

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
August 6-7, 2008**

Education Building, Raleigh	Wednesday, August 6, 2008	Board Room, 2:30 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
Shirley Harris	Eulada Watt
Kevin Howell	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher Advisor
Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor	Sue Stone, Local Board Member Advisor
Debra Morris, Principal Advisor	

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

After extending a warm welcome to all present, Chairman Lee called the Wednesday session of the August 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. In addition, the Chairman acknowledged Governor Easley's meeting held today to address and highlight the Learn and Earn, Learn and Earn Online, and the NC Virtual High School (NCVPS) programs with local superintendents and others.

The Chairman noted that Board Member Melissa Bartlett would not be present at this meeting due to previously scheduled commitments in her school system.

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 welcomed two new SBE advisors: Dr. Debra Morris, Wachovia Principal of the Year, and Ms. Cindi Rigsbee, AT&T Teacher of the Year.

At this time, Chairman Lee announced a lunchtime celebration of the one-year anniversary of the NC Virtual Public School scheduled for Thursday. Lt. Governor Perdue will join the celebration, along with some of the NCVPS Board members and others.

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

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

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

Ms. Kathy Taft welcomed Dr. Debra Morris as a new member of the GCS Committee.

ACTION ON FIRST READING

**GCS 1 – AYP Results for High Schools, AYP Math Results for Elementary and Middle Schools,
ABCs Growth and Cohort Graduation Rates**

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-105.36; NCLB Act of 2001

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

Description:

The 2007-08 AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) results for high schools and AYP mathematics results for elementary and middle schools are presented for approval. The report is published electronically at <http://ayp.ncpublicschools.org>. An executive summary of the data will be provided at the SBE meeting.

A list of LEAs being considered for LEA Improvement Status based on mathematics AYP also will be presented at the meeting. These LEAs will have two weeks to review their data to indicate if there are any reasons why they should not be in LEA Improvement Status.

In addition, ABCs growth determinations for schools will be reported in a summary fashion as well as cohort graduation rates.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the AYP results that are reported and the ABCs growth determinations for the schools.

Discussion/Comments:

- Dr. Fabrizio reminded Board members that this report is not complete because of the staggered release of the reading results in grades 3-8. Therefore, the full report will be presented at the November SBE meeting.
- Dr. Fabrizio thanked students, parents, teachers, principals, test coordinators, central office staff, the Accountability Services Staff including the IT-A Team, Gary Williamson, Ken Barbour, Sarah McManus and especially the Test Development Section Chief Ms. Mildred Bazemore (who recently retired) for their hard work and ongoing commitment.

- Finally, Dr. Fabrizio stated that, upon completion of the report, Board members will receive a list of the Title I schools either entering School Improvement or Advancing in School Improvement based on the mathematics results.
- More than half, 55.2 percent of North Carolina’s public schools posted high academic growth in 2007-08 as measured by the state’s ABCs of Public Education accountability model. Another 26.8 percent earned expected academic growth under the model. This results in 827 of schools meeting expected or high growth. For comparison purposes, last year that overall percentage was about 72 percent.
- Dr. Fabrizio reported that approximately 39 percent of the schools met all of their AYP targets. Forty-five percent of our schools met their AYP goals last year. He reminded Board members, however, that the full report will not be available until November; therefore, the percentage of schools meeting their AYP targets will change.
- Dr. Fabrizio noted a link where Board members can access this information online.
- In 2008, 69.9 percent of the students who started ninth grade in 2004-05 had completed high school in four years or less. The four-year cohort graduation rate in 2007 was 69.5 percent. In addition, Dr. Fabrizio reported that some students require a fifth year of high school in order to complete graduation requirements. The five-year cohort graduation rate for students who entered ninth grade in 2003-04 (class of 2007) was 71.8 percent, up from the five-year rate for the 2002-03 (Class of 2006) of 70.3 percent.
- Dr. Fabrizio fielded a few clarifying questions regarding the percentage comparisons/correlations.
- Chairman Lee suggested that the GCS Committee look into the gaps in graduation rates by subgroup and what supports are needed or are in place, what has happened to the approximately 30 percent of students who do not graduate in four years and why is the difference between 4-year rates and 5-year rates not greater than what we see.
- Board member John Tate suggested setting specific graduation rate goals. State Superintendent noted that as a part of the Graduation Awareness Campaign she has asked that each local superintendent work toward setting a graduation benchmark in his or her individual system. In addition, the Department is working with the NC School Boards Association to engage them in working with superintendents on this important issue.
- There was no additional discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 2 – Update on Framework for Change’s “Writing Assessment”

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-N-000

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Innovation and School Transformation/Executive Director, State Board of Education), Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Leadership for Innovation and School Transformation) and Dr. Wandra C. Polk (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Division)

Description:

The new North Carolina Writing Assessment System will be piloted during the upcoming 2008-09 school year. In Grade 7, students will use word processing skills to write to four prompts: two content-based and two on demand. In ten LEAs students and teachers will use a centrally hosted, statewide electronic system that is currently in the initial stages of development. The system will allow students to compose and store their writing tasks/assignments, for teachers to provide feedback and score those writing

tasks/assignments, and for the collection of score data by NCDPI. Through the use of this electronic system, NCDPI will have the abilities to monitor compliance and to audit.

In Grade 4, due to developmental appropriateness, students will use a paper and pencil-based system. Teachers will provide feedback and also score the writing tasks/assignments. Student writing assignments will be stored locally. DPI consultants will conduct random audits to ensure compliance.

