

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
June 4, 2009**

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, June 4, 2009	Board Room, 9:00 AM
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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
Christine J. Greene	

Also present were:

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

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Harrison called the Thursday session of the June 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. There were no conflicts of interest communicated 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 Harrison introduced Supreme Court Justice Paul M. Newby to conduct the first order of business.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

- The Honorable Paul M. Newby, Justice, Supreme Court of North Carolina
 - Mrs. Christine J. Greene, High Point, Education District 5 SBE Member

Supreme Court Justice Paul M. Newby administered the oath of office to Mrs. Christine J. Greene from High Point, North Carolina. Mrs. Greene was appointed by Governor Beverly Perdue to the District 5 seat vacated by

former SBE member and Chairman Howard Lee. Board members welcomed newly confirmed State Board member Greene to her first official meeting by presenting her with an SBE brief case, pin, and mug. Mrs. Greene was joined by her husband Charles, her children, John and Chuck; and Mr. Billy Phillips. The Chairman noted that Justice Newby was a former student of Mrs. Greene. The swearing-in ceremony and presentation were photographed.

At this time, the Chairman made brief comments regarding the agenda and asked for a motion to convene in closed session.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consult the Board attorneys in order to preserve attorney-client privileged to consider the handling of the cases: Joseph Woods vs. NCDPI; Amanda Linn Eldridge Howard vs. NCSBE, NCDPI; and Bear Grass Educational Foundation et al vs. June Atkinson, NCSBE and Martin County Schools.

Following the closed session the Board reconvened in open session.

Chairman Harrison noted that Teacher of the Year Advisor Cindy Rigsbee was absent due to personal matters. The Chairman announced that the meeting was being broadcast through the Internet, and in addition, Ms. Vanessa Jeter, Communications Director, would be using Twitter to communicate the Board's progression through the agenda should members of the press or others want to time their arrival for the meeting or their listening for certain items on the agenda.

Chairman Harrison recognized Mr. Wayne McDevitt to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2009, Board meeting. Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the May 6, 2009, meeting as presented.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – OUTGOING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADVISORS

- Dr. Shirley Prince, Superintendent of the Year Advisor
- Dr. Debra Morris, Wachovia North Carolina Principal of the Year Advisor
- Mr. James Bell, North Carolina Teacher of the Year Advisor

The advisors listed above were recognized with a plaque for their contributions and service to the State Board of Education. Board members expressed appreciation for their valuable input and commitment to the Board. Each of the advisors expressed privilege for having the opportunity to work with the State Board of Education. The presentations were photographed.

Resolution Honoring Outgoing State Board Member

- Mr. Ray Durham

Chairman Harrison invited Mr. Durham forward and read the following resolution:

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution Honoring

Ray Durham

For His Outstanding Service

February – June 2009

- Whereas**, the State Board of Education takes great pride in the outstanding qualities and dedication of North Carolina citizens who serve public education as members of the Board; and
- Whereas**, Mr. Ray Durham has reflected these qualities in an outstanding manner and with enthusiasm during his term on the Board; and
- Whereas**, Board members recognize Mr. Durham’s unique blend of experiences and perspectives from many years of working with children as a dedicated teacher and a compelling and successful coach; and
- Whereas**, Mr. Durham has been an enthusiastic voice for children, educators, and public education during his tenure on the State Board of Education; and
- Whereas**, the members of the State Board of Education believe that his zeal, his insight, his forthrightness, and his personal integrity as a Board member have been exemplary and have been valued by fellow Board members; and
- Whereas**, Mr. Ray Durham has modeled good boardsmanship by seeking community input on important issues before the Board; and
- Whereas**, State Board of Education members admire and appreciate his lifelong service to and involvement with children and public education both through the public school system and in his community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- That** the Board is reluctant to lose him as a member, but admires the professional and willing manner in which he has dispensed his duties, and
- That** the Board expresses its deep and sincere appreciation to Mr. Durham for his service to public education in North Carolina and wishes for him and his family continued success and much happiness in the future, and
- That** the Board, influenced by Mr. Durham’s commitment to public education and children and to his zeal and candor, directs the Secretary of the State Board of Education to enter a copy of this resolution into the official minutes of the State Board of Education, and to present an appropriately signed copy to Mr. Ray Durham.

