

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
April 1-2, 2009**

Education Building, Raleigh	Wednesday, April 1, 2009	Board Room, 3:15 PM
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Melissa Bartlett
Ray Durham
Shirley Harris

Tom Speed
Kathy Taft
John Tate
Patricia Willoughby

Also present:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Vice Chair Wayne McDevitt called the Wednesday session of the April State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. The Vice Chair made brief comments regarding the agenda and asked for a motion to convene in closed session.

Upon motion made by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to discuss litigation and maintain attorney-client privilege in Hoke County Board of Education et al. versus the State of North Carolina and the State Board of Education.

Following the closed session, the Board reconvened in open session. Indicating no other business, Vice Chair McDevitt requested a motion to adjourn.

Upon motion made by Mr. Tom Speed, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board of Education meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2009.

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

William Harrison, Chairman	Kevin Howell
Melissa Bartlett	Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Janet Cowell, State Treasurer	Tom Speed
Walter Dalton, Lt. Governor	Kathy Taft
Ray Durham	John Tate
Shirley Harris	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Wendell Hall, Local Board Member Advisor
Debra Morris, Principal Advisor	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor
James Bell, Teacher Advisor	

Chairman Harrison called the Thursday session of the April State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. The Chairman then provided a brief overview of the committee structure and explained to the audience that today’s agenda includes discussion and voting on the Board’s action items.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Harrison 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. Board member Kevin Howell indicated a conflict of interest for Board item TCS 1. The conflict of interest was so noted. The Chairman 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 Harrison recognized Mr. Kevin Howell to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4-5, 2009, Board meeting. Upon motion made by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the March 4-5, 2009, meeting as presented.

Chairman Harrison then called on the Mr. Kevin Howell for Twenty-First Century Systems to present an item for *Information*.

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

INFORMATION

TCS 2 – Contract Process/Procedures

Policy Implications: N/A

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Ms. Sarah Harris (Assistant Director, Financial Services Division), Mr. Chuck Clements (Section Chief, Purchasing and Contracts Section, Financial Services Division), and Ms. Charlott Ellington (Purchasing Agent/Contracts, Financial Services Division)

Description:

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction’s Purchasing and Contracts Section of the Financial Services Division is responsible for assuring that all Departmental contracts are processed according to state law within the guidelines of Purchase and Contract (P&C), by the Office of the Governor, and Office of Information Technology Services (ITS).

Recommendations:

N/A

Discussion/Comments:

- Associate Superintendent Philip Price and Section Chief Chuck Clements provided an overview of the contractual process.
- After a brief discussion about the process, Board members suggested adding a disclaimer regarding contractor/agency employee relationships on the *Contract* and *Intent to Contract* forms, and cautioned staff to be vigilant with regard to facility and administrative costs.
- TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate encouraged Board members to contact staff in the future if they need additional information disclosed about specific contracts.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was submitted for information only.

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

Update on the *Framework for Change*

Chief Academic Officer for Academic Services and Instructional Support Dr. Rebecca Garland directed Board members to the April 2009 status update located behind the “Other” tab in their Board notebooks. The Department is still on track against the schedule and list of deliverables, according to Dr. Garland. Pod-casts and transcripts of Dr. Cindy Williamson and Dr. Gary Williamson discussing the project are complete and will be posted to the Website, and the ACRE Website is in the final stages of development. In addition, a marketing plan is being developed to inform key audiences of the work in reforming the state standards and accountability system. The Department is preparing a feasibility study for the longitudinal growth model, and in terms of the essential standards writing process, the Department is continuing to offer surveys to gather feedback from the field.

Graduation Project

After stating the value of the North Carolina Graduation Project, Chairman Harrison recommended a one-year delay of the requirement citing fiscal issues for the recommendation. The delay would allow school districts more time to implement the project. The Graduation Project has drawn opposition in the General Assembly, and some members favor an outright elimination of the requirement.

Discussion/Comments:

- Chairman Harrison encouraged school systems to continue to move forward with the graduation project without the statewide requirement.
- Collectively, Board members and advisors agreed that the Graduation Project is a best practice, and that abandoning the project altogether would be a mistake.
- Board members also agreed that a communications/roll-out plan is important to provide clarity around lingering issues where there could be more flexibility in implementation.