The professional development necessary for the successful implementation of the new North Carolina Writing Assessment System will be delivered to educators and stakeholders, primarily electronically, through the use of a moodle (online course management system). This professional development will consist of two courses; one specifically designed around the instruction of writing and the involvement of content teachers in the writing process, and the other focusing specifically on the assessment of writing (the use of the electronic system(s), rubrics, scoring applications, and sample student responses). Upon the successful completion of each course, educators/participants will have the ability to electronically print a 'certificate of completion' representing a specific number of CEUs. This certificate can be submitted by the educator/participant to the LEA for professional development credit.

Recommendations:

The State Board members are requested to review and approve the attached information.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that a revised attachment had been distributed to reflect the Committee's recommendations. Because there were two options, the recommendation now reflects the Committee's decision to approve "Option 1" the 2008-09 writing assessment pilot for grades 4 and 7.
- Dr. Rebecca Garland provided a brief summary of the plan explaining that last year when the SBE approved the Framework for Change, members decided that there would not be a year in which writing was not assessed. The Department was to develop a pilot plan in which grades 4 and 7 would continue to be assessed while Board members and staff continued to determine what writing assessments should look like in a pre-K-12 grades assessment system. The Writing Committee met over the summer and their recommendations involved fourth and seventh grade students who will do four writing samples next year, two content-based and two on-demand writing prompts (one to be used as a benchmark assessment and the other as a summative assessment). All four papers will be scored against state rubrics. The fourth grade writing samples will be stored in a paper portfolio in each school system. As the Department sends auditors out, they will go and sample various elementary schools to ensure that students are doing the writing assignments and that they are being scored against the rubric. In addition, the auditors can bring samples back to Raleigh so that staff can provide feedback on what they are seeing as student writing patterns. In grade 7, it will be an electronic solution to the writing assessment. Students will use word processing tools to develop their papers. Dr. Garland explained that research indicates that when students use word processing, their writing improves because it gives them opportunities to cut, paste, rethink, and revise. In addition, in ten LEAs next year, the Department recommends the use of electronic portfolios. The teachers can score the papers and provide student feedback online, and the Department will have the opportunity to review the writing samples.
- Prompted by a question by Mr. Tate, Dr. Garland spoke briefly about the possibility of expanding the online repository for grades 6-8 for writing and for high school students to store their graduation projects.
- Mr. Tate asked about exploring other beginning benchmarks, summative, and informative checks. Superintendent Atkinson noted that we've learned through research that software is available that

can provide us with valuable data about not only student writing but also other important areas where ongoing assessment is important.

- Ms. Taft noted one of the main points of discussion in the GCS Committee on Tuesday was that this item is scheduled for Action on First Reading. She directed Board members to pg. 7, the implementation scenario Option 1. Dr. Garland further explained that additional information will be presented at the September Board meeting about the pilot.
- Board members congratulated the staff for their work.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment GCS 2)

DISCUSSION

GCS 3 – Changes Regarding Eligibility Criteria for Accommodations and Alternate Assessments Designated for Students Identified as Limited English Proficient

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-C-021, HSP-A-011; APA #16NCAC 6G.0312; NCLB

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

Description:

The State Board of Education (SBE) adopted the WIDA English language development standards at its June 2008 meeting. As a result, effective with 2008-09 school year, the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) will be administered to all initially enrolled language minority students to determine levels of English language proficiency. ACCESS for ELLs will be administered annually to all students identified as limited English proficient (LEP). As outlined in policy HSP-C-021, students identified as LEP must participate in the North Carolina Testing Program as follows: standard administration, standard administration with accommodations, or the state designated alternate assessment. Policies HSP-C-021 and HSP-A-011 have been updated to reflect LEP participation in the North Carolina Testing and Accountability Programs for the 2008-09 school year and beyond. Included in the changes are the new criteria for receiving testing accommodations and for participating in the North Carolina state-designated alternate assessment. As part of the review, the policies were also updated to be consistent with current federal and state policies and practices.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the amendments to policies HSP-C-021 and HSP-A-011 be approved, and that the APA process be initiated for HSP-C-021.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 4 – State Graduation Requirements Revision of HSP-N-004

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-N-004

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Leadership for Innovation and School Transformation), Dr. Wandra C. Polk (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and

Technology Division), and Dr. Sarah McManus (Section Chief, Testing Policy and Operations)

Description:

HSP-N-004 was reviewed and revisions have been suggested to clarify the policy.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board members review and comment on policy #HSP-N-004, as attached, at its August 2008 meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that this item will be brought forth as a discussion item again in September because the Committee is waiting to receive additional information for further clarification.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 5 – More at Four Pre-kindergarten Curriculum Recommendations

Policy Implications: More at Four Guidelines and Requirements

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

Description:

More at Four, the state-funded pre-kindergarten program housed within the Office of School Readiness, requires the use of a research-based curriculum in all funded classrooms across the state. In an effort to define an approved list of curricula from which programs must choose, the Office of School Readiness convened a Curricula Review Committee to conduct a thorough analysis of all pre-kindergarten curricula submissions. The resulting recommendations of the Committee are submitted for State Board approval and subsequent inclusion in the More at Four Guidelines and Requirements.

Recommendations:

The State Board is asked to approve a list of curricula for use in More at Four classrooms across the state. The list will become effective in the 2009-10 program year.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in August and will be presented at the September meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 5)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, Ms. Patricia Willoughby provided a brief overview about the following new business item:

- Middle Grades Second Language Waiver Request

**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): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Ms. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services), Mrs. Rebecca Payne (Director, Career and Technical Education Division), Dr. Wandra Polk (Director, Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Division), and Ms. Tracey Greggs (Lead Section Chief, Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Division)

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.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve these grants.

