

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
December 4, 2008**

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, December 4, 2008	Board Room, 8:30 AM
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

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

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Sue Stone, Local Board Member Advisor
Debra Morris, Principal Advisor	TeDarryl Powell, Junior Student Advisor
Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher Advisor	James Bell, Teacher Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Lee called the Thursday session of the December State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. After extending a warm welcome to all present, Chairman Lee explained the adjustment to the State Board's meeting format which streamlines the processes and ensures efficiency of the Board's work.

The Chairman noted that Board Member Wayne McDevitt was participating in today's meeting via conference call.

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 recognized Ms. Patricia Willoughby 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 November State Board of Education meeting. A motion was made by Mr. John Tate and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the November 6, 2008, meeting as presented.

SPECIAL REMARKS

- Dr. Ed Dunlap, Executive Director
 - North Carolina School Boards Association

Dr. Dunlap prefaced his presentation by introducing staff members Ms. Leanne Winner, Director of Governmental Relations, and Mr. Conor Brockett, NCSBA Staff Attorney.

In opening comments, Dr. Dunlap noted that in the spring of 2007, the North Carolina State Board of Education (SBE) established performance standards for superintendents and other central office administrators designed to serve as a tool to aid in the improvement of school district leadership for 21st century schools. As a result, the NCSBA Board of Directors directed Dr. Dunlap to begin dialogue with the membership with the goal of establishing professional governance standards for North Carolina's 21st century school boards that would align with the efforts of the SBE resulting in a cohesive set of standards to guide the governance team in creating conditions that foster improved achievement levels for all students.

Dr. Dunlap noted that in 2000, the National School Boards Association developed a framework called the *Key Work of School Boards* to help local school boards carry out their work. This framework outlines the following eight key areas: Vision, Standards, Assessment, Accountability, Alignment, Climate, Collaborative Relationships, and Continuous Improvement. After careful review, the NCSBA concluded that the framework aligns with the State Board of Education's work. Therefore, based on the framework and combining the Key Work with the State Board's work, the governance standards were developed. After an 18-month process, Dr. Dunlap was pleased to present the *NCSBA Governance Standards for 21st Century School Boards* which was passed by the delegate assembly at the NCSBA Annual Conference in November.

In other news, Dr. Dunlap noted that the NCSBA is currently studying a module of their Master Board Program. The program, which is a joint project of the North Carolina School Boards Association and the School of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, responds to the desire of the school district's leadership team to train as a unit and address the board issues that pertain to an individual school system. He also noted that a meeting is scheduled with Dr. Jean Williams of McREL to talk about the matrix for the evaluation of superintendents to ensure that local boards have buy-in and understanding.

In addition, Dr. Dunlap spoke briefly about NCSBA's legislative agenda. In August, 2008, the North Carolina courts ruled that the State of North Carolina owed the public schools \$747 million for fines and forfeitures collected from January 1, 1996, to June 30, 2005. Under North Carolina's Constitution, all fines and forfeitures are to go to the public schools. The ruling further stipulates that these funds are to be used solely for school technology.

Further, Dr. Dunlap called attention to school board member ethics. Currently school board members are required to obtain 12 hours of training per year. There is, however, no enforcement of this requirement. NCSBA supports adding a provision to the law creating a civil fine assessed against the individual school board member of \$100 per hour for each hour that a school board member does not fulfill the required training. NCSBA further supports adding a new requirement that new school board members complete the new board member training session by the NCSBA within 12 months of being sworn in to office. This would count toward the 12 hours for that year.

In closing, Dr. Dunlap reminded Board members that they are ex-officio members of NCSBA, and invited them to participate in their upcoming meetings.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Outgoing Local Board of Education Advisor to the State Board of Education
 - Ms. Sue Stone, Surry County Schools

Chairman Lee thanked Ms. Sue Stone, NCSBA’s Raleigh Dingman award winner and Local Board Member Advisor, for her commitment to public education. He noted that Ms. Stone has offered insightful comments during committee and Board meetings and has served her community well for many years through her support of public schools and her school board work. Superintendent Atkinson and Board member Kathy Taft presented Ms. Stone with an SBE mug and plaque commemorating her service. Ms. Stone thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve noting an exciting and rewarding experience. Pictures were taken of the presentation.

- North Carolina Virtual Public School – Eighth in the Nation

Mr. John Brim, Assistant Director/Chief Operations Officer/Learn and Earn Online, explained that a survey conducted by the Center for Digital Education ranked the North Carolina Virtual Public School, created under the leadership of Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue, as one of the top 10 state-led virtual schools in the nation. In 2008, the Center for Digital Education conducted a review of state policy and programs to determine the status of online learning policy and practice across the United States, and this ranking is a result of that review process.

North Carolina's ranking reflects the vision, policies, programs and strategies that North Carolina has deployed around e-learning in an effort to transform education to meet the needs of students. The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) now ranks eighth in the nation and has positioned itself as a rising leader in e-learning.

Mr. Brim presented the recognition plaque to State Superintendent June Atkinson. Pictures were taken of the presentation.

RESOLUTION

- A Resolution in Support of Family and Consumer Sciences Education – 100th Year

State Superintendent June Atkinson noted that this year marks the 100th birthday of the Family and Consumer Sciences Education program, formerly known as the Home Economics program. At this time, Dr. Atkinson read the following resolution honoring the program on the occasion of its 100th birthday.