William C. Harrison
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
State Board of Education

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

June 4, 2009
Date

Mr. Durham expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve, although short-termed, as a State Board of Education member. A photograph was made of the presentation.

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

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

ACTION

GCS 8 – Annual Report: State Advisory Council on Indian Education**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-210; SBE Policy # EEO-B-001**Presenter(s):** Dr. Bill Harrison (CEO/State Board Chairman), Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support), Ms. Priscilla J. Maynor (State Indian Education Liaison), and Dr. Zoe Locklear (Chair, State Advisory Council on Indian Education)**Description:**

In 1988, the N.C. General Assembly enacted Article 13A (NCGS § 115C-210 et seq) to establish a fifteen-member State Advisory Council on Indian Education to serve as the mechanism for advocating on the behalf of American Indian students. The Council serves a vital role in advising the State Board of Education (SBE) on issues pertaining to the education of American Indian students. More specifically, the Council is charged with the following duties:

- to advise the SBE on effective educational practices for American Indian students;
- to explore programs that raise academic achievement and reduce the dropout rate among American Indian students;
- to advise the SBE and the Department of Public Instruction on ways to improve coordination and communication for the benefit of American Indian students affected by state and federal programs administered at the state level;
- to prepare and present an annual report to the SBE, tribal organizations and to conferees at the annual North Carolina Indian Unity Conference; and
- to advise the SBE on any other aspect of American Indian education when requested.

The Council's 2009 Annual Report seeks to gain a better understanding of how innovative educational initiatives targeting high school students could serve American Indian students more effectively. In doing this, the Council partnered with the SERVE Center at UNC-Greensboro to examine:

1. The nature of innovative opportunities available to students;
2. The needs of American Indian students and how the schools address those needs;
3. The integration of American Indian culture into the school experience; and
4. The participation of Native students in online courses.

In addition, barriers that prevent students from taking advantage of these opportunities were explored.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is asked to accept information presented by the State Advisory Council on Indian Education in its annual report.

Discussion/Comments:

- Ms. Priscilla J. Maynor, State Indian Education Liaison, prefaced her presentation by directing Board members to the full report located in their notebooks. She provided an in depth look at how innovative educational initiatives could serve American Indian students more effectively, integrating culture into the school experience, and barriers that prevent American Indian students from taking advantage of these opportunities.
- Dr. Zoe Locklear, Chair, State Advisory Council on Indian Education, reported on the findings that have implications for state policy and school districts offering innovative educational programs. In addition, she presented the recommendations included in the 2009 Annual Report (See pgs. 3-4 in the Board material).
- In conclusion, Ms. Maynor provided a status report on the use of American Indian mascots and imagery. In 2002, 73 schools and 43 LEAs were using American Indian mascots. Currently, 38 schools and 21

LEAs are using American Indian mascots which represent a 48 percent decrease over the past seven years, according to Ms. Maynor.

- A brief discussion ensued about the importance of supporting the efforts of the State Advisory Council on Indian Education.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was submitted for information only.

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

INFORMATION

TCS 3 – Update on Teacher Evaluation Instrument Implementation and Next Steps of Phase-in Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-C-004

Presenter(s): Ms. Cheryl Fuller (Coordinator, Office of Professional Development)

Description:

In June 2007, the State Board of Education adopted new standards presented by the NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission for the evaluation of teachers. Following adoption of the new standards, the Department of Public Instruction contracted with McREL to develop and validate a new evaluation instrument. A new instrument has been developed, piloted, and validated. The new instrument was approved at the July 2008 State Board of Education meeting. Related policies that would require teachers be evaluated annually using the new instrument, completion of state-approved training on the new instrument, and reporting of summative ratings on the new instrument were approved at the October 2008 State Board of Education meeting. In January of 2009, the State Board of Education received an update on the progress of the implementation of the 13 LEAs that were implementing the instrument. As additional LEAs begin to prepare for the second phase of the roll-out, the Office of Professional Development will present an update on the next phase of the instrument roll-out as well as information gained from LEAs currently using the instrument.