State Board of Career-Technical Education

Chairman Lee asked for a motion to convene as the State Board of Career-Technical Education in order to discuss the Carl D. Perkins College Tech Prep Grants. A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Ms. Eulada Watt. The Board voted unanimously to convene as the State Board of Career-Technical Education.

Attachment 1 – Approval of Carl D. Perkins College Tech Prep Grants

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell directed Board Members to pg. 8 of Attachment 1 and provided a brief overview of the recommendations pending available funding and satisfactory performance.
- There was no further discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Mr. John Tate to adjourn the meeting of the State Board of Career-Technical Education and reconvene as the State Board of Education. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting of the State Board of Career-Technical Education and to reconvene as the State Board of Education.

Attachment 2 – Personal Financial Literacy Grant Awards

Attachment 3 – NCLB Enhancing Education through Technology – IMPACT II Year 2 Awards

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell directed Board Members to Attachment 2. He noted that there are only six applications representing four districts in NC. According to Mr. Howell, the TCS Committee is concerned by the low number of districts submitting proposals and will revisit

this item for further discussion in the future. He noted the Committee's recommendation to approve all six proposals for grant funding.

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell directed Board Members to Attachment 3. The Committee recommends awarding Year 2 funding for all five middle schools to provide the necessary personnel, resources, access, professional development, and student instruction to produce technologically literate students by the eighth grade and have a significant impact on the academic achievement of the school's student population. The grants are based on ADM, and range from \$166,716 to \$278,388 and may be renewable for Year 3 based on implementation, evaluation, performance and the availability of EETT funds.
- There was no further discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 2 – Requests for Waiver of the Repayment Obligation of the National Board Certification Participation Fee

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-296.2, SBE Policy # QP-F-001

Presenter(s): Ms. Katie Cornetto (Staff Attorney, State Board of Education Office) and Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services)

Description:

A teacher for whom the State pays the participation fee for National Board Certification who does not complete the process or who completes the process but does not teach in a North Carolina public school for at least one year after completing the process is required to repay the participation fee to the State. In compliance with GS §115C-296.2, the State Board of Education established an appeals process through which individuals could request waiver of the repayment obligation. An appeals panel considered the appeals of 23 teachers who did not complete or attempt the process. The Board will consider personnel issues related to the requests in closed session. Action on First Reading is requested.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the recommendations of the appeals panel.

Discussion/Comments:

- This item was discussed in closed session.

(See Attachment TCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 3 – 2008-09 Special Provisions

Policy Implications: General Statute # HB 2436

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

Description:

Fourteen special provisions in House Bills recently passed by the General Assembly state that the State Board of Education "may" proceed as indicated in the bill to redirect or use funds. General Statute §115C-12(11) of the State Public School Laws allows the SBE to use available funds for special school projects. These special provisions and one special project are being presented for the Board's review.

The State Board of Education must authorize the allowed actions. Also included are three provisions which are mandated but require the SBE to develop a plan or policies.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board approve the actions allowed in the special provisions.

Discussion/Comments:

- Directing Board Members to their attachments, Mrs. McConkey highlighted aspects of the fourteen special provisions in House Bills recently passed by the General Assembly.
- TCS Committee Chair Howell commended Dr. Ben Matthews and Representative Doug Yongue for their work as it relates to HB 2436, Section 7.18(a), Plant Operation Funding.
- Mrs. McConkey noted that the SBE is directed to modify its policy on the allotment of funds for small schools by defining small schools to include schools of fewer than 110 students and giving consideration to small, geographically isolated schools over other qualifying programs and schools. In closing, Mrs. McConkey noted that GS § 115C-12(11) – Power to Conduct Education Research states: “The Board is authorized to sponsor or conduct education research and special school projects considered important by the Board for improving the public schools of the state. It is requested that the SBE authorize the Department to use \$1.5 million of the staff development appropriations to fund the executive evaluation instrument training and the teacher evaluation instrument training.
- A brief discussion occurred regarding the fourteen provisions.

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 4 – Program Approval Requests Under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act

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

Presenter(s): Ms. Tabitha Grossman (Director, Learn and Earn Early College High Schools)

Description:

An Act to Establish the Innovative Education Initiatives Act, Section 2, Article 16 of Chapter 115C-238, Part 9, Cooperative Innovative High School Programs authorizes boards of trustees of community colleges and local boards of education, the Board of Governors of the UNC System and the independent colleges to jointly establish cooperative innovative programs in high schools and community colleges that will expand students’ opportunities for education success through high quality instructional programming. These cooperative innovative high school programs shall target: (1) high school students who are at risk of dropping out of high school before attaining a high school diploma or (2) high school students who would benefit from accelerated academic instruction. GS §115C-238.53, (f) states “Except as provided in this Part and pursuant to the terms of the agreement, a program is exempt from laws and rules applicable to a local board of education, a local school administrative unit, a community college, or a local board of trustees of a community college.”

The attachment for this item includes the applying schools, the waivers requested, barriers needing to be removed, and recommendations to support the first year of implementation along with programmatic details and a copy of the enabling legislation.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve the request.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment TCS 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
TCS 5 – ABCs Incentive Award Formula

Policy Implications: N/A

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

Description:

ABC Incentive awards are projected to be \$134,198,368 for FY 2007-08. The General Assembly appropriated \$90 million to cover the awards and included the following language in the Budget Bill:

SECTION 7.3.(a) of HB 2436: The State Board of Education shall limit the amount expended for this program to the average expenditure for this program over the last 11 years, which is ninety-four million three hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred twelve dollars (\$94,325,612).

Because awards for schools that exceeded projected growth (\$1,500 + benefits for certified positions and \$500 + benefits for teacher assistants) and for schools that met growth projections (\$750 + benefits for certified positions and \$375 for teacher assistants) totals more than \$94,325,612, the award levels will need to be adjusted to enable the actual award distribution to be within the legislated maximum pay out.