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
A Resolution in Support of Family and Consumer Sciences Education**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education is committed to the goal of ensuring that North Carolina public school students will be healthy and responsible, and
WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education believes that every school should promote a healthy, active lifestyle where students are encouraged to make responsible choices; and
WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education believes that every school should focus on developing strong student character, personal responsibility, and community/world involvement; and
WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Education expects every school to reflect a culture of learning that empowers and prepares students to be lifelong learners; and

WHEREAS, Family and Consumer Sciences was founded on January 1, 1909, as a field of work and study known as *home economics* to address practical applications of the natural and social sciences; and
WHEREAS, the vision of Family and Consumer Sciences is to empower individuals and families across the life span to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society; and,
WHEREAS, the unique focus of Family and Consumer Sciences is on families, work, and their interrelationships; and
WHEREAS, Family and Consumer Sciences professionals continue to respond to changing needs of modern-day individuals, families, communities, and the workplace; and
WHEREAS, Family and Consumer Sciences Education functions today within the larger field of career and technical education, supports national career clusters, and endorses initiatives and philosophies of 21st Century Skills; and
WHEREAS, Family and Consumer Sciences unites a variety of professionals who work in specialty areas to enhance safety and quality of life; and
WHEREAS, Family and Consumer Sciences Education will celebrate the 100th birthday in all 100 North Carolina counties from July 1, 2008, through July 30, 2009;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina State Board of Education recognizes January 1, 2009, as the 100th Birthday of Family and Consumer Sciences Education in North Carolina, and encourages citizens of the state to support the efforts of Family and Consumer Sciences Education as they work to empower individuals, strengthen families, and enable communities.

 Howard N. Lee
 Chairman, NC State Board of Education

 December 4, 2008
 Date

Ms. Rebecca Payne, Director, Career Technology Education, presented the following students who spoke briefly about the difference Family and Consumer Sciences Education has made in their lives: Ms. Nicole McGaha, President, NC Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (NC FCCLA) and senior at Rosman High School, Transylvania County; Ms. Amanda Hooker, Senior and Early Childhood Education student at Wakefield High School, Wake County; Mr. Billy Kelly, Senior Vice President and Culinary Arts student at Lee County High, Lee County; Ms. Christina Tessitore, Interior Design alumnus, Wakefield High School, and currently a freshman at Meredith College studying pre-law; Ms. Mary Kathryn Hardison, former NC FCCLA President, and currently a sophomore at Meredith College majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences education. All of the students, along with their parents and administrators, were invited forward to receive the resolution and have their pictures made.

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

In his remarks, Chairman Lee reported that the U.S. Department of Commerce recently announced the 2008 recipients of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards, the nation’s highest Presidential honor for organizational innovation and performance excellence. Recipients were selected from a field of 85 applicants. Chairman Lee was pleased to recognize and extend congratulations to Iredell-Statesville Schools, under the leadership of Dr. Terry Holliday, as one of the three recipients in the nation, and the only educational institution, of this year’s awards.

In closing comments, Chairman Lee noted that, shortly, he would have to depart the meeting to attend to other business matters and Board member Kathy Taft would preside over the meeting in his absence.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**Special Presentation**

- Ms. Cynthia Marshall, President, AT&T North Carolina
- Ms. Candi Finley, Area Manager, AT&T North Carolina
- Dr. Shelley Stewart, President, Mattie C. Stewart Foundation

In opening remarks, Dr. Atkinson spoke briefly about the ongoing initiative involving a number of organizations collaboratively working to improve the graduation rate in North Carolina. Today, Dr. Atkinson recognized several of those organizations including Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, and Dr. Clara Sue Kidwell, Director, of the University of North Carolina American Indian Center. Each of these individuals was presented with SBE mugs and had their pictures made in recognition of their commitment to this effort. Dr. Atkinson also recognized Dr. Rose Marie Townsend, Superintendent, Cherokee Central, and Ms. Brandi Brooks, Program Director of UNC American Indian Center.

At this time, Dr. Atkinson was pleased to recognize Ms. Vanessa Harrison, Director of External Affairs, AT&T-North Carolina, for a special presentation from AT&T. Prior to the presentation, Ms. Harrison noted that AT&T-North Carolina recently committed over \$100 million over a four-year period to ensure that AT&T is engaged in initiatives that will help reduce the dropout rate. On behalf of Ms. Cynthia Marshall, President of AT&T-North Carolina, Ms. Harrison presented a check to Dr. Shelley Stewart, President of the Mattie C. Stewart Foundation in the amount of \$50,000 to use toward reducing the dropout rate and increasing the graduation rate in North Carolina through the InsideOut Program and the Choice Bus rolling classroom. She noted that this grant will provide 5,000 InsideOut Dropout Prevention tool kits to schools across North Carolina representing approximately 400,000 students. Dr. Stewart expressed his thanks and deep appreciation for this grant which is an investment in "homeland security education" in North Carolina.

At this time, Dr. Atkinson presented a book entitled *The Courage to Lead*, authored by Chairman Lee to Dr. Stewart. All of the representatives of AT&T-North Carolina and the Mattie C. Stewart Foundation were presented with mugs and had their pictures taken. In turn, Dr. Stewart presented Ms. Cynthia Marshall, President of AT&T-North Carolina, with his memoir entitled *The Road South*.

"Friend of Education" Award

Following the above presentations, AT&T-North Carolina President Cynthia Marshall was presented with the State Board of Education's most prestigious "Friend of Education" award in recognition of AT&T-North Carolina's "generosity to support causes and programs that improve children's lives." State Board of Education member and North Carolina Business Committee for Education Executive Director Patricia Willoughby presented the award to Ms. Marshall.

AT&T-North Carolina has long been a strong supporter of public education in North Carolina, involved in many different venues and activities across the state. Since Ms. Marshall was named President of AT&T-North Carolina in January 2007, the company has increased its support for education, with an emphasis on dropout prevention. Under her leadership, AT&T-North Carolina sponsors:

- the AT&T North Carolina Teacher of the Year Program;
- the AT&T Cadet Achievement Awards, given by the Carolinas Freedom Foundation to outstanding ROTC cadets from the 18 public high schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg;
- a new site coordinator position at Bruns Ave. Elementary in Charlotte, and adopted the school with employees providing mentor support to at-risk students; and
- the Hertford County e-book initiative on technology literacy.