- The Chair stated that he would craft a letter to local superintendents explaining the reasons for the Board's action, and communicating the Board's continued commitment to the Graduation Project.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to defer the Graduation Project for one year making it a requirement for students who first entered ninth grade in 2007-08 (Class of 2010-11).

Legislative Update

Legislative Liaison Chris Minard provided a brief report on legislative activity citing several bills of interest including the State Health Plan, six school calendar bills, 12 charter school bills, and four testing bills. In addition, there have been bills introduced related to sports injuries, arts education, and calculating the dropout rate, according to Ms. Minard. (To date, there have been 1095 Senate and 1025 House Bills filed.)

Financial Literacy Month

Chairman Harrison stated that, in 2003, President Bush declared April as National Financial Literacy Month. President Obama is maintaining that tradition. Governor Purdue has also declared April as Financial Literacy Month, and at this time Chairman Harrison read the following proclamation.

**FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR YOUTH MONTH
AND
PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY DAY
2009
BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, in 2003 the President declared April as Financial Literacy for Youth Month as an effort to highlight the importance of Financial Literacy and teach Americans how to establish and maintain healthy financial habits; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the North Carolina General Assembly passed legislation directing the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to provide instruction, activities, and initiatives in Personal Financial Literacy, and

WHEREAS, the instruction, activities, and initiatives provided by state agencies, public and private institutions, regional agencies, and community organizations will contribute to develop and enhance effective change in student behavior and attitudes; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina envisions a time when all citizens of our state have the financial literacy knowledge and skills to ensure economic success; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina recognizes the need for youth to become proactive in financial affairs that will prepare them to be more effective citizens in the twenty-first century;

NOW, THEREFORE, I BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim April 2009, as “**FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR YOUTH MONTH**” and April 15, 2009, as “**PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY DAY**” in North Carolina, and I call upon the citizens of this state to encourage and support the efforts of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and its partners who generously give their time, talents and resources to empower the citizens and youth of our state.

Beverly Eaves Perdue

Following the reading of the proclamation, Chairman Harrison announced that on April 15, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) staff will host ‘A Day at the General Assembly’ on the topic of Personal Financial Literacy at the Legislative Building. DPI consultants, school teachers, and collaborative partners from across the state will come together to display their programs on this vital topic. These programs are designed to engage students, parents, and the community in gaining knowledge that will change attitudes and behaviors regarding personal finances. The Chairman expressed

appreciation to DPI staff (Ms. Tracey Greggs, Dr. Cindy Williamson, Ms. Angela Quick, and Dr. Rebecca Garland) for organizing the event, and encouraged Board members to attend.

State Treasurer Janet Cowell stated that the challenge for Personal Financial Literacy is to make measurable improvements. State Superintendent Atkinson noted that one measure has been the North Carolina Jump\$tart assessment given statewide to students in addition to measures in student organization competitive events. Dr. Garland also noted that personal financial literacy is being embedded in the K-12 curriculum and DPI is focusing assessment measures in Civics and Economic classes.

North Carolina's High Quality Online Teacher

Chairman Harrison congratulated Mr. Mike Shumake, an English teacher in North Carolina's Virtual Public School, for recently being named the Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) North Carolina High Quality Online Teacher. This national recognition comes to Mr. Shumake for his efforts to ensure that students pass his courses. Mr. Shumake was presented with a plaque and an SBE mug in recognition of this honor. A photograph was made of the presentation.

NCPAPA Executive Director

Congratulations were also extended to Dr. Shirley Prince (Superintendent, Scotland County Schools, and SBE Superintendent Advisor) on her decision to join the North Carolina Principals and Assistant Principals Association (NCPAPA) as their new executive director. Dr. Prince will retire from Scotland County Schools effective July 1, 2009.