<u>Certified</u>	<u>Teacher Assistants</u>
Exceeded Projected Growth	
\$1,053	\$351
Met Growth Projections	
\$ 527	\$263

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve the revised award levels.

Discussion/Comments:

- This item was presented on Thursday.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment TCS 5)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
TCS 6 – SBE Plan for the Use of Mentor Funds and Mentor Training

Policy Implications: Section 7.8 of Session Law 2008-107

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Dr. Jesse Dingle (Director, Talent Development and Management Division)

Description:

The 2008 Budget Bill contains a special provision that requires the State Board of Education to allot funds for mentoring services to local school administrative units based on the highest number of employees in the preceding three school years who (i) are paid with state, federal, or local funds and (ii) are either teachers paid on the first or second steps of the teacher salary schedule or instructional support personnel paid on the first step of the instructional support personnel salary schedule. LEAs are to use these funds to provide mentoring support to eligible employees in accordance with a plan approved by the State Board of Education. The plan shall also include information on how all mentors in the LEAs will be trained to provide mentoring support.

Recommendations:

It is requested that the SBE approve the plan for the use of mentor funds and mentor training.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell directed Board members to their yellow Executive Summary. He noted the Committee's recommendation to the Board to approve the 2008-09 transition plan for the use of the mentor funds. For 2009-10, it is recommended that the TCP Committee review the policy issues associated with this item.
- Dr. Rebecca Garland reported that a committee will be convened to develop a plan for a series of options for the SBE's 2009-10 plan for mentors.
- There was no further discussion.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment TCS 6)

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

(See Attachment in book)

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell encouraged Board members to review the contracts listed for information in the Board book.
- There was no further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell provided a brief overview of the following new business items:

- Communications Update
- NC WISE Update
- 2009-2011 Biennial Budget – Due by November 14
- Statewide Child Nutrition Procurement Alliance
- Intern Projects

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

Ms. Eulada Watt welcomed two new members to the TCP Committee: Dr. Debra Morris and Ms. Cindi Rigsbee.

ACTION ON FIRST READING

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

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-A-021

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, 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 addressed in closed session.

(See Attachment TCP 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 2 – Final Decision in Contested Cases – Joshua Apple vs. DPI, Gregory Bates vs. DPI, and Heather Brame vs. SBE

Policy Implications: General Statute § 150B-36

Presenter(s): Ms. Katie Cornetto, Staff Attorney

Description:

Joshua Apple filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI's denial of a teaching license. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Gregory Bates filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI's denial of graduate pay. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Heather Brame 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 upheld the agency's action.

Recommendations:

The State Board is requested to adopt the final decisions presented by staff.

Discussion/Comments:

- This item was addressed in closed session.

Action on this item will be taken at the regular business session of the SBE meeting on Thursday, August 7. (See Attachment TCP 2)

DISCUSSION**TCP 3 – Renaming the Hearing Impaired Teacher License Area**

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-A-001

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, SBE Office) and Dr. Rachael Ragin (Consultant, Deaf Education and Audiology, Exceptional Children Division)

Description:

At the suggestion of the individuals working on revising standards for deaf education teacher education programs, a proposal to change the name of the license area from hearing impaired to deaf and hard of hearing is presented for discussion. The proposed change reflects current and preferred terminology.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the proposal to rename the Hearing Impaired licensure area as the Deaf and Hard of Hearing licensure area be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

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

DISCUSSION**TCP 4 – Proposed Rubric for Preservice Teachers and the Teacher Education Program Approval Process**

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-B-004

Presenter(s): Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, Office of the State Board of Education)

Description:

In January, the State Board approved a comprehensive revision of the program approval process. In the revised process, the seven-year on-site review cycle will be replaced with an annual review of evidence that candidates recommended for licensure meet the NC Teacher Standards. Staff have worked with McREL to develop an assessment instrument for preservice candidates that is aligned with the new evaluation instrument for teachers. The instrument will be used to assess both individual candidates and teacher education programs.

Recommendations:

The Board is asked to approve the proposed preservice teacher and teacher education program instrument.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris directed Board members to their Board materials to review the evaluation rubric. Ms. Harris noted that university representatives applauded this newly aligned instrument.
- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

TCP 5 – Teacher Evaluation Policies

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-C-003, TCP-C -004, and TCP-C-006

Presenter(s): Ms. Carolyn McKinney (Executive Director, NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission)

Description:

In June 2007, the State Board of Education adopted new standards presented by the NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission for the evaluation of teachers. Following adoption of the new standards, the Department of Public Instruction contracted with McREL to develop and validate a new evaluation instrument. A new instrument has been developed, piloted, and validated. The new instrument was approved at the June 2008 State Board meeting. Related policies that would require teachers be evaluated annually using the new instrument, completion of state-approved training on the new instrument, and reporting of summative ratings on the new instrument are presented for discussion this month.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed policies related to the evaluation of teachers.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Harris noted that their Committee’s discussion centered around SBE Policy #TCP-C-004(c) and the rollout. The TCP Committee will revisit this item in September.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 6 – Individual Growth Plan for Beginning and Career Teachers

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #TCP-C-003, TCP-C-004, and TCP-C-006

Presenter(s): Ms. Carolyn McKinney (Executive Director, NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission)

Description:

In June 2007, the State Board of Education adopted new standards presented by the NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission for the evaluation of teachers. Following adoption of the new standards, the Department of Public Instruction contracted with McREL to develop and validate a new evaluation instrument. A new instrument has been developed, piloted, and validated. The new instrument was approved at the June 2008 State Board meeting. As a part of the process, the Individual Growth Plan

(IGP) document for Beginning Teachers and Career teachers has been updated and is presented for Action on First Reading.