Ms. Marshall also serves on the North Carolina General Assembly’s Committee on Dropout Prevention and on the North Carolina New Schools Project Board of Directors.

In addition to the “Friend of Education” award, Chairman Lee recognized Ms. Marshall as an individual for her tremendous contributions to education in North Carolina. Board member John Tate presented Ms. Marshall with a crystal apple and an SBE mug. Superintendent June Atkinson read the following resolution honoring Ms. Marshall:

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Resolution Honoring
Cynthia G. Marshall
2008**

- WHEREAS**, the North Carolina State Board of Education takes pride in the extraordinary qualities and dedication of citizens who have served public education; and
- WHEREAS**, Ms. Cynthia G. Marshall, President, AT&T North Carolina, has reflected extraordinary, exceptional qualities and dedication throughout her life as a supporter of education and children; and
- WHEREAS**, Ms. Marshall has willingly and generously partnered with the North Carolina State Board of Education to lend support and assistance to special initiatives and programs; and
- WHEREAS**, Ms. Marshall displays a passion for community service through her many activities on boards and councils; and
- WHEREAS**, her own compelling personal story is one of meeting challenges and adversity and learning to succeed and thrive; and
- WHEREAS**, Cynthia G. Marshall willingly shares her personal story with others and serves as an inspiration to all; and
- WHEREAS**, the Board recognizes Ms. Marshall as a rare and singular individual who gives much to her family, her profession, her community, and her adopted state of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- THAT** the North Carolina State Board of Education expresses its deep appreciation to Ms. Cynthia G. Marshall for having the generosity of heart to support the causes and programs that will improve children’s lives; and
- THAT** the Board, proud to call Ms. Marshall “friend,” looks forward to more and greater partnerships with her on behalf of children and public education; and
- THAT** the Board, influenced by her commitment to community service, hard work, and caring for all children, directs the State Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction 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 Ms. Cynthia G. Marshall.

June St. Clair Atkinson
State Superintendent
NC Department of Public Instruction

Howard N. Lee
Chairman
NC State Board of Education

December 4, 2008
Date

Ms. Marshall expressed honor in being recognized by the State Board of Education in this manner. In addition, she noted the privilege to work for AT&T which makes education its number one priority and its desire to be a part of the solution.

At this time, Chairman Lee called a recess for Board members to go downstairs to take part in the Choice Bus experience first hand.

Superintendents' Quarterly Meeting

Continuing her Superintendent's report, Dr. Atkinson reported that the Superintendents' Quarterly Meeting was held on December 3, 2008. Agenda items included:

- Virtual High School Funding Formula
- ABCs Accountability Model
- DPI Communication Processes
- Communities in Schools of NC Evaluation and Partnership
- InsideOut Choice Bus Tour

The agenda format was redesigned to get feedback from the local superintendents for policy decisions.

State Superintendent's Advisory Council Meetings

The Teachers' and Superintendents' Advisory Council meetings were held on November 7 and 14 respectively. Agenda items included:

- Accountability and Curriculum Revision Effort (ACRE) Project
- ABCs Accountability Proposed Models – A Longitudinal Look
- Retesting

In addition, the superintendents heard about SAS's Graduation Resilience Trigger Reporting Concept. Their next meeting will be conducted virtually via Comotiv on January 9.

CCSSO Policy Forum

The CCSSO Policy Forum was held in Austin, Texas, on November 13-16, 2008. The forum focused on:

- Examination of four strategic areas as drivers of the next generation of educational reform
 - Standards, Assessment, and Accountability
 - Creating a System of Educator Development
 - Systems of Support for Student Learning
 - Comprehensive Data Systems
- President-Elect Obama's leading education priorities and CCSSO's plan for state input into the President's first year education agenda

Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

- Presented remarks or keynote address at the:
 - Woman's Club of Raleigh
 - Woman's Club of Cary
 - Peace College Leadership Seminar
 - Phi Theta Kappa Honorary Society Induction
- Participated in
 - Ireland Study Trip
 - NCAE State Leadership Team Breakfast
 - Public School Forum Board Meeting

Board member Kathy Taft, presiding over the meeting, called on the priority chairs to present items in their respective areas for *Information*.

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

INFORMATION

LFI 5 – Plan for Statewide Assistance for Schools

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

Description:

Historically, immediately following the adoption of the annual ABCs of Public Education test results, the State Board of Education approves the deployment of assistance teams. However, in 2007-2008 the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) instituted a new system of district and school assistance that replaced the assistance team model.

Using a formula that incorporates ABCs status, No Child Left Behind status, and a district’s capacity to provide resources, Academic Services staff compiled a priority list of schools needing assistance from DPI. In addition to serving schools that are Low Performing under the ABCs or in various levels of Improvement under No Child Left Behind, DPI is also required to serve districts that are at the Corrective Action level of District Improvement.

The attachment outlines the Department’s plan for a Statewide System of Support that incorporates the requirements listed above under both the state and federal accountability programs.

Since 2006, the Department has been responding to a directive from Judge Manning and Governor Easley to provide services to high schools with performance composites under 60%. Staff from the District and School Transformation Division have been working with high schools in Turnaround. Dr. Pat Ashley will give an update on the progress of these high schools.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE accept the Plan for a Statewide System of Support at a future SBE meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board member Kathy Taft announced that due to time constraints and the importance of this item, Dr. Rebecca Garland suggested delaying the presentation of the Plan for Statewide Assistance for Schools until the January meeting. There were no objections.
- There was no discussion.

Board member Kathy Taft then called on the priority chairs to present items in their respective areas for *Action and Discussion*.