Announcements

The Chairman reported that a Finance Officers' awards luncheon was held on Wednesday, April 1. Since 1989, the State Board of Education has recognized finance officers for outstanding achievement in three categories: State Board of Education Recognition of Achievement in Financial Resource Management; Association of School Business Officials Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting, and Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Chairman Harrison announced that the Board will attend the Wachovia Principal of the Year luncheon at the Renaissance Hotel in North Hills immediately following the Board meeting. He expressed appreciation to Wachovia for its partnership in this program. The newly named Principal of the Year will join the Board as an advisor in July. Dr. Harrison also announced that, during the luncheon the Board will present the distinguished 'Friend of Education' award to Wachovia for the long-time support, both in time and money, that they have shown over many years to public education. The 'Friend of Education' award is the highest honor that the State Board of Education bestows.

On May 5, State Board members will attend the AT&T North Carolina Teacher of the Year banquet, also to be held at the Renaissance Hotel in North Hills, Raleigh. The teacher named 'Teacher of the Year' at that event will also join the Board in July as an advisor.

In addition, the State Board plans to invite several outstanding students to the May State Board of Education meeting to talk about their education, personal successes, and perhaps their graduation projects. The Board will also recognize Senior Student Advisor Mr. Brandon Young's service to the Board as he graduates from high school. Mr. Young was recently named WTVD's '*Person of the Week*.'

The July State Board of Education meeting will be a conference call meeting on Thursday, July 9.

Graduate Pay Policy

Approved in December 2008, SBE Policy # TCP-A-006 recognizes all graduate degrees earned through regionally accredited institutions for salary purposes and was to go into effect July 1, 2009. Recognizing the financial situation of the state at this time, Chairman Harrison recommended that the Board delay the effective date until July 1, 2010.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board members suggested a concerted communications effort to those impacted regarding the delay of this policy.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted to delay the effective date of SBE Policy # TCP-A-006 until July 1, 2010. Ms. Shirley Harris voted in opposition of the motion.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Atkinson prefaced her report by recognizing Dr. Jeffrey Cox, Superintendent, Alleghany County Schools, who was present in the audience.

Staff Recognitions

Dr. Atkinson commended Chief Information Officer and Associate State Superintendent Peter Asmar and the entire NCWISE staff for the recent completion of NC WISE deployment in 113 of the state's school districts. Charlotte-Mecklenburg and Wake County schools are the only two school districts in the state that were not a part of the deployment plan. Each of these LEAs, the state's two largest districts, operate the same software but host their data separately. Work is underway to link them into the statewide NC WISE environment by June. With the completion of statewide deployment, the NC WISE staff and state education leaders plan to focus on upgrades to the system and new features, including a Parent Portal, which would give parents ready access to information about their children's school performance and other school details.

In addition, Dr. Atkinson recognized Director of Exceptional Children Ms. Mary Watson for her testimony before the United States House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies on March 18. Her testimony described the individual components of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and addressed the need for increasing the appropriations for each component for FY 10. You can Google "Mary Watson Congress Testimony" to read her testimony. Ms. Watson is currently serving as the President of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education.

Parent and Family Involvement Guide

Parent and family involvement is a priority for closing the achievement gap and graduating all students. North Carolina is a member of the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center (ARCC). ARCC has produced a number of valuable parent involvement resources – a handout describing these resources is located in the guide. Distributing the newly published *Parent and Family Involvement Guide*, Superintendent Atkinson thanked the Parent Advisory Council members and the following staff members for their diligence in working on the completion of this document: Ms. Debra Horton, NC PTA State President; Ms. Charlotte Hughes; Ms. Donna Brown; Ms. Carolyn Fox; Sheila Bazemore, Office of School Readiness; Ms. Vanessa Jeter and Ms. Laura Weakland, Communications Division.

"Calling All Communities"

Two North Carolina schools won \$100,000 by participating in U.S. Cellular's "Calling All Communities" campaign. The program awarded \$100,000 to 10 schools nationwide challenging towns from across the country to rally together to give the schools of their choice a chance to share \$1 million. Superintendent Atkinson was pleased to congratulate Brogden Primary School (Wayne County Schools) and Washington High School (Beaufort County Schools) for earning recognition as two of the most favorite schools in the nation.