Recommendations:

The proposed IGPs are presented for Action on First Reading this month.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Eulada Watt noted that the TCP Committee determined no action is required for this item at present. The Board is asked to receive this item for information only.

For information only. (See Attachment TCP 6)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, Ms. Shirley Harris provided a brief overview about the following new business items discussed in the TCP Committee meeting:

- Update on the Teacher and School Executive Evaluation Instrument Training
- Update from the ad hoc committee on Non-Teaching Work Experience and Graduate Pay
- Update on Licensure (Board members asked for a copy of the backlog chart.)
- SBE Plan for the Use of Mentor Funds and Mentor Training

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

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, LFI Committee Co-Chair Tom Speed provided a brief overview about the following new business items discussed in the LFI Committee meeting:

- Comprehensive Support
- Update on Learn & Earn Implementation Grants – Planning Sites

CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wayne McDevitt moved that the Board go into closed session to consult with the attorneys on attorney-client privileged matters and to consider the handling of the following cases: Joshua Apple v. NCDPI; Gregory Bates v. NCDPI; Heather Brame v. NCDPI; and Hoke County v. the State and one or more personnel issues described in General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(6). Mr. Tom Speed seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

Ms. Kathy Taft moved that the Board adjourn closed session and return to open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Tate, and the Board voted unanimously to go into open session.

Following closed session and upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt and seconded by Ms. Tricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 7, 2008.

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

Howard N. Lee, Chairman
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Shirley Harris
Kevin Howell
Tom Speed

Kathy Taft
John Tate
Eulada Watt
Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent
Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor
Debra Morris, Principal Advisor

Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher Advisor
Sue Stone, Local Board Member 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. Chairman Lee noted that Dr. Bryan Setser will present his information item on NCVPS this morning and immediately following the Board meeting, the Board will celebrate the one-year anniversary of the NC Virtual Public School.

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 reminded Board members that Ms. Melissa Bartlett is absent today due to previously scheduled commitments in her school system.

Chairman Lee recognized Mr. Kevin Howell to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MINUTES

Chairman Lee asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 24 emergency-called Board meeting and the July 1 conference call Board meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Patricia Willoughby and seconded by Mr. John Tate. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the minutes for both meetings as presented.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

- Outgoing Chairman, The Advisory Commission on Raising Achievement and Closing Gaps
 - Dr. Joseph F. Johnson

Chairman Lee explained that due to last minute developments in Dr. Johnson's schedule, this item has been delayed for a future meeting.

GOOD NEWS

- Communities in Schools Presentation: New Evidence-Based Research
 - Ms. Linda Harrill, President/CEO, Communities in Schools (CIS) in North Carolina

Ms. Harrill used a Powerpoint presentation to provide an overview of The CIS Model of Integrated Student Services Results from the CIS National Evaluation. She thanked DPI staff members Dr. Lou Fabrizio and Mr. Ken Gattis for providing data for the study. In July 2008, CIS announced the first set of findings from the five-year longitudinal evaluation. The study, conducted by ICF International, was designed to determine whether CIS has an impact on student-level and school-level outcomes. Results from the newly released school-level evaluation confirm that CIS is one of a small number of dropout prevention organizations with scientifically-based evidence of effectiveness proven to keep students in school, and is the only one to prove that it increases graduation rates, graduating students on time with a regular diploma. Results also confirm that, when implemented with high fidelity, the CIS Model results in a higher percentage of students reaching proficiency in fourth- and eighth-grade reading and math.

In addition, when the CIS Model is effectively implemented, there is a strong correlation with positive school-level outcomes like dropout and graduation rates, and this correlation is much stronger than when services are provided in an uncoordinated fashion.

Quick facts include: 39 local affiliates across North Carolina, presence in 439 school sites, 265,139 students are enrolled in schools in which CIS has a presence and have access to services, and 112,786 are directly connected with services through CIS. Other quick facts include a higher percentage of students remained in school, improved attendance, improved behavior, fewer suspensions, improved achievement, and a higher promotion rate. Currently there are five Performance Learning Centers in Cabarrus, Cumberland, Durham, New Hanover, and Mecklenburg County.

For their information and use, Ms. Harrill was asked to send an electronic list of Quick Facts to Board members.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- NC 2008 AT&T Teacher of the Year SBE Advisor
 - Ms. Cindi Rigsbee
- NC 2008 Wachovia Principal of the Year SBE Advisor
 - Dr. Debra Morris

Ms. Rigsbee and Dr. Morris were recognized as new State Board of Education advisors. The advisors received a plaque, SBE briefcase, mug and pin as a part of this special presentation. Each expressed enthusiasm about the opportunity to serve as advisors for the State Board of Education.

- Presentation of State Board of Education Resolution
 - Dr. Wandra C. Polk, Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Division

Chairman Lee announced the decision of Dr. Wandra Polk to retire from the Department noting that she served with dignity, respect, and intelligence, and has always acted in the best interest of children in her work. Dr. Atkinson commended Dr. Polk for her dedication, competence and collaboration. “She is a person who has planted many educational seeds. The students in our State are benefiting from the wonderful flowers that have bloomed as a result of Dr. Polk’s tireless work on behalf of public education.” Atkinson said. At this time, Chairman Lee invited Dr. Polk forward to receive the resolution below read by Dr. Atkinson. In addition, Chairman Lee presented Dr. Polk with the Old North State Award in recognition of her dedicated service.

Dr. Polk noted many special memories of her time with the Department and thanked the State Board for the opportunity to serve the children of North Carolina.