**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 – Changes to the 2007-08 ABCs/AYP Results

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

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology & Accountability) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

Changes to the 2007-08 ABCs/AYP Report will be presented to the State Board of Education (SBE) for Action on First Reading at the December 2008 meeting.

There may be additional changes to the 2007-08 ABCs/AYP Report if errors are discovered that impact school status.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the changes to the 2007-08 ABCs/AYP Report.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted much discussion about the changes in the 2007-08 ABCs/AYP Report stating most changes were positive. She thanked the Department staff for their work to ensure accuracy in this report.
- Responding to a question from Board member John Tate about one of the elementary schools reverting from met to not met, Dr. Fabrizio explained that the issue dealt with problems with the files for the economically disadvantaged students which was originally underreported. Upon correction, that school went from not having that particular economically disadvantaged subgroup to having it, which caused the school to then not make AYP.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended changes to the 2007-08 ABCs/AYP Report. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 2 – Recommended Interim Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) and Achievement Level Descriptors for the NCEXTENDI Alternate Assessments in Reading and Mathematics Grade 3 Pretest

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C.174.11; SBE Policy # HSP-C-029; Other Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

The recommended interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the *NCEXTENDI* alternate assessments (Edition 2) Grade 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics are provided for Action on First Reading at the December 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education (SBE).

The *NCEXTENDI* is an alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The recommended standards for these tests were set using teacher judgment information and the Contrasting Groups standard setting method.

The department recommends that the standards be adopted as interim and applied to assessments administered during the 2008-09 school year. The interim standards will be re-evaluated in the summer of 2009 when a test-based method will be used to validate the cut scores and the achievement level descriptors. Final achievement level standards and achievement level descriptors will be recommended to the SBE for adoption in fall 2009.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-029 and that the interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for *NCEXTEND1* Grade 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics be approved as provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended amendments to SBE policy # HSP-C-029, the interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) and the achievement level descriptors for NCEXTEND1 Grade 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics as provided. (See Attachment GCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 3 – Recommended Final Cut Scores and Achievement Level Descriptors for NCCLAS Reading and Mathematics Grade 3 Pretest

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

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

The recommended final cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS Grades 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics are being recommended for Action on First Reading at the December 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education (SBE).

The NCCLAS tests are for students with disabilities 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 cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS Grade 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics were generated by Contrasting Groups method which includes participation and input from teachers and content experts.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-024 and that the final cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS Grade 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics be approved as provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted a change in the second paragraph under the description of the Executive Summary which clarifies and corrects who the NCCLAS tests are for “1) students identified as limited English proficient who meet certain eligibility requirements regarding level of English language proficiency and time enrolled in U.S. schools and 2) a limited number of students with disabilities.”
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended amendments to SBE Policy # HSP-C-024 and the final cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS Grade 3 Pretest in Reading and Mathematics as provided. (See Attachment GCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 4 – Recommended Final Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) and Final Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs) for the North Carolina Reading Grade 3 Pretest

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-C-018

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

The final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and the final achievement level descriptors (ALDs) for the Grade 3 Pretest in Reading are being provided for Action on First Reading at the December 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education (SBE).

The test data used to set the standards for the statewide reading pretest was generated from the fall 2008 administration of the tests. The methods used to generate the cut scores for these assessments include (1) Contrasting Groups method which uses teacher judgment and the students' performance on the tests and (2) Test-based method which uses content experts and item analysis.

The department recommends that the standards adopted be applicable to student performance effective with the 2008-09 school year.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-018 and that the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and final achievement level descriptors for the statewide Grade 3 Pretest in Reading be approved as provided.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to accept the amended SBE Policy # HSP-C-018 and the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and final achievement level descriptors for the statewide Grade 3 Pretest in Reading as provided. (See Attachment GCS 4)

DISCUSSION

GCS 5 – Allowing Retest Results in the Calculation of Performance Composites of the ABCs

Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-I-005, HSP-A-004, HSP-C-005; APA #16 NCAC 6D.0305, 16 NCAC 6D.0504

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

The State Board of Education (SBE), in its *Framework for Change* report (Immediate Improvement #5), calls for allowing retest results in the calculation of performance composites of the ABCs for Public Education. “Any student who scores at Achievement Level III on a retest of an end-of-grade test (EOG) or end-of-course (EOC) test for grades or courses included in the Student Accountability Standards [SAS] is to be counted as proficient for the school’s ABCs performance composite and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) purposes. *Effective: 2008-09 school year.*” This will necessitate changes in several current SBE policies and practices and amendments to the NC Accountability Workbook upon subsequent approval from the United States Department of Education (USED). Additional information will be available prior to the December 4th State Board Meeting.

Some LEAs have argued that this item should be expanded to allow retesting at all grade levels and for all courses with EOC assessments. The USED has advised DPI that retest scores can be used at all grade levels and for all EOC assessments **IF** the SBE mandates that retesting be required for all grades and EOC courses and not remain as a local option. This ensures that AYP decisions are made equitably across the state. The June 30th deadline for data transmission to DPI might preclude some LEAs from having their 2nd retest scores available. Therefore, to maintain consistency and equity, only the 1st retest-score will be used for calculations. According to the USED, this will ensure equity across the state in making AYP determinations. Please note that retest scores are not included in growth calculations and do not affect financial incentive awards (bonuses).

The USED also does not allow the use of the Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) and a confidence interval for AYP. Therefore, students who meet the Achievement Level III standard using the SEM for SAS must be retested and score proficient without the SEM for their retest scores to be included in the performance composites and for AYP.