Recommendations:

N/A

Discussion/Comments:

- Using a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Cheryl Fuller, Coordinator, Office of Professional Development, provided a summary report of the Teacher Evaluation Instrument, its implementation and second phase of the roll-out.
- In closing, Ms. Fuller provided a financial comparison of the Principal Evaluation Instrument roll out vs. the Teacher Evaluation Instrument roll out. A brief discussion occurred regarding the cost analysis.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was submitted for information only.

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 – Recommended Changes to Achievement Level Descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 for 2009-10 School Year

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-C-026; 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:

The State Board of Education adopted the achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG mathematics at grades 3-8 in October 2006 and the NCEXTEND2 EOG reading at grades 3-8 and the NCEXTEND2 EOG science at grades 5 and 8 in October 2008. As part of the peer review process with the U.S. Department of Education, the achievement level descriptors have been revised to define more clearly the performance of NCEXTEND2 students in each of the four achievement levels for mathematics, reading, and science.

The NCEXTEND2 is an assessment that tests students on grade-level standards using modified achievement standards; therefore, the achievement level descriptors must reflect the expectations of these students. The revised achievement level descriptors meet these criteria.

The revised achievement level descriptors are recommended for implementation with the 2009-10 school year.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the amendments to SBE Policy # HSP-C-026 be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft directed Board members to their Board books, pgs. 3-25, for the new wording which clearly defines the performance standards of NCEXTEND 2 students on the end-of-grade tests in math, reading, and science.
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amendments to SBE Policy # HSP-C-026 as presented. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION

GCS 2 – High School Courses Taken in the Middle School Considerations for Social Studies

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-M-001

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services), Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Division), and Ms. Tracey Greggs (Section Chief, K-12 Social Studies)

Description:

The K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Division will share information with the State Board of Education on expanding the current policy HSP-M-001 that allows students to take high school social studies courses for high school credit while they are in middle school.

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to approve the expansion of the existing policy to include social studies courses.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reminded Board members that HSP-M-001 identifies high school courses taken in the middle school consideration for high school credit. The recommendation is to add social studies courses to the existing policy. Ms. Taft noted that this policy will continue to be expanded as the Department recommends additional courses in the future.
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the expansion of SBE Policy # HSP-M-001 to include social studies courses as recommended. (See Attachment GCS 2)

DISCUSSION

GCS 3 – Academic Scholars Program

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-L-003

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

Description:

The Academic Scholars Program is a rigorous program of courses that exceed SBE graduation requirements. The last revision of the Academic Scholars program was in 2003. The Future-Ready Core Graduation Requirements, including the North Carolina Graduation Project, were approved in September 2008. This will go into effect with the rising class of eighth graders who will enter high school in fall 2009. The Academic Scholars Program must be revised to align with the Future-Ready Core Graduation Requirements for students entering ninth grade for the first time in or after 2009-2010. A revised option will be presented based on SBE input and a review of national and international honor society criteria

Recommendations:

State Board members are requested to review the attached information and provide comments to staff.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted thorough vetting of this issue by the GCS Committee. Ms. Taft added that the reason for the revision is to align the Academic Scholars Program with the Future-Ready Core Graduation Requirements and national and international honor society criteria.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

DISCUSSION MOVED TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 4 – Proposed Grading Policy Revision and Course for Credit Issues

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-L-004

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

Description:

The current grading policy allows three options for school systems to reflect student grades – two augmented scales that allow letter or numeric entry in NCWISE and one standard scale that allows only letter entry into NCWISE. The proposed policy revision will allow schools to reflect student grades by either a letter entry or a numeric entry in both scales. This policy revision should bring all 115 school systems into compliance with their grading entries into NCWISE.

The State Board will be asked to authorize the Department to update, as needed, the list of courses that have been added to the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA) and/or approved by the Transfer Advisory Committee (TAC).