**North Carolina State Board of Education
Resolution Honoring
Wandra Cromartie Polk
For Her Outstanding Service**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education takes pride in the extraordinary qualities and dedication of the citizens who have served public education in the Department of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wandra Cromartie Polk, Director of the Division of K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology, has demonstrated such qualities and dedication in an exemplary manner during her years of service to the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction as a consultant, a section chief, and a division director; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Polk has excelled above and beyond the call of duty, toiling countless hours, traveling endless miles, and spending many years as a faithful soldier combating ignorance with great passion for the betterment of the lives of children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Board values her leadership and intellect and thanks Dr. Polk for the respect she has always shown to the Board and the remarkable poise with which she has conducted herself at all times, under many circumstances and in many environments, including times of personal and professional challenge; and

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges that Dr. Polk leaves behind an example for all to follow and that those who have crossed her path would say of her, “Job well done”;

WHEREAS, State Board of Education members admire and appreciate her many years of service and that it has been North Carolina’s benefit that Dr. Polk dedicated her career to the service of children and education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Board is reluctant to lose her as the Director of the K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Division, but admires her love for and commitment to her family, and expresses with great gratitude its sincere appreciation to Wandra Cromartie Polk for her service that will long be remembered, and wishes for her and her family continued success and much happiness in the future, and

That the Board, influenced by Dr. Polk’s knowledge, her commitment to the highest standards, and her successful shepherding to implement the Board’s policies, 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 be presented to Dr. Wandra Cromartie Polk.

Howard N. Lee
Chairman, State Board of Education

June St. Clair Atkinson
Secretary to the State Board of Education

August 7, 2008

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

In his remarks, Chairman Lee recognized the Financial and Business Services Summer Interns Ms. Holly Fowler, Ms. Ty Harris, and Ms. Carrie Cooke. He noted that they presented their research projects to the SBE at dinner on Tuesday evening. Their work centered on Ninth Grade Academies as a transition to high school and whether supplemental funding has helped North Carolina counties. He commended Associate Superintendent Philip Price for his work in overseeing this program. The interns expressed gratitude for the opportunity and for the chance to learn and grow within the Department. They received SBE coffee mugs. Also recognized for her work with Staff Attorney Katie Cornetto, Ms. Lindsay Widenhouse served as the SBE legal intern in the State Board Office. Ms. Widenhouse also received an SBE mug. In addition, Mr. Jackson Miller was recognized for his work as the summer intern coordinator in Financial and Business Services. Mr. Miller is leaving the Department to begin his graduate studies at Duke University.

Chairman Lee congratulated Board member Mr. John Tate who was recently honored by the Communities in Schools program in Charlotte/Mecklenburg with the Dreammaker Award. Mr. Tate has been a long-time member of the CIS Board. The award is presented to individuals or corporations who have demonstrated an extraordinary contribution to the education and welfare of children.

In closing, Chairman Lee noted that the Licensure Section is in the middle of its season of extreme pressure, with recent spring university and college teacher education program graduations. He asked everyone for patience as the staff are working extremely hard to process applications as quickly as possible.

Executive Director's Report

SBE Executive Director Rebecca Garland provided a brief report about her recent activities. In July, she attended the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF) with Board Member Shirley Harris, Mr. Eric Hirsh, Ms. Carolyn McKinney, and Dr. Betty Epanchin. The North Carolina delegation presented the teacher standards. Dr. Garland noted that there was a lot of interest in our having articulated standards and set expectations for teachers while being a 21st century state where creativity and innovation are the keys to success.

In addition, she presented at the annual Network Conference in Wilmington. At this conference, she shared progress on new student essential standards and authentic assessments that will be developed from them.

In September, a team will travel to the annual meeting of the America Diploma Project. Team members include: State Superintendent June Atkinson, Dr. Bruce Mallett (UNC-GA), Dr. Delores Parker (NC Community College System), Board Member Kathy Taft, Ms. Mary Linda Andrews (NCBCE), and Ms. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, DPI).

In final comments, Dr. Garland reported that she will travel to Lenoir County Schools on August 18 to present the State Board's goals and priorities at the system's annual Employee Convocation.

Legislative Report

Legislative Liaison Chris Minard provided a brief legislative summary of the 2008 Session of the General Assembly. Ms. Minard provided information about the enacted education/education-related bills, the Study Act (HB 2431) which includes policy issues regarding school personnel, the compulsory school attendance age, More at Four, participation of students with disabilities in Learn and Earn Early College High Schools, et. al. In addition, she reported on budget appropriations for ABC bonuses, fuel, teacher and state employee salaries, retiree cost of living adjustments, child nutrition services, and State Board funds to implement pilot programs to address childhood obesity. Ms. Minard provided a packet of material to Board Members summarizing the special provisions in addition to the House and Senate budgets. Also included in the packet are the technical corrections bills and study bills pertinent to K-12 public education. In closing, Ms. Minard called attention to several key bills - the reestablishment of the Dropout Prevention and High School Graduation Committee, Plant Operation Funding, and HB15 – Personal Leave Time with No Penalty, The Jessica Lunford Act, the Teacher Mentor Bill, and SB 1541 – Interstate Compact Education of Military Children, et. al.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

State Superintendent June Atkinson prefaced her report by highlighting a success story: Avery High School had 132 graduates this year. Of those graduates, 80 percent received college transfer credit with an average of 14 hours per student. One student earned 54 credits with all of the credits accepted at Appalachian State University.