With the anticipation of the new assessments based on Essential Standards and the use of constructed-response (CR) items, the SBE should re-evaluate the issue of retesting because of the extended time needed to score the CR items. This could potentially involve moving the initial testing earlier in the school year.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education discuss options and implications for using retest scores and subsequently approve changes in policies that are affected.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that this item has been vetted by many educational organizations across the state. The GCS Committee recommends the option to retest in grades 3, 5, and 8, effective this school year. In addition, Committee consensus is to move this item to Action on First Reading.
- Deputy Superintendent Buxton clarified that this would be counting the retest as part of the performance composite and for AYP determinations.
- Superintendent Atkinson noted, for the record, that at the Superintendents’ Quarterly meeting on December 3, the superintendents affirmed, as a group, wanting the retest scores to count for grades 3-8.
- Board member Melissa Bartlett asked for clarification about the cost impact of retesting prior to taking a vote. Her question resulted in extensive discussion with clarification that the only additional students that would be tested would be the students that currently are within one standard error of measurement (SEM) that historically have not been retested. In addition, due to the new reading standards that the Board adopted for this past school year, there will be more students being retested in reading in the spring. Therefore, although there will be some additional cost, the cost will not be as great if it was inclusive of all students grades 3-8. Ms. Bartlett also asked about who would be responsible for covering the additional costs. After conducting a quick analysis, statewide the numbers of students that score within one SEM tend to be about 10-12,000 students per grade, according to Dr. Fabrizio; the Department would absorb the costs at the state level.

- Superintendent Atkinson recommended continued discussion by the Board since LEAs are expecting this item to come back for questions, clarifications, and a vote in January. There were no objections.
- Ms. Taft asked that the Department provide specific cost analysis information to Board members so that the Board can move forward with action in January.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in December and will be presented at the January 2009 meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 5)

DISCUSSION MOVED TO ACTION ON FIRST READING
GCS 6 – Policies on Student Accountability and Graduation Project

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-C-003

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick, (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Cindy W. Williamson (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Division)

Description:

SBE Policy # HSP-N-003 is being modified to reflect the gateway requirements as they relate to changes in HSP-N-004 and the five End-of-Course tests, as well as HSP-N-009, referencing the successful completion of the North Carolina Graduation Project.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board review and provide feedback on SBE Policy #HSP-N-003, as attached, at its December 2008 meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported that Dr. Cindy Williamson provided an excellent presentation about this item which produced a lot of conversation. She noted that the original policy has been divided into two policies, HSP-N-003 and HSP-N-009 because we cannot reference the N.C. Graduation Project Implementation Guide in a policy that has to go through the APA process. Therefore, a second policy was necessary that does reference the guideline.
- After a brief discussion about the value of the graduation project, GCS Committee Vice-Chair Patricia Willoughby noted the Committee’s consensus to move this item to Action on First Reading. There were no objections.
- Ms. Taft restated the Department’s recommendations to approve SBE Policy #HSP-N-003 and HSP-N-009, with one editorial change to the name “The North Carolina Graduation Project.”

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to move GCS 7 to Action on First Reading.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended policy changes to HSP-N-004 and adopting policy HSP-N-009, referencing the successful completion of The North Carolina Graduation Project. (See Attachment GCS 6)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, Ms. Kathy Taft provided a brief overview about the following new business items:

- NCDPI Honors Course Review
- Update on Math for Future-Ready Core

HEALTHY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS
(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

HRS 1 – Report on Gang Prevention and Intervention

Policy Implications: General Statute § S1358

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer/Associate State Superintendent, Academic Services and Instructional Services) and Ms. Marguerite Peebles (Section Chief, Support Services)

Description:

The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (DJJDP), along with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), were charged with the responsibility of addressing Senate Bill 1358:

AN ACT TO ADOPT A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO PREVENT YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN STREET GANG ACTIVITY, AND TO BE ENTITLED THE “NORTH CAROLINA STREET GANG PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION ACT.”

SECTION 5 requires the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to report to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime and Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by December 1, 2008, on:

- 1) The prevalence of school violence and gang activity;
- 2) The use of Department of Juvenile Crime Prevention Council programs for out-of-school suspension alternative learning programs for students who are identified as being associated with gangs;
- 3) Current programs that are designed to educate school personnel and parents on signs that a student may be involved or associated with a gang;
- 4) Effective practices for reducing school violence and gang activity that have been successfully implemented in other states; and
- 5) Any findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, for further implementation and coordination between the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Department of Public Instruction to address issues related to prevention and intervention of youth gang activity.

The report will be available by December 1, 2008.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board accept the report.

Discussion/Comments:

- Dr. Garland recommended that this item be pulled from the agenda for clarifying edits and will be brought back to the Board at its January meeting for action.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in December and will be presented at the January meeting for action. (See Attachment HRS 1)

DISCUSSION

HRS 2 – Think Tank for Child Obesity Pilot Program

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Ms. Paula Hudson Collins (Senior Policy Advisor, Healthy Responsible Students, State Board of Education)

Description:

The Pilot Program for Child Obesity is funded by the General Assembly for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The State Board of Education is to design and implement programs in the schools to prevent and reduce childhood obesity.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Board members review and discuss the pilot program design and plans for implementation.

Discussion/Comments:

- HRS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted that this Task Force was co-chaired by Chairman Howard Lee and Dr. Leah Devlin, State Public Health Director. She asked Board members to review the pilot program design and implementation plans prior to the Board's meeting in January.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in December and will be presented at the January meeting for action. (See Attachment HRS 2)

DISCUSSION

HRS 3 – Task Force on Preventing Childhood Obesity

Policy Implications: General Statute § HB 2436

Presenter(s): Ms. Paula Hudson Collins (Senior Policy Advisor, Healthy Responsible Students, State Board of Education)

Description:

The Task Force on Preventing Childhood Obesity is formed for the 2008-2009 fiscal year by appropriations from the NC General Assembly. It is co-chaired by the Chairman of the State Board of Education and the State Health Director and charged with making recommendations and developing a statewide strategic plan for preventing childhood obesity. Previous state activities by the Department of Public Instruction, the Division of Public Health, and the Health and Wellness Trust Fund are to be reviewed. Recommendations are to be made to address six specific initiatives for schools and communities.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Board members review and discuss the recommendations of the Task Force.

