high schools. All of these schools will offer students a personalized learning experience and an academically rigorous curriculum in order to prepare every student for college, work, and citizenship. The NCNSP is also working to engage key stakeholders in shaping consensus for change in the state’s high schools and in enabling actions steps to get there.

During the 2006-07 school year, 25 redesigned or conversion schools were open for students. The 25 redesigned or conversion schools are located on 16 existing high school campuses. An additional nine redesigned or conversion schools opened for students for the 2007-08 school year.

In coordination with our evaluation partners, the North Carolina New Schools Project is monitoring and evaluating each school’s progress in implementing their plan for redesign, as well as their progress in meeting the needs of each student. While the evaluation of the redesigned or conversion high schools is ongoing and much of the evaluation data, including data points around graduation rates and higher education persistence rates, will not be available for several years, this report provides data on the schools’ progress over the 2006-07 school year. Data points around graduation rates and higher education persistence rates for these schools will be available over the next five years.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board accept this report on the Evaluation of Small Structured High Schools.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted to approve the report on the Evaluation of Small Structured High Schools. (See Attachment LFI 5)

NEW BUSINESS REPORT

Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett reported that the LFI Committee received an update from Dr. Bryan Setser, Director, NC Virtual Public Schools. Although the NCVPS Update is typically presented to the Board as a whole, Ms. Bartlett explained that the LFI Committee received this report due to the complexities of this particular Board meeting.

Offering an LEA perspective, Dr. Shirley Prince, LEA Superintendent Advisor, stated that they are receiving excellent service from NCVPS this semester.

In addition, Ms. Bartlett noted that the Committee received a summary report about the School Connectivity Initiative Report, which is due to the Legislature by January 15.

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

In his Vice Chairman's remarks, Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt explained that the governing boards for public schools, the university system, and community colleges are required by General Statute to meet together annually. This meeting is known as the Joint Governing Boards meeting, and members of the private colleges and universities join these Boards. He announced that this year's meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, in Chapel Hill at the Friday Center.

Since February 6 coincides with the State Board of Education meeting dates, the Board and staff will work to schedule its February meeting around this Joint Governing Board's meeting. The dates of the State Board meeting will likely not change, but the times and locations for some of the committee meetings will obviously be different. The agenda will be posted for the public in a couple of weeks.

Ms. Betsy West noted that, tentatively, the Joint Governing Board's meeting will begin at lunch and conclude at 4:00 p.m. Therefore, the Board meeting schedule will be adjusted accordingly.

At this time, Vice Chairman McDevitt introduced Ms. Katie Cornetto to the audience. She is the new staff attorney for the State Board Office. He noted that she has worked for Professional Educators of North Carolina in a similar capacity in the past, and most recently served as a clerk for Judge Wanda Bryant on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. The Board welcomed Ms. Cornetto to the staff.

In conclusion, Vice Chairman McDevitt noted that 2007 ended and 2008 began on a high note for Wake County Schools. The school system had the distinction of two bands being invited to march in prestigious events: the Southeast Raleigh High School band appeared in the Citrus Bowl parade and the Broughton High School band appeared in the Tournament of Roses Parade and was, in fact, the lead band.

Executive Director's Report

SBE Executive Director Rebecca Garland directed Board members to their notebooks to look at the latest agenda for the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee held on Tuesday, January 8. Dr. Garland provided a brief summary of her presentation on the Future Ready Core Curriculum.

In addition, the agenda included Career and Technical Education Follow-Up, Graduation Project, North Carolina Common Education Data Analysis and Reporting System (NC CEDARS), Role Counselors Play in Providing Dropout Prevention and Intervention Services to Students in Middle and High School Report, and Implementation of State Board Policy Delineating the Job Description and Performance Criteria for School Counselors Report.

In closing, Dr. Garland provided a brief progress report about Representative Hackney's Dropout Prevention initiative. The Department was asked to staff that grant initiative selection process. Dr. Garland noted that this initiative was a very time-burdened project in terms of the preparation, grant readers, and other administrative activities. This opportunity to assist our colleagues in the General Assembly has been an expensive proposition coming from the Department's budget as there were no funds provided by the General Assembly to support this effort, according to Dr. Garland. She noted that the Department will need to request funds for the administration of this grant initiative, if the General Assembly asks for assistance in the future.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**NCCEE Economic Educator of the Year Awards Program**

State Superintendent June Atkinson spoke briefly about the North Carolina Council on Economic Education (NCCEE), stating that it is a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering economic education and financial literacy for all North Carolinians. Annually, the council sponsors an "Economic Educator of the Year" program. The results are below:

- Daniel Irwin – Economic Educator of the Year
Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology, Mecklenburg County Schools
- Gene Kikolski – Finalist
Millbrook High, Wake County Schools
- Marvine Myers – Finalist
East Davidson High, Davidson County Schools

Winning Project: The Interstate 485 Project is a relevant and interactive project that gets students thinking about what goes into planning a city and its surrounding areas. After the students received background information on Interstate 485, they assumed the role of North Carolina state legislators and researched the pros and cons of a proposed interstate highway. Students worked in groups of two or three and did research, took pictures, interviewed citizens, and discussed issues including, but not limited to:

- Environmental protection
- Population growth
- Business growth
- Residential home growth
- Land ownership
- Economic conditions including jobs
- Creation of new schools
- Conflicts with industry
- Zoning and its impact on development

National Recognition of NC Title I Distinguished Schools

Fourteen of the 16 North Carolina Title I Distinguished Schools applied for national recognition. Two North Carolina schools have been selected to be honored at the national Title I conference in Nashville, TN this month. They are:

- Morehead City Primary, Carteret County Public Schools
Principal: Renee Newman
Recognition: Sustained Student Achievement
- Longview Elementary, Hickory Public Schools
Principal: John Black
Recognition: Closing the Achievement Gap

Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

- Held State Superintendent's Quarterly Meeting
- Presented remarks or keynote address at the:
 - Appalachian State University Winter Commencement
 - NC Extension Service Youth and Family Summit
 - Johnston County NCAE Banquet
 - Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
- Participated in:
 - NC Finalists for National Science Foundation Presidential Awards Program
 - Wake County Delta Kappa Gamma Association
 - Public School Forum Board of Directors
 - NC Council on Economic Education
 - Central Carolina RESA Meeting
- Visited Stanly County Schools

Upcoming Events

- NC High School Network Conference, January 27-29, Sheraton Hotel, RTP
- NCPAPA Assistant Principals' Retreat, February 3-6, Sheraton Hotel, Atlantic Beach
- Third Annual Entrepreneurship Summit, February 26, Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center, Greensboro
- Second Annual National Entrepreneurship Week, February 23 – March 1

Handouts

- FY08 Federal Funding Table for Selected Programs
- Northern Vance High School Student Reading Project
- 2007 NC Presidential Awards Finalists for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Programs
- USED Letter – NAEP 12th Grade State-Level Assessments Pilot
(After a brief discussion regarding this issue, Ms. Kathy Taft requested a conference call regarding North Carolina's participation. There were no objections.)
- DPI Technology Services Client and Employee Satisfaction Survey Trend

International Visitors to NCDPI

In 2006-2007, NCDPI staff members presented to international visitors from the following countries. Topics included state public school demographics, structure, governance, funding, curriculum standards, and school reform.

- Algeria
- Bahrain
- China
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Israel
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Libya
- Morocco
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Tunisia
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- West Bank

NC WISE Quarterly Update

Superintendent Atkinson reminded Board members that at a recent meeting, the Board decided that they would like to receive an NC WISE quarterly update as a part of the SBE meeting. At this time, Dr. Atkinson asked Mr. Peter Asmar to provide the update. Mr. Asmar provided a condensed version of the presentation that he recently gave to the Legislature including milestones, customer satisfaction, the modular approach, strengths/areas for improvements, and WAVE 3 Deployment. Board Member Kathy Taft asked that Mr. Asmar provide the NC WISE report on a monthly basis.

Employee Recognition

In conclusion, Dr. Atkinson recognized several DPI employees who have recently received national recognition for their work.

Mr. Engin Konanc, Special Assistant and Research Analyst, Financial and Business Services, and Muhammad Mannan, Statistician, Information Analysis and Reporting, jointly received national recognition for their work on behalf of North Carolina's public, charter, and specialized schools. Mr. Konanc and Mr. Mannan accepted this national award honoring 20 years of consistently submitting accurate and timely financial and student data to the National Center for Education Statistics. The men received SBE mugs in recognition of this national award.

In addition, Superintendent Atkinson recognized Mr. Trey Michael, Business/Marketing Education Consultant, Career-Technical Education, for receiving a national award from the National Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education. The Consortium is a nationally recognized organization advocating entrepreneurship learning, life long. Mr. Michael also received an SBE mug in recognition of this award.

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

In his report, Deputy State Superintendent J.B. Buxton reminded Board members that in December they talked briefly about DPI's conference consolidation efforts. Since that time, the Department has communicated about this internal process for the benefit of LEAs and DPI staff with the superintendents at their quarterly meeting. The Department requested feedback from LEAs on a number of key questions. Mr. Buxton also asked Board members to provide specific suggestions and/or feedback to Mr. Robert Logan or Ms. Belinda Black.

Mr. Buxton spoke briefly about the work of the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) looking at our assistance approach in North Carolina. He announced that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has come to the table again to continue DPI's relationship with the BCG to shift a focus and look at an internal data management project. At this time, Mr. Buxton asked Mr. Adam Levinson, Director of Policy and Strategic Planning, to speak about these two efforts.

Mr. Levinson summarized the two efforts related to data management and the way we collect, manage, and use data in the agency. According to Mr. Levinson, the federally funded CEDARS project is a longitudinal data system and is at the core of our data collection management and future use plans. Through a separate project, the BCG is assisting the Department in developing an overarching data information management strategic plan for the agency.

At this time, Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt welcomed Mr. John Frank, Director of the Health Care Division, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, to the Board meeting. He announced that Mr. Frank is representing the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust for a special presentation during the news conference scheduled in Room 150 immediately following the Board meeting.

In addition, Mr. McDevitt welcomed a group of vendors who were also present for this important news conference.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Mr. John Tate, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the January 9-10, 2008, meeting of the State Board of Education.