CCSSO Summer Institute

It was announced at the Council of Chief State School Officers' July summer institute that the Bill and Linda Gates Foundation has awarded a multi-million dollar grant to the Council of Chief State School Officers to develop voluntary instructional standards. This three-year grant will provide funding to

- Benchmark content to international standards, where available
- Focus on standards and assessments necessary for the 21st century

A case study approach was used during the institute to discuss in depth these topics

- Exploring educational system coherence

- Deepening reform efforts to improve learning
- Improving teacher quality

America Diploma Project – Algebra II Exam

The first administration of the 2007-08 Algebra II exam was successful with 17 states participating. The released report shows only total raw scores and percentages correct so no conclusions can be made. According to ADP, because this is the first administration, performance standards have not been set. At the recommendation of Research Alliance (technical advisors), the standard setting is delayed until after the Spring 2009 administration so that validity evidence can be collected and used to inform the standard- setting process.

Graduation Awareness Initiative

The Superintendent's Graduation Awareness Initiative was kicked off with a staff preview of the InsideOut DVD on August 8 and was followed the next day by an education association and community group preview. Approximately 80 participants representing 60 organizations attended the August 9 meeting. In addition to the preview, participants learned about campaign tools that would be available to implement a graduation awareness initiative within their respective organizations.

It was also announced that September 7-13 will be proclaimed by Governor Easley as Graduation Awareness Week.

Jumpstart's Read for the Record

Jumpstart's *Read for the Record* brings national attention to the importance of preparing our children to read at an early age by organizing the world's largest shared reading experience. With many sponsors, *Read for the Record* will take place on October 2, with readers of all ages joining together to break the world record for the most children reading the same book with an adult on the same day. (See attachment.)

NC-DPI Agency-wide Meeting

The NC-DPI Agency-wide Meeting will be held on August 27 at McKimmon Center, Raleigh. The theme of the meeting is "Going for the Gold: A Call to Excellence." The keynote speaker for the opening session is Dan Heath, author of "Made to Stick." Twenty different breakout sessions will be offered. The closing session will feature a challenge from Superintendent June Atkinson and presentation of employee service and performance awards.

Superintendents' Quarterly Meetings

June 30, 2008 Quarterly Meeting Topics:

- NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching opportunities and successes
- Collaboration with postsecondary education in NC
- Connectivity
- School transportation
- Budget and legislation
- DPI initiatives

October 21, 2008 Quarterly Meeting Plans:

- Dr. Jim Goodnight, SAS CEO, keynote speaker
- Innovative uses of technology in NC schools
- Location - RTP Sheraton Hotel

Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

- Presented remarks or keynote address at the:
 - Miss North Carolina Scholarship and Recognition Program

- RESA Directors Update Meeting
- Summer Leadership Conference
- NC Career-Technical Education Summer Conference
- Financial and Business Services Summer Conference
- Person County Summer Leadership Conference
- Power of K Summer Institute
- Communities in Schools' NC Education Ball
- Catawba County Chamber of Commerce Champion of Education Breakfast
- Hickory Rotary Club
- Leadership for Turnaround Middle Schools Brunch Recognition Ceremony
- International Delta Kappa Gamma Convention
- Participated in the NC Cooperative Extension Service Collaboration Meeting

Attachments:

1. Jumpstart's *Read for the Record* Fact Sheet
2. Title I Supplemental Education Services Flexibility Agreement Approval from U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings

Personnel Actions

Superintendent Atkinson recommended that the State Board approve the personnel recommendation of Dr. Rebecca Garland as the Chief Academic Officer presented in closed session on Wednesday, August 6, 2008.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board unanimously approved the personnel recommendation presented on Wednesday, August 6, in the Personnel Report in closed session and available now to the public.

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

INFORMATION

LFI 1 – NC Virtual Public School/Learn & Earn Online (LEO) – Director's Report

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

Presenter(s): Dr. Bryan Setser (Director, NC Virtual Public Schools)

Description:

A detailed report on year one progress and data from the North Carolina State Friday Institute for Educational Innovation - Evaluation Report.

Recommendations:

This item is being provided as an informational update to the State Board of Education.

Discussion/Comments:

- Dr. Setser shared a detailed summary of year one results and progress of the North Carolina Virtual Public School. Since 2007, total enrollment figures equal 25,565. He also provided academic highlights and gave a credit recovery update. In addition, Dr. Setser reported that E-learning

proposals have been heard per the North Carolina State Board Policy on e-learning. The following providers have been grandfathered to work with school districts this fall of 2008. Although not a single provider has data regarding EOC results in credit recovery classes, they did provide data as to how many districts were currently being served.

Apex: 11
Odyssey Ware: 2
EPIC: 1
Virtual High School: 21
PLATO: 26
Pearson/NovaNet: 57
Robeson County Virtual: 12

After a year in BETA development, NCVPS will offer statewide credit recovery in Algebra I and English I this fall on a mastery pace schedule. This spring, NCVPS will offer credit recovery in the following courses: Algebra II, Geometry, Civics, US History, Physical Science and English IV. According to Dr. Setser, their recommendation after a year of study is that NCVPS needs to develop its own content and ensure that districts choose NCVPS services first as the free provider. NCVPS is currently working on procedures that will establish tiers of providers and how schools and/or LEAs will be processed if they do not utilize the free resources of North Carolina Virtual Public School and/or Learn and Earn Online as the primary option for e-learning in North Carolina. More details will be shared and taken through the Leadership for Innovation committee in the coming months. Dr. Setser reviewed the seven Summative Recommendations from the Evaluation Report. (See attachment) In closing, Dr. Setser used a video to show how NCVPS is responding to recommendations from the study.

- Board Vice Chairman McDevitt expressed disappointment in the number of LEA superintendents responding to the survey. Dr. Setser noted equal disappointment and reported that they will address this issue during the next campaign as local superintendent input is critical.