Discussion/Comments:

- HRS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby directed Board members to review this comprehensive report including recommendations of the task force to address six specific initiatives for schools and communities regarding the prevention of childhood obesity. The summary of recommendations begins on pg. 12 of HRS 3.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in December and will be presented at the January meeting for action. (See Attachment HRS 3)

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

ACTION**TCP 1 – Addition of Middle Grades Literacy Coach as a License Area****Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-001**Presenter(s):** Ms. Julia Kron (Executive Director, North Carolina Teacher Academy)**Description:**

Individuals employed as middle grades literacy coaches with the state literacy coach funding must complete all training prescribed by the NC Teacher Academy and implement the 21st Century literacy model designed by the NC Teacher Academy. To be able to designate on an individual's license that he/she has completed the required training, a proposal to add *middle grades literacy coach* as a license area is presented.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the addition of the *middle grades literacy coach* license area.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the addition of the middle grades literacy coach license area. (See Attachment TCP 1)

ACTION**TCP 2 – Proposed Framework for North Carolina Board Certification for Principals****Policy Implications:** Session Law 2008-181**Presenter(s):** Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the State Board of Education)**Description:**

Session Law 2008-181 directs the State Board of Education, in cooperation with the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, to conduct a study to develop a framework for a North Carolina Board Certification Program for Principals and Assistant Principals. The proposed framework was drafted in collaboration with the stakeholders identified in the legislation. It is the recommendation of the ad hoc committee that rather than develop a separate NC Board Certification, North Carolina should utilize the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards *Advanced Principal Certification*.

Recommendations:

It is requested that the Board approve the report and the recommendations contained in it.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Eulada Watt provided background information referencing the law and what it requires of the program. The requirements are located on pg. 1 of the attachment.
- A brief discussion ensued about the estimated cost charts located on pages 6 and 7 of the attachment. Ms. Taft noted the estimated salary differential of \$1,105,870. Dr. Sullivan explained that the legislature asked for a framework of the estimated cost. The National Board Certification for Principals will be ready for 2011; consequently, any additional money will not be needed until 2011.

- Ms. Harris noted that Ms. Karen Garr, the Southeast representative for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, was present in the audience and served as a member of the committee. She expressed appreciation to Ms. Garr for her participation on the committee.
- In closing comments, Ms. Watt reported that Mr. Danny Holloman provided the TCP Committee with good news revealing that 1,454 teachers have completed National Board Certification.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to accept the report and the recommendations contained in it as submitted. (See Attachment TCP 2)

ACTION

TCP 3 – Proposed Standards for the Evaluation of School Counselors and School Social Workers

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-C-006

Presenter(s): Ms. Teresa A. Smith (K-12 Student Support Services Consultant) and Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the State Board of Education)

Description:

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new standards for the evaluation of teachers. New standards for the evaluation of school counselors and school social workers, aligned with the new teacher standards, have been developed and were presented for discussion last month. They are presented for approval this month. When approved by the Board, the new standards will be the basis of new evaluation instruments for school counselors and school social workers which are aligned with the new instruments that have been developed by McREL.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the proposed standards for the evaluation of school counselors and school social workers be approved by the State Board of Education. It is also recommended that the job descriptions be used as professional standards support documents.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Eulada Watt noted several changes in the attachment. The changes are shaded for quick reference under Standard 2.
- Mr. Tate noted lingering concern regarding the use of counselors' time as testing coordinators. He suggested that the TCP Committee embrace the suggestion to form an ad hoc committee to study this issue and how it impacts counseling services provided to students. Ms. Taft noted the suggestion and indicated that she would pass on the suggestion to Chairman Lee.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Eulada Watt, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed standards for the evaluation of school counselors and school social workers and that the job descriptions be used as professional standards support documents as recommended. (See Attachment TCP 3)

ACTION

TCP 4 – Proposed Revisions to the Graduate Pay Policy

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-006

Presenter(s): Ms. Shirley Harris (Member, State Board of Education) and Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the State Board of Education)

Description:

To address concerns related to the non-teaching work experience and graduate pay policies, the TCP Committee convened an ad hoc committee to review the policies. The revisions proposed by the ad hoc committee were designed to simplify and clarify the policies. The proposed revisions to the graduate pay policy would recognize all graduate degrees earned through regionally accredited institutions for salary purposes. *(Note: Since last month, the proposed revisions to the non-teaching work experience policy and the proposed revisions to the graduate pay policy have been separated.)*

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed changes to the graduate pay approval policy.

Discussion/Comments:

- Ms. Harris reminded the Board that the ad hoc committee is a very inclusive group of representatives from across the state.
- TCP Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris reported Committee consensus to remove the work experience feature of the policy for additional vetting.
- In addition, she noted one recommended change in the policy addressing economic hardships by changing the effective date to July 1, 2009, rather than January 1.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed changes to the graduate pay approval policy – SBE Policy # TCP-A-006, effective July 1, 2009. (See Attachment TCP 4)

ACTION**TCP 5 – Annual Report on the Reasons Teachers Leave (Teacher Turnover Report)**

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

Presenter(s): Mr. Danny Holloman (Lead Consultant, Recruitment and Retention, Division of Talent Management and Development)

Description:

GS §115C-12(22) requires the State Board of Education to monitor and compile an annual report on the decisions of teachers who leave the teaching profession. To this end, LEAs are asked to complete an annual report on the reasons teachers leave their systems. The report for the 2007-08 school year is attached.