Military Compact Commission

Superintendent Atkinson reported that the Military Compact Commission held its first meeting in March. Members asked that the State Board appoint someone involved in school counseling and school social work to serve on the Commission. Dr. Atkinson asked Board members to submit their nominees to Ms. Phyllis West to submit for consideration by the Military Compact Commission.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Atkinson highlighted information shared by the U.S. Department of Education about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which will be interpreted and shared with local superintendents. Four principles guide the distribution and use of the ARRA funds:

- 1) Spend funds quickly to save and create jobs.
- 2) Ensure transparency, reporting and accountability.
- 3) Invest one-time ARRA funds thoughtfully to minimize the “funding cliff.”
- 4) Improve student achievement through school improvement and reform.

States must address four specific areas identified in ARRA that evidence shows made a critical contribution to student results:

- College- and career-ready standards and high quality, valid, and reliable assessments for all students, including ELLs and students with disabilities;
- Pre-K to higher education data systems that meet the principles in the America COMPETES Act
- Teacher effectiveness and equitable distribution of effective teachers
- Intensive support and effective interventions for lowest-performing schools.

Balance Speed and Effectiveness

- Balance speed and stimulus with careful planning and effective reforms
- States should award funds to LEAs as quickly as is prudent and LEAs should use funds expeditiously but sensibly
- LEA obligation timelines:
 - State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF): must be obligated by September 30, 2011
 - Title I, Part A: in absence of a waiver, 85% by Sept. 30, 2010; any remaining by Sept. 30, 2011
 - IDEA, Part B: majority during school years 2008/09 and 2009/10 and remainder by Sept. 30, 2011

The State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) Program

- Is a new one-time appropriation of \$53.6 billion under the ARRA of 2009. Of the amount appropriated, the U.S. Department of Education will award governors approximately \$48.6 billion by formula under the SFSF program in exchange for a commitment to advance essential educational reforms to benefit students from early learning through postsecondary education.
- The program will help ensure that LEAs and publicly funded institutions of higher education (IHEs) have the resources to avert cuts and retain teachers and professors. The program may also help support the modernization, renovation, and repair of school and college facilities. In addition, the law provides governors with significant resources to support education (including school modernization renovation, and repair), public safety, and other government services.
- The Department will award the remaining \$5 billion competitively under the “Race to the Top” and “Investing in What Works and Innovation” programs.

Stabilization Application Assurances

- Teacher effectiveness that all students have highly qualified teachers
- Higher standards and rigorous assessments
 - NAEP scores
 - Quality of state academic assessments
 - Collaboration with other states

- Multiple measures of academic achievement from multiple sources
- Performance and technology-based assessments
- ELA and students with disabilities
- Effective interventions – restructuring status
- Better information
 - Statewide data system
 - Timely data on student performance

Title I, Part A – Fiscal Issues and Waivers

- The Secretary of Education will consider a request for a waiver with regard to the use of ARRA Title I funds:
 - “Set-aside” requirements in Title I, Part A that apply to the use of funds by LEAs
 - Per-pupil amount for supplemental educational services
 - State may grant LEAs a waiver of carryover limitation
- USED may not waive and supplement, not supplant requirements, but in cases of severe budget shortfalls LEAs may have avenues to demonstrate compliance
- USED will consider requests to count SFSF funds as non-federal for purposes of MOE

Potential Uses of Title I Funds that Support Assurances and Avoid “The Cliff”

- Establish a system for identifying and training highly effective teachers to serve as instructional leaders in Title I schoolwide programs and modifying the school schedule to allow for collaboration among the instructional staff
- Provide new opportunities for Title I schoolwide programs for secondary school students to use high-quality, online courseware as supplemental learning materials for meeting mathematics and science requirements
- Develop and expand longitudinal data systems to drive continuous improvement efforts focused on increased achievement in Title I schools.