This item is for information only. (See Attachment LFI 1)

**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 ON FIRST READING

**GCS 1 – AYP Results for High Schools, AYP Math Results for Elementary and Middle Schools, ABCs
Growth and Cohort Graduation Rates**

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-105.36; NCLB Act of 2001

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the AYP results that are reported and the ABCs growth determinations for the schools.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the AYP results that are reported and the ABCs growth determinations for the schools. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 2 – Update on Framework for Change’s “Writing Assessment”

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-F-013; No Child Left Behind: Title III

Recommendations:

State Board Members are requested to review and approved the attached information.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2008 Option 1 Writing Assessment Pilot for grades 4-7 effective with the 2008-09 school year. (See Attachment GCS 2)

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 2 – Final Decision in Contested Cases: Joshua Apple vs. DPI; Gregory Bates vs. DPI; and Heather Brame vs. SBE

Policy Implications: General Statute § 150B-36

Recommendations:

The State Board is requested to adopt the final decisions presented by staff.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the final decisions of the Administrative Law Judge as their final decisions in the contested cases of Joshua Apple, Gregory Bates, and Heather Brame. (See Attachment TCP 2)

**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: Grant

- Attachment 1 - Carl D. Perkins College Tech Prep Grants
- Attachment 2 - Personal Financial Literacy Grant Awards
- Attachment 3 – NCLB Enhancing Education through Technology – IMPACT II Year 2 Awards

Recommendations:

The grants listed above are submitted for approval of distribution of funds to selected school systems.

A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt to adjourn the State Board of Education and convene the State Board of Career-Technical Education. The Board voted unanimously to convene as the State Board of Career-Technical Education.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the distribution of Carl D. Perkins College Tech Prep Grant funds to selected school systems as submitted. (See TCS 1, Attachment 1)

A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt to adjourn the State Board of Career-Technical Education and reconvene the State Board of Education. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting of the State Board of Career-Technical Education and to reconvene as the State Board of Education.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Eulada Watt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the distribution of funds to selected school systems as submitted for the Personal Financial Literacy grants and move this item for further study by the GCS Committee to increase the level of interest. (See Attachment TCS 1)

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the distribution of funds to selected school systems as submitted for the NCLB Enhancing Education through Technology grants. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
TCS 2 – Requests for Waiver of the Repayment Obligation of the National Board Certification Participation Fee

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-296.2; SBE Policy #QP-F-001

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the Board approve the recommendations of the appeals panel.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Eulada Watt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the appeals panel. (See Attachment TCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING
TCS 3 – 2008-09 Special Provisions
Policy Implications: General Statute § HB 2436, HB 2438, HB 1473, HB545 & GS115C-12(11)

Recommendations:
It is recommended that the State Board approve the actions allowed in the special provisions and general statute.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Eulada Watt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the actions allowed in the special provisions and general statute. (See Attachment TCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING**TCS 4 – Program Approval Requests Under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act**

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

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve the request.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act. (See Attachment TCS 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING**TCS 5 – ABCs Incentive Award Formula**

Policy Implications: N/A

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve the revised award levels.

Discussion/Comments:

- Mr. Price gave a brief summary of the incentive awards citing that the Budget Bill capped the total maximum amount that may be distributed for ABC bonuses. A brief discussion ensued regarding this historic legislative capping.
- Chairman Lee noted that the Board should ready themselves to look carefully at this issue within the next few months to plan for the next legislative session.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted to approve the revised award levels. Ms. Shirley Harris voted in opposition. (See Attachment TCS 5)

ACTION ON FIRST READING**TCS 6 – SBE Plan for the Use of Mentor Funds and Mentor Training**

Policy Implications: Section 7.8 of Session Law 2008-107

Recommendations:

It is requested that the SBE approve the plan for the use of mentor funds and mentor training.

- Dr. Garland noted that the Board has requested that an ad hoc committee be convened to align our policies and develop a plan in time for our budget request in January.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2008-09 Transition Plan for the use of mentor funds and mentor training. (See Attachment TCS 6)

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Lee announced that he is prepared to sign a letter directed to the Office of Budget and Management on behalf of the State Board that the Office of Budget and Management make available appropriated funds in the amount of \$1 million to be used for informing eighth and ninth graders about the opportunities of Learn and Earn, Learn and Earn Online, NCVPS, as well as developing strategies for communicating this information. The legislature appropriated these funds but made the State Board responsible for requesting the funds be released for these purposes.

Chairman Lee asked for a motion to approve the Chair acting on behalf of the State Board of Education for making this request. Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board unanimously approved this request.

Adoption of the 2009 SBE Meeting Schedule

Chairman Lee asked for a motion to adopt the 2009 SBE Meeting Schedule(three-day schedule) as presented. Upon motion by Mr. John Tate and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board unanimously approved the SBE meeting schedule as presented.

DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Deputy State Superintendent J.B. Buxton provided an update on the Department's strategic planning and performance management tool. The tool is now online and ready to view at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/performance/>.

In addition, Mr. Buxton reported that the NC School Innovation Tour Day (Nov. 18, 2008) will showcase at least one innovative school, program or practice in each school district and at selected charter schools across the state. This Innovations Tour will allow news media, local/state policymakers/lawmakers, community leaders and Department of Public Instruction (DPI) staff the opportunity to see innovative practices underway in your schools. The Department is currently canvassing the LEAs requesting innovative initiatives in process to include in the tour.

In closing, Mr. Buxton was pleased to report that Guilford County is working toward the June 30 deadline for NCWISE. In addition, the transformation high school recently discussed is back on track.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Howard Lee requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt and seconded by Mr. John Tate, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the August 6-7, 2008, meeting of the State Board of Education.