The Board members will be updated on other procedures regarding course for credit and the standardized transcript.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the State Board adopt the revised grading scale policy for immediate implementation and approve the courses in the CAA and/or TAC.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported that consensus of the GCS Committee was to move this item to Action on First Reading so that the LEAs with concerns could be well-informed. Ms. Taft directed Board members to their notebooks for the proposed grading policy revisions. In the past, high schools could use three optional grading scales. The proposed revision provides two optional grading scales – one standard and one augmented. The conversion of grades to quality points is standardized and made equivalent under each option.
- Ms. Taft pointed out a typographical error in the policy which will be corrected prior to posting.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the revised grading scale policy for immediate implementation and approve the courses in the CAA and/or TAC. (See Attachment GCS 4)

DISCUSSION MOVED TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 5 – Legislative Update on Evaluation of Services to Students with Hearing and/or Visual Impairments

Policy Implications: Session Law 2007-323 (Section 10.20)

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Mrs. Mary N. Watson (Director, Exceptional Children Division)

Description:

The General Assembly, through Session Law 2007-323 (Section 10.20) and in response to a study conducted by its Fiscal Research Division, directed the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to 1) conduct an evaluation of the state’s service delivery model for deaf and blind students; 2) determine whether the schools for the deaf and blind should remain under DHHS management or be transferred to DPI; and 3) develop a plan to reduce institutional capacity to an appropriate level. The Departments conducted an evaluation and reported in April 2008 that more time was required to fully examine these matters. Recommendations including forming two committees – one to examine the issue of residential schools governance/administration, and the other to examine how a free appropriate public education (FAPE) can be

ensured for students with vision loss and/or hearing loss. The attached report is a follow-up to these recommendations.

The Departments formed these committees and examined the issues presented. The Governance Committee deliberated on the issues of direct management of the residential schools (i.e., North Carolina School for the Deaf, Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf, and the Governor Morehead School for the Blind) and that of non-residential and non-day school programs (i.e., Governor Morehead Preschool, Early Intervention Program for children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Governor Morehead School Outreach Program, and the resource Support Program). It arrived at a recommendation that the overall administration of the residential schools should remain with DHHS, noting that there are no identified cost savings with a transfer to DPI and such may, in fact, increase costs due to the need to establish an administrative office with DPI. DHHS already has this office (Office of Education Services, or OES) which serves many other state-operated educational programs (see Attachment C). It also concluded that the early childhood programs should also remain under DHHS, as this mirrors other same-age programs administered by DHHS divisions. Finally, it concluded that the school-age outreach programs should be transferred to DPI, as the functions of these programs closely align with and complement the monitoring, support and technical assistance currently provided by the Exceptional Children Division.

The FAPE Committee examined many issues, most notably the ability of local educational agencies (LEAs) throughout the state to provide the wide array of special education, related services and placement options required by federal and state special education laws and regulations. Many LEAs reported capacity for fully providing all necessary services for these low-incidence populations, while others expressed some difficulty. The committee developed a proposed model for LEA-hosted/LEA-administered programs to serve multi-LEA areas, with additional support and resources from DPI and DHHS. The proposed model was shared with LEA Exceptional Children Directors in meetings throughout the state. More than sixty-five percent (65%) indicated interest in participating in such a model. The FAPE Committee proposes moving forward with establishing pilot regional programs. It states that this could build local and regional capacity that would, in turn, reduce institutional capacity to an appropriate level, as required by the legislative directive.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is recommended to approve the report so it may be presented to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Public Instruction, the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that the Department was asked to conduct this study by the legislature. She also stated that this item requires approval by the State Board of Education because it has recommendations. Therefore, this item was moved to Action on First Reading.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the report so it may be presented to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Public Instruction, the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division. (See Attachment GCS 5)

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

Upon motion made by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, 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 MOVED TO ACTION

GCS 6 – 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. Existing NCPDI program requirements for curriculum, tools, equipment, and facilities, are aligned with NCCER standards. This alignment helps to ensure a minimal impact for schools. Results of the readiness survey will be provided to SBE members prior to the June meeting. 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 approve the policy that requires construction education programs be NCCER certified so that students can earn the credential.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reminded Board members that this item was discussed during the May Board meeting. The concerns have been addressed, and the GCS Committee recommends approval.
- Board member John Tate expressed appreciation to the GCS Committee for hearing and taking appropriate action to address the concerns raised during the May Board meeting regarding NCCER certification and credentials.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy that requires construction education programs be NCCER certified so that students can earn the credential. Timeline is as follows: All teachers ICTP certified by August 1, 2010. All construction programs will be ATEF certified by August 1, 2011. (See Attachment GCS 6)

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the State Board of Career and Technical Education and reconvene as the State Board of Education.