Recommendations:

The turnover report was presented for discussion last month and is presented for approval this month.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris noted that the Committee continues to ask for better data which is reflected in this report.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Annual Report on the Reasons Teachers Leave (Teacher Turnover Report). (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 Advisor, State Board of Education 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:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris noted that action on this item was taken in Closed Session.
- There was no further discussion.

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 7 – Final Decision in Contested Cases: *Stephen Gibson vs. SBE; Nancy Ashburn vs. DPI and Len S. Smith vs. DPI*

Policy Implications: General Statute § 150B-36

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

Description:

Stephen Gibson filed a petition for a contested case to challenge the State Board's denial of Petitioner's request to for non-teaching work experience credit. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Nancy Ashburn filed a petition for a contested case to challenge the State Board's denial of Petitioner's request to waive her repayment obligation for failing to complete the NBPTS certification process. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Len Stevenson Smith 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.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris stated the recommendations from the Closed Session deliberations on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge's final decisions in Stephen Gibson vs. SBE; Nancy Ashburn vs. DPI, and Len Stevenson Smith vs. DPI as the State Board of Education's final decisions. (See Attachment TCP 7)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Update on the Teacher and School Execution Evaluation Instrument Training
- North Carolina's Praxis II Testing Requirements
- Licensure Update
- Update on the Regional Alternative Licensure Centers
- School Counselors' Use of Time

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), Mr. John Pruette, (Executive Director, Office of School Readiness), and Mr. David Edwards (Chief Communications and Professional Learning Officer, North Carolina Virtual Public School)

Description:

The grants listed below are being submitted for approval. Please see attachments for description of grants.

- Attachment 1 – Even Start Family Literacy Programs-Supplemental Grant Awards 2008-09
- Attachment 2 – North Carolina Virtual Public School Wave II BETA District/School Grants

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- A brief discussion ensued about the low number of school systems that applied for the Even Start Family Literacy Programs supplemental grant awards and more specifically whether there was grant money still available. Mr. Pruette explained that these were supplemental allocations to existing grantees and, therefore, there is no additional money.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Even Start Family Literacy Programs – Supplemental Grant Awards 2008-09 and the North Carolina Virtual Public School Wave II BETA District/School Grants as presented. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 2 – Replacement of Compliance Commission Members

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-B-000

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director of Accountability Policy & Communications)

Description:

The State Board of Education established the Compliance Commission for Accountability in July 1996. This Commission was charged with making recommendations to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and State Board of Education related to ABCs issues. Several members are up for reappointment or replacement because their terms of office will expire on December 31, 2008. Attached is the current list of Commission members. The names and resumes of the proposed new members will be provided at the December meeting if not earlier.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the recommendations for reappointments and for the new members of the Compliance Commission for Accountability.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate directed Board members to pages 4 and 5 for the recommended list of nominations for reappointments and new appointments for members of the Compliance Commission for Accountability.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations for reappointments and for the new members of the Compliance Commission for Accountability. (See Attachment TCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 3 – Extended Employment for Science and Mathematics Teachers Receiving Career Awards

Policy Implications:

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

Description:

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund Board of Directors has decided to support five Career Awards for Science and Mathematics Teachers totaling \$875,000.00 payable over five years (\$35,000 per year per teacher). As a part of this award, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Board of Directors is requesting a partnership with the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction. The request is to award the winning teachers additional months of employment (12-month contracts to extend their expertise beyond their classrooms and schools). The logistics for the program are being worked on and will have a more definitive timeline of activities at a later date.

The GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Board of Directors is considering a similar proposal at their December meeting that will increase the award from five to ten teachers.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education agree to a partnership with the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and their Career Awards Program for Science and Mathematics Teachers. Under this partnership, the State Board

directs the Department of Public Instruction to allot two additional months of employment for the five selected teachers to enable their employment to be extended to 12 months.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate reported that Carr Thompson from Burroughs Wellcome provided a report to the TCS Committee on Wednesday regarding their support of five Career Awards for Science and Mathematics teachers totaling \$875,000.00 payable over five years. In addition, Burroughs Wellcome is providing programming funds.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to agree to a partnership with the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and their Career Awards Program for Science and Mathematics Teachers and directs the Department of Public Instruction to allot two additional months of employment for the five selected teachers to enable their employment to be extended to 12 months. (See Attachment TCS 3)

DISCUSSION

TCS 4 – North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Funding Formula

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Paul LeSieur (Director, School Business Division), and Dr. Bryan Setzer (Director, North Carolina Virtual Public School)

Description:

The North Carolina General Assembly requires the State Board of Education to develop a funding formula for the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS). Attached are two documents outlining various possible formulas and a specific description of one option.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education review and provide comments on the proposed funding formula options.

Discussion/Comments:

- Due to time constraints, discussion of this item is postponed until the Board's January meeting. TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate encouraged Board members to review this item in detail and pose questions to Mr. Price prior to the January meeting.
- There was no discussion.

Discussion on this item was postponed until the December Board meeting.

DISCUSSION

TCS 5 – More at Four Funding Rates

Policy Implications: SL 2008-107, Section 7.17(b)

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. John Pruette (Executive Director, Office of School Readiness)

Description:

The Office of School Readiness is required to develop a plan to tier the More at Four slots that are in child care facilities, based on child care subsidy rates. The plan is to be reported to the General Assembly by January 2009.

To meet this requirement, the Office of School Readiness is submitting several plan options to the State Board of Education for input and approval.

Recommendations:

The State Board is asked to approve one of the proposed plan options for submission to the General Assembly.

Discussion/Comments:

- Due to time constraints, discussion on this item was postponed until the Board’s January meeting. Again, TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate encouraged Board members to review this item in detail and pose questions to Mr. Price prior to the January meeting.
- There was no discussion.