IDEA, Part B – ARRA: Fiscal and Waiver Issues

- Under certain circumstances, the LEA may reduce state and local expenditures for special education by up to 50 percent of the amount of the increase in the LEAs IDEA allocation over the prior year if the freed-up local funds used for activities that could be supported under the ESEA can include early intervening services
- Under certain circumstances, an LEA may use up to 15 percent of its total Part B grant for early intervening services for children who are not currently identified as children with disabilities
- USED will consider requests:
 - For waivers to state MOE requirements for exceptional circumstances, including unforeseen decline in fiscal resources
 - To count SFSF as non-federal for MOE

Potential Uses of IDEA Funds that Support Assurances and Avoid “The Cliff”

- Provide intensive district-wide professional development for special education and regular education teachers that focuses on scaling-up, through replication, proven and innovative evidence-based school-wide strategies in reading, math, writing and science, and positive behavioral supports to improve outcomes for students with disabilities
- Develop or expand the capacity to collect and use data to improve teaching and learning

Accountability and Transparency

- All ARRA funds must be tracked separately
 - Quarterly reports on both financial information and how funds are being used
 - Estimated number of jobs created
 - Subcontracts and subgrants required to comply with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act
- Reporting template being developed for use by states to capture required information

- Transparency allows opportunity to quantify/define goals and mobilize support for improving results for all students

Potential

- Voluntary national essential standards and assessments
- Virtual learning expansion
- Teacher preparation and professional development
- Longitudinal data systems
- Customized education for every student

Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt asked Superintendent Atkinson to email her PowerPoint presentation to Board members. The request was so noted.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

In closing comments, Dr. Atkinson referenced a letter from U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, dated April 1, directed to Chief State School Officers, summarizing proposed changes in the regulations for Title I. A copy of the letter will be shared with Board members.

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

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

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

ACTION

GCS 1 – 2009 Invitation to Submit Textbooks for Evaluation and Adoption in North Carolina

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-85-86, 93; SBE Policy #HSP-H-000, HSP-H-001, HSP-H-006, HSP-H-007; APA #16NCAC 6D.0204, .0205, .0206

Presenter(s): Mrs. Charlotte Hughes (Director, Program Monitoring and School Support) and Mrs. Harriette K. Sparlin (Textbook Administrator, Program Monitoring and Support)

Description:

The *Invitation to Submit Textbooks for Evaluation and Adoption in North Carolina* is submitted each year in April to the State Board of Education for approval. The *2009 Invitation* contains adoption information for Mathematics 6-12, Second Languages 6-12, English Language Development (ESL) K-12, and Agricultural Education 7-12. The *2009 Invitation* also includes rules and regulations based on General Statutes, Administrative Code, and State Board Policy that govern the adoption process. As directed by State Board Policy (HSP-H-007), the *2009 Invitation* has been reviewed by General Counsel to the Board. To view the revised *Invitation to Submit Textbooks for Evaluation and Adoption in North Carolina*, please go to <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/textbook/publishers/invitation/>.

Recommendations:

The Department requests that the Board approve the *2009 Invitation to Submit Textbooks for Evaluation and Adoption in North Carolina* for the curriculum as presented.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2009 Invitation to Submit Textbooks for Evaluation and Adoption in North Carolina for the curriculum as presented. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION

GCS 2 – Allowing Retest Results in the Calculation of Performance Composites of the ABCs and AYP

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-A-004, HSP-N-005, HSP-N-003; APA #16 NCAC 6D.0502, 16 NCAC 6D.0504

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

Description:

At its January meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved requiring students who do not meet the Achievement Level III standard on EOGs to be retested (Retest 1) and for the higher of the original or Retest 1 EOG score to be included in the performance composites and for AYP effective with the 2008-09 school year. In addition, the SBE approved requiring students who do not meet the Achievement Level III standard on EOCs to be retested (Retest 1) and for the higher of the original or Retest 1 EOC score to be included in the performance composites and for AYP (where applicable) effective with the 2009-10 school year. A new policy is attached to specifically address the retesting for ABCs and AYP. Amendments to other affected policies also are attached. The new policy contains recommended changes from the March SBE meeting which includes removing the prohibition of using Retest 1 scores on EOC assessments as 25% of a student's final grade and retesting only Level II students with an "opt-in" for Level I students for EOG and EOC assessments.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the new retesting policy, the amendments to HSP (GCS)-A-004 and HSP-N-003, and delete HSP-N-005. The APA process should be initiated for the new policy, HSP-N-003, and HSP-N-005.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted thorough vetting by the GCS Committee of this item. The most significant revision in the policy is located on pgs. 2-3, which states, "Parents of students who score Achievement Level I must be notified that they may request that their children be administered Retest 1." After much discussion, Ms. Willoughby stated that, the Committee's recommendation is for the Board to vote on the amendments today and to place this item on the October 2009 Future's Agenda for review.
- Board member Melissa Bartlett noted that the high school policy doesn't take effect until next year where students have available the optional second retest.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the new retesting policy, the amendments to HSP-A-004 and HSP-N-003, and delete HSP-N-005. (See Attachment GCS 2)

ACTION

GCS 3 – Changes to Policy Delineating the Components of the ABCs Accountability Program Including Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 2008-09 School Year

Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-C-020; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

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

Description:

On January 15, 2009, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) informed the N.C. Department of Public Instruction that the OCS assessments (i.e., Occupational Writing, English I, Occupational Math I, and Occupational Life Skills Science I and II) can no longer be used to meet the high school testing requirements under NCLB. This decision was based on the fact that the link between the general curriculum and the OCS curriculum was too weak. Because the other assessments available for meeting AYP do not match the *OCS Standard Course of Study* or its instructional delivery, OCS students will not be eligible to take any of the available assessments. Therefore, students taking the OCS assessments in the 2008-09 school year will be counted as nonparticipants for AYP. OCS students are still required to take OCS assessments to meet the requirements of the State ABCs Accountability Program.

On March 4, 2009, Superintendent Atkinson sent a letter (attached) to Secretary Duncan asking the USED to reconsider its original stipulations. The Department is awaiting a decision by USED, and it could impact the proposed changes to HSP-C-020.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the changes to the HSP-C-020 policy for the 2008-09 school year.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby referenced a letter located in the Board books from the U.S. Department of Education maintaining their initial ruling denying the Department the use of its NCEXTEND 2 Occupational Course of Study assessments for AYP determinations because they are weakly leaked to the general curriculum.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the changes to the HSP-C-020 policy for the 2008-09 school year. (See Attachment GCS 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 4 – Changes to NC's NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook

Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-I-005; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

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

Description:

On January 15, 2009, Chief Academic Officer Rebecca Garland responded to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) letter which laid out the structure for states to propose amendments to their Accountability Workbooks. A copy of the letter is attached which contains the amendments under consideration. North Carolina is awaiting a letter from the USED which will outline the changes the State Board of Education can make to the state's Accountability Workbook. The SBE will be sent a copy of the Workbook with the appropriate changes

highlighted prior to the SBE meeting. The amended Workbook will be submitted to the USED as soon as possible for their final review and approval.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted that GCS 4 would not be presented for action this month because, to date, an official response has not been received from the U.S. Department of Education (USED).
- There was no discussion

This item may require a conference call or will be presented at the May meeting for Action on First Reading. (See Attachment GCS 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 5 – State Board Policy Language Update

Implications: General Statute § 115C 85-102; SBE Policy #HSP-H-001; HSP-H-007

Presenter(s): Mrs. Charlotte Hughes (Director, Program Monitoring and Support) and Mrs. Harriette K. Sparlin (Textbook Administrator, Program Monitoring and Support)

Description:

Language changes to State Board policy #HSP-H-001 and HSP-H-007 are proposed to address outdated language.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board approve the revision of language in HSP-H-001 and HSP-H-007.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted that the language revisions to this policy are minor and intended to address outdated language.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revision of language in HSP-H-001 and HSP-H-007. (See Attachment GCS 5)

DISCUSSION

GCS 6 – Changes to Policy Providing Annual Performance Standards Under the ABCs Model

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

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

Description:

HSP-C-021 is revised to reflect two modifications to the ABCs growth formulas. First, the component for college university prep/college tech prep (CUP/CTP) is modified to give additional credit to schools with high baseline and current year performance. Second, the U.S. History prediction is revised to use either Civics & Economics or Biology as the primary predictor in conjunction with English I as the secondary predictor.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the amendments to policies HSP-C-021 be approved and that the APA process be initiated.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby encouraged Board members to review the two modifications recommended for the ABCs growth formulas. Ms. Willoughby asked that questions be referred to Ms. Angela Quick or Dr. Lou Fabrizio.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 7 – 2009-2010 Writing Assessment Plan

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-A-004, HSP-N-005, HSP-N-003; APA #16NCAC 6D.0502, .0504

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services)

Description:

In June 2008, the North Carolina State Board of Education (SBE) adopted “*A Framework for Change: The Next Generation of Assessments and Accountability*” and subsequently directed the N.C. Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) to develop a new writing assessment system that would replace the annual on-demand writing tests at grades 4, 7, and 10 and to elevate the importance of writing throughout the K-12 curriculum. The new K-12 writing system includes authentic and on-demand writing assignments that mirror 21st century skills.

In 2008-2009, students in grades 4 and 7 were asked to complete two content-specific writing assignments and two on-demand writing tasks. Students in grade 7 used word processing tools in order to complete their assignments. Most students in grade 4 and 7 housed their work in paper portfolios. Students in 18 pilot sites stored their work in an electronic portfolio. The SBE will hear findings from the first year of the writing project as well as receive a proposal for the 2009-2010 writing assessment.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education consider the Department’s proposal for the 2009-2010 writing assessment.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby reported good discussion about comprehensive findings and feedback from the field regarding the new Writing Assessment System Pilot. Board member Melissa Bartlett noted that comments that reflect proposed adjustments to the original writing plan are included in the Board material.
- A brief discussion ensued about using the feedback to enhance the writing plan and move toward the 21st century.
- Chairman Harrison suggested GCS Committee discussion about removing the word “Assessment” from the title as it denotes something different to everyone. He noted that the primary focus of this system is writing instruction.
- Board member John Tate asked that this item receive time on the Futures Agenda for periodic updates to monitor the progress.

- There was no additional discussion.

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

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to go into the State Board of Career and Technical Education.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to convene as the State Board of Career and Technical Education to discuss the next item on the agenda.

STATE BOARD OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

DISCUSSION

GCS 8 – Construction Education Programs Certification and Credentials

Policy Implications: N/A

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer/Assistant State Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services), Ms. Rebecca Payne (Director, Career and Technical Education) and Mr. David Wehbie (Section Chief, Industrial Technology and Human Services)

Description:

This new policy is proposed to ensure that construction education programs (carpentry, electrical trades and masonry) offered in North Carolina public schools provide students with skills and knowledge that meet or exceed industry standards. When a program is National Center for Construction Education Research (NCCER) certified, participating students will graduate with industry-developed skills and knowledge that will prepare them for further education and employment. The NCCER program leads to various craft (trade) certifications and credentials. Students also can earn community college credits while in high school. This national certification is the only certification for the construction trades. Teacher and program certification will occur during the 2009-2010 school year. Teachers will begin assessing and registering students in the national registry August 2010.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education review the proposed policy and advise staff of any changes to be made.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted that this proposed policy is to ensure that construction education programs, i.e., carpentry, masonry and electrical trades, are National Center for Construction Education Research (NCCER) certified. In addition, students also could earn community college credits while in high school. Teacher and program certification would occur during the 2009-10 school year with teachers assessing and registering students in the national registry in August 2010.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

Upon motion made by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the State Board of Career and Technical Education and reconvene as the State Board of Education.

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Honors Review Follow Up
- ECU Virtual Early College High School Pilot – Education in Second Life
- Parent and Family Involvement Guides

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

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, Ms. Patricia Willoughby extended an invitation to Board members to attend a luncheon and program to recognize collaborative efforts to reduce childhood obesity. Invitations were distributed to Board members at their places. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 12 Noon-1:15 PM, in Room 150, Education Building.

**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 Grant – Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Grant

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-O-001

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology), and Ms. Everly Broadway (Section Chief, K-12 Mathematics)

Description:

The grant listed below is being submitted for approval. Please see attachment for description of grant.

- Attachment 1 – Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Grant

Recommendations:

Action on First Reading is being recommended in order to distribute funding to school systems in a timely manner.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate reported that the Committee recommends continued funding of 14 projects and first-year funding of four projects. A list of the MSP Projects recommended for funding is included in the Board material.
- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell recused himself from discussion and voting on this item, citing a potential conflict of interest.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted to approve the Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) grants as recommended. Board member Kevin Howell abstained from voting on this item. (See Attachment TCS 1)

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.

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate provided a brief overview about the following new business items:

- Communications Update
- NC WISE Update
- 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs
- Budget Update

21ST CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Shirley Harris, Chair)

ACTION**TCP 1 – Proposed Revisions to the Eligibility Requirements for Provisional Licenses in School Counseling and School Social Work**

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # QP-A-001

Presenter(s): Ms. Nadine Ejire (Assistant Section Chief, Licensure Section) and Ms. Teresa A. Smith (K-12 Student Support Service Consultant)

Description:

In working with school counselors and school social workers on the new evaluation standards approved by the Board in December 2008, concern was expressed about the eligibility requirements for provisional licenses in these areas. Based on further discussion, revised eligibility requirements for provisional licensing in school counseling and school social work are being proposed. If approved, the new requirements will become effective July 1, 2009.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the proposed revisions to the eligibility for provisional licensing in school counseling and school social work be approved by the State Board of Education with an effective date of July 1, 2009.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that the proposed revisions of this policy are clearly outlined on page 2 of the policy.
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed revisions to the eligibility for provisional licensing in school counseling and school social work by the State Board of Education with an effective date of July 1, 2009. (See Attachment TCP 1)

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:

- Principal and Teacher Evaluation Instrument State Level Ratings
- Elementary Mathematics Program of Study and Licensure Endorsement

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 1 – Approval of LEAs and Charter Schools Technology Plans

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-102.6C

Presenter(s): Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, K12 Curriculum, Instruction & Technology) and Mr. Neill Kimrey (Section Chief, Instructional Technology)

Description:

In accordance with Public School Law 115C-102.6C, the technology plans for the following LEAs and Charter Schools have been approved by both ITS and DPI technology consultants. ITS consultants have evaluated the plans to comply with the statewide architecture guidelines; DPI instructional technology consultants have evaluated the plans for their instructional components. Final approval by the State Board of Education qualifies these LEAs for the School Technology Trust Fund, No Child Left Behind, and federal eRate monies, as well as a variety of private technology grants. The list of LEAs and Charter School technology plans is attached.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve these technology plans.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that technology plans for 101 LEAs and 26 charter schools are recommended for approval. She reminded Board members that final approval qualifies these LEAs and charter schools for the School Technology Trust Fund, NCLB and federal e-Rate monies.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the LEA and charter school technology plans as presented. (See Attachment LFI 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 2 – School-Based Calendar Waivers for Educational Purposes

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-84.2

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

Description:

Calendar Waivers for Educational Purposes are being presented to the State Board for approval. School-based calendar waiver requests are submitted for State Board action per GS 115C-84.2. This statute states that the State Board may waive the opening and closing dates specified in the School Calendar Law for educational purposes that may include

- a specific school to accommodate a special program offered generally to the student body of that school,
- a school that primarily serves a special population of students, or
- a defined program within a school.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is requested to review and approve the following calendar waivers for educational purposes recommendations.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the calendar waivers for educational purposes as recommended. (See Attachment LFI 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 3 – Program Approval Exemption 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): Mr. Rob Hines (Director, LEA Council)

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, boards 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. G.S. § 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, 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 recommendations for exemptions under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act as presented.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett directed Board members to additional material printed on yellow paper at each Board member's seat. In addition, there is an errata sheet with changes to the material printed in the Board books. Ms. Bartlett shared briefly the Committee's concerns regarding waiver requests for EOC exemptions and principal certifications, and their recommendations.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted to approve the recommendations for exemptions under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act as presented. See Attachment LFI 3)

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:

- District and School Transformation Update
- New Charter School Applications
- NC Virtual Public School/Learn and Earn Online (LEO) Director's Report

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Board member Patricia Willoughby reminded Board members that the Annual Meeting of the NC Business Committee for Education will be held at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte on Thursday, April 23, 2009, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the April 1-2, 2009, meeting of the State Board of Education in honor of Roy Williams and the Tarheels' National championship!