DISCUSSION

GCS 7 – Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Program Standards

Policy Implications: General Statute § Article 9B, 115C-150.5-8

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Ms. Sneha Shah-Coltrane (AIG Consultant, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services)

Description:

In January 2008, the North Carolina AIG program, under the auspices of the Exceptional Children Division of DPI, received a performance audit through the Office of the State Auditor. The purpose of the audit was to identify weaknesses and make recommendations for the monitoring and evaluation of the AIG program in order for DPI, guided by the State Board of Education, to take appropriate corrective action. One of the recommendations of the audit was to develop state performance standards for AIG programs in order to provide a statewide vehicle for monitoring program implementation, to support quality and effective local AIG programs and to safeguard the rights of AIG students. The auditor's findings and DPI's responses were presented to the SBE in May 2008. The AIG consultant now reports directly to the Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Angela Hinson Quick.

The AIG Program Standards have been developed to serve as a statewide framework for local AIG programs and will guide LEAs to develop, coordinate, and implement thoughtful and comprehensive AIG programs. These standards will convey expectations for quality local AIG programs and services, guide the development, revision and monitoring of local AIG programs, articulate best practices for local AIG programs, provide a guide for personnel and professional development, promote strong partnerships and communication between and among home, school, and community, and serve as a vehicle for continuous program improvement and accountability.

Recommendations:

The Department of Public Instruction recommends that the State Board of Education:

- adopt the North Carolina AIG Program Standards;
- direct DPI to develop a review process of local AIG programs, which supports continuous program improvement of local AIG programs and plans based on a body-of-evidence; and
- direct DPI to ensure that the State Auditor's recommendations are being integrated into state practices and policies.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported a large group in attendance for the GCS Committee meeting to discuss the AIG Program Standards, and the GCS Committee is pleased with the recommendations. The program is under funded, but the GCS Committee believes the Department does a good job in monitoring comprehensive AIG programs across the state, according to Ms. Taft.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in June and will be submitted for action in July. (See Attachment GCS 7)

DISCUSSION MOVED TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 9 – State Board Policy Language Update – Occupational Course of Study

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #HSP-N-004; 16 NCAC 6D.0503

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Mrs. Mary N. Watson (Director, Exceptional Children Division)

Description:

The State Board of Education approved a temporary waiver of the 360 hours of competitive, paid employment requirement of the Occupational Course of Study (OCS) at the May State Board of Education meeting. The waiver allows graduating students in the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years to substitute 360 hours of paid employment with 360 hours of additional unpaid vocational training, unpaid internships, paid employment at community rehabilitation facilities, and volunteer and/or community service hours if unable to secure paid employment.

State Board Policy language submitted in May erroneously reflected a strikethrough of “360 hours of paid employment.” This language change of re-inserting “360 hours of paid employment” is being submitted to still allow students the option of obtaining paid employment.

Recommendations:

The Department of Public Instruction recommends “360 hours of paid employment” be inserted back into the State Board of Education Policy # HSP-N-004.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft explained that this policy was approved in May, but is being resubmitted for approval of a language update that reinserts the NCDPI’s recommendation of “360 hours of paid employment” into the policy.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation to reinsert back into the SBE Policy # HSP-N-004 “360 hours of paid employment.” (See Attachment GCS 9)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Honors Review Follow Up
- Plans and Implications for Releasing Test Forms to the Public
- Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Evaluation Report

Ms. Taft requested a copy of the Supplemental Educational Services Evaluation Report for Board members. Due to the size of the report, the report will be posted on the website. If Board members request a hard copy, one will be made available. In addition, Chairman Harrison requested that the PowerPoint presentation be forwarded to Board members.

**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: SBE Policy # EEO-O-001

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. John Pruette (Executive Director, Office of School Readiness), Dr. Ben Matthews (Director, School Support Division), and Dr. Lynn Hoggard (Section Chief, Child Nutrition Services)

Description:

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

- Attachment 1 – Even Start Family Literacy Program – Recommended Grant Awards 2009-2010
- Attachment 2 – Equipment Assistance Grant
- Attachment 3 – 2009-10 Reading First Funding Adjustment

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the grants. Action on First Reading is being recommended in order to distribute funding to school systems in a timely manner.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell reported that Even Start continuation funding is recommended for five LEAs and new funding is recommended for six additional school districts totaling \$1,585,153.
- In terms of the Equipment Assistance Grant, 109 School Food Authorities are recommended for grants for a total of \$3,313,724.62. The grants, which were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, are for schools where 50 percent or more of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals and will be used to purchase equipment used in the preparation and service of school meals.
- In addition, the Department recommends that a Reading First funding adjustment totaling \$5,969.40 be made to accommodate a projected increase in enrollment at Squire Elementary in Northampton County. The original figures submitted by Northampton County Schools were incorrect.
- Board member Melissa Bartlett recused herself from voting and discussion on this item citing the possibility of an appearance of a conflict of interest.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Even Start Family Literacy grant awards, Equipment Assistant grants, and the Reading First funding adjustment as recommended. Ms. Melissa Bartlett recused herself from the vote. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 2 – Pre-Approval of Financial and Business Services’ Policy Manuals

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-T-000; EEO-M-003; QP-D-003

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

Description:

The State Board of Education (SBE) is requested to approve, in advance, the issuance of the following manuals upon the adjournment of the General Assembly, allowing the Department to incorporate changes approved by legislative action that does not require State Board approval to change any policy directives. It will also allow the Department to distribute resources and disseminate these documents to the local education agencies (LEAs) and charter schools in a timely manner (example, the state salary schedules cannot be implemented by the LEAs until passed in legislation and approved by the SBE). The documents impacted are as follows:

- Public School Personnel State Salary Schedules and Manual (SBE Policy # EEO-T-000)
- Allotment Policy Manual (SBE Policy # EEO-M-003)
- Benefits and Employment Policy Manual for Public School Employees (SBE Policy # QP-D-003)

Should circumstance and/or legislative action require the SBE to revise a current policy or institute any new policies referenced in these documents, these items would be brought to the SBE for separate action as appropriate.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the manuals (Public School Personnel State Salary Schedules and Manual, the Allotment Policy Manual, and the Benefits and Employment Policy Manual for Public School Employees) at the June SBE meeting and take action upon adjournment of the General Assembly or the passage of the budget bill for Fiscal Year 2008-09 and supporting legislation.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the manuals (Public School Personnel State Salary Schedules and Manual, the Allotment Policy Manual, and the Benefits and Employment Policy Manual for Public School Employees) as recommended. (See Attachment TCS 2)

DISCUSSION MOVED TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 3 – Membership for the State Advisory Council on Indian Education

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-210; SBE Policy # EEO-B-001

Presenter(s): Dr. Bill Harrison (CEO/State Board Chairman), Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) and Mrs. Priscilla J. Maynor (State Indian Education Liaison)

Description:

In 1988, the N.C. General Assembly enacted Article 13A (NCGS § 115C-210 et seq) to establish a fifteen-member State Advisory Council on Indian Education to serve as the mechanism for advocating on the behalf of American Indian students. The primary purpose for the Council is to advise the State Board of Education on issues pertaining to the education of the state’s Native students. Membership consists of American Indian parents and educators, legislative members, representatives appointed by the UNC Board of Governors, and a representative of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs.

American Indian educators and parents on the Council serve staggered two-year terms, but not more than two consecutive terms; the remaining members serve unspecified terms at the discretion of their appointing authorities. Nominees to the Council are submitted by their respective tribal organizations to the chairman of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs who then submits recommendations to the State Board of Education for approval of the appointment.

Legislation requires that American Indian members of the Council be broadly representative of North Carolina Indian tribes and organizations, specifically, Coharie, the Eastern Band of Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation, Sappony, Saccamaw-Siouan and any other Indian tribe gaining state recognition in the future, the Cumberland County Association for Indian People, the Guilford Native American Association, the Metrolina Native American Association, and the Triangle Native American Society. Three members’ terms will expire June 2009; therefore, individuals to replace these members are recommended for Council membership by the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs. These individuals, if approved, will serve for two years. The Commission also recommends an individual to complete the term for a Council member who is unable to complete an appointed term. In addition three current members of the Council are recommended to serve a second term.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is asked to approve names of individuals recommended by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs for membership to the State Advisory Council on Indian Education.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell reported that the consensus of the TCS Committee is to move this item to Action on First Reading.
- Mr. Howell reviewed the recommended appointments with Board members.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve names of individuals recommended by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs for membership to the State Advisory Council on Indian Education. (See Attachment TCS 3)

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

(See Attachment in book)

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

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 1 – Final Decision in Contested Cases: Joseph Woods vs. NCDPI and Amanda Linn Eldridge Howard vs. NCSBE, NCDPI

Policy Implications: General Statute § 150B-36

Presenter(s): Ms. Katie Cornetto (SBE Attorney)

Description:

Joseph Woods filed a petition for a contested case to challenge the State Board’s denial of Petitioner’s request for non-teaching work experience. The Administrative Law Judge reversed the agency’s action.

Amanda Linn Eldridge Howard filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI’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.

Recommendations:

The State Board shall issue a Final Agency Decision in each of the contested cases.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Chair Shirley Harris noted that this item was discussed in closed session.
- There was no discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge’s recommended decision in Amanda Linn Eldridge Howard vs. NCDPI and Joseph Woods v. NCDPI, NCSBE as the State Board of Education’s Final Agency Decision. (See Attachment TCP 1)

DISCUSSION

TCP 2 – State Evaluation Committee Teacher Education Program and Alternative Lateral Entry Program Approval Recommendations

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-B-003; TCP-B-006

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

Description:

The State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education (SEC) is charged with reviewing reports of on-site program approval visits and recommending program approval actions to the State Board of Education. Program approval recommendations for Campbell University, Elizabeth City State University, and UNC-Chapel Hill are attached. The SEC is also charged with reviewing proposals for alternative programs for lateral entry teachers and recommending approval actions to the State Board of Education. Recommendations on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' Career and Technical Education Lateral Entry Program and the Mt. Olive College Lateral Entry Program are also attached.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Chair Shirley Harris explained that full approval of lateral entry programs was given by the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education to Campbell University, Elizabeth City State University, and UNC-Chapel Hill. In addition, the Evaluation Committee recommends approval for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School's Career and Technical Education Lateral Entry Program and the Mt. Olive College Lateral Entry Program. Ms. Harris asked Board members to review the material prior to the Board meeting in July.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in June and will be presented at the July meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 2)

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 1 – Approval of Charter School 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 Charter Schools listed in the attachment following 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 charter schools for the School Technology Trust Fund, No Child Left Behind and federal eRate monies, as well as a variety of private technology grants. The list of Charter School technology plans is attached.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve these technology plans.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett stated that the LFI Committee consensus was to present this item for Action on First Reading so that the charter schools can enjoy the benefit of having approved technology plans.
- There was no discussion.

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

LFI 2 –Revision of Policy EEO-U-002 Regarding Criminal Fingerprint History Checks For Employment Applicants and Individuals Handling Fiscal Matters in Charter Schools

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # EEO-U-002

Presenter(s): Ms. Katie Cornetto (SBE Attorney) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

This is a revision of State Board Policy EEO-U-002. The policy deals with criminal fingerprint history checks of applicants for employment, and individuals handling fiscal matters in charter schools pursuant to NCGS 115C-238.29K. The revision assists the State Board in investigation and inquiry consistent with state and federal law.

Recommendations:

The State Board Staff Attorney and the Office of Charter Schools recommend the State Board of Education approve the policy changes.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett directed Board members to the revised material at their place for this item. LFI 2 is presented for Action on First Reading because the Department is already receiving fingerprint check requests for charter school applicants.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revision of SBE Policy # EEO-U-002 as recommended. (See Attachment LFI 2)

DISCUSSION

LFI 3 – Recommendations for Preliminary Approval of 2009 Charter School Applications

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

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

Description:

As per NCGS § 115C-238.29D(b), the State Board of Education may authorize no more than 100 charter schools. There will be three (3) openings for preliminary charters of new schools at the beginning of the 2009-10 school year. Seven (7) applicants were interviewed by the LFI Committee:

- Bear Grass Charter School
- Duplin Charter School
- Henderson Collegiate
- Lake Lure Classical Academy
- McKinney Academy Charter School
- Mountain Island Charter School
- New Bern International Academy

Three applications will be chosen and recommended by the LFI Committee to the State Board of Education for preliminary charter approval at the July 2009 SBE meeting.

All schools receiving preliminary approval will undergo rigorous training as per the expectations set by the state and federal government for operation of a public charter school. Each applicant will further develop the bylaws, policies, and procedures that are deemed necessary