Discussion on this item was postponed until the December Board meeting.

DISCUSSION

TCS 6 – NCVPS Advisory Board Nominations

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-B-000

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

Description:

The North Carolina Virtual Public School was established by the e-Learning Commission and is charged with maintaining a 22-member Advisory Board approved by the State Board of Education. The names on the attachment are being recommended to the SBE to serve a two-year term on the North Carolina Virtual Public School Advisory Board.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the list of Advisory Board nominations be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- Due to time constraints this item was postponed until the Board’s January meeting.
- There was no discussion.

Discussion on this item was postponed until the December Board meeting.

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

(See Attachment in book)

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

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

ACTION**LFI 1 – Cooperative Innovative High School Program Waiver**

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-238.50; 115C-105.26; 115C-84.2

Presenter(s): Dr. Belinda Black (Chief of Staff, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

Description:

The Cooperative Innovative High School Programs Act allows accelerated learning programs to provide a flexible, customized program of instruction for students who would benefit from accelerated, higher level coursework or early graduation from high school. The Early College at Guilford has requested a waiver to allow its students to meet their physical science graduation requirements by taking college level chemistry or physics without taking an EOC. The students are not receiving high school credit for chemistry or physics, but rather are receiving graduation credit for physical science.

The Early/Middle College of Wayne County is requesting a waiver that would release Integrated Mathematics III students from having to take the Geometry EOC test. Students taking Integrated Mathematics III currently take the Algebra II EOC as well as the Geometry EOC. The Geometry EOC is not aligned with the *Standard Course of Study* for any one of the Integrated Mathematics courses; rather the curriculum is spread across all three. The Academic Services and Instructional Support staff recommends that this waiver be extended to all students in the State who are taking the Integrated Mathematics series. New EOCs in Integrated Mathematics are being developed; therefore, this waiver would only be effective until the new series of exams are fully operational.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the SBE approve the High School Program Waivers.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett noted the Committee's consensus to approve all of the actions recommended in this item.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Tom Speed, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve all of the actions represented in LFI 1 as submitted. (See Attachment TCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING**LFI 2 – NC 1:1 Learning Initiative Pilot Expansion**

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-84.2

Presenter(s): Mr. Rob Hines (Director, LEA Council)

Description:

The General Assembly approved an expansion of the NC 1:1 Learning Initiative with the budget passed last summer. The Steering Committee has determined which schools should be added to the pilot and the associated funding amounts for each school. Because the program involves allotment of SBE funds, the Board must approve the expansion. The presentation includes a brief discussion of the process used to determine the grantees as well as identification of the new schools. The list of new schools will be sent to the SBE members under separate cover as the applications were received the week of November 14, 2008 and are being evaluated.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the SBE approve the list of schools for expansion of the 1:1 laptop initiative.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett directed the Board’s attention to the revised attachment located in their notebooks containing additional information.
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the list of schools for expansion of the 1:1 laptop initiative. (See Attachment LFI 2)

DISCUSSION

LFI 3 – Enrollment Increase Requests Above 10% and Charter School Grade Expansion

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

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

Description:

As per GS 115C-238.29D(d), beginning with the charter school’s second year of operation and annually thereafter, the State Board of Education shall allow a charter school to increase its enrollment by 10% of the school’s previous year or as otherwise provided in the charter. This enrollment growth shall not be considered a material revision of the charter application and shall not require prior approval of the State Board.

Schools submitting applications for enrollment increases larger than 10% of the previous year are requesting material revisions be made in their charters to allow added growth. Impact Statements from the host local education agency have been requested.

Schools have also requested to serve grade structures other than those stated in the original charter school application or renewal. The requests are considered material changes to the charter and, as such, require SBE approval.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Leadership for Innovation Committee approve the enrollment increase and grade expansion requests as recommended by the Office of Charter Schools.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in December and will be presented at the January 2009 meeting for action. (See Attachment LFI 3)

DISCUSSION

LFI 4 – KIPP-Board Consolidation

Policy Implications:

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

Description:

A request to allow KIPP: Gaston College Preparatory to amend their bylaws to designate KIPP North Carolina, Inc. as the sole member of the Board overseeing KIPP Gaston College Prep and KIPP Pride High School.

Recommendations:

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that the LFI Committee requested additional information about this item for further Committee discussion in January.
- There was no discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in December and will be presented at the January 2009 meeting for action. (See Attachment LFI 4)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Blue Ribbon Commission on Charter Schools
- District and School Transformation Update
- NC Virtual Public School/Learn and Earn Online (LEO) Director's Report

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Deputy State Superintendent J.B. Buxton discussed the Dropout Prevention and Recovery Initiative being coordinated with the North Carolina Community College System that will target over-age (15 - 18 years olds) and under-credit students. A meeting is scheduled for December 10 including LEA representatives, DPI, and community college representatives to discuss issues surrounding these populations and ways the state can help districts do more on behalf of these students.

Mr. Buxton reported that the Department was asked to provide a briefing for Governor-Elect Perdue's Policy Working Group on Education. He distributed a copy of the briefing document containing information on the Board's Mission and Goals, Strategic Planning and Performance, the Department's organizational structure, State of the State Measures for Students, core activities, budget requests, and briefing papers on the major initiatives of the Department. Board members were asked to study the briefing document. An in-depth presentation will be provided to the Board at its next meeting.

In closing, Mr. Buxton provided a one-page chart on the Accountability and Curriculum Redesign Effort (ACRE) in Response to the *Framework for Change*.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Howard Lee requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Mr. Tom Speed, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the December 4, 2008, meeting of the State Board of Education in honor of outgoing Local Board Member Advisor Ms. Sue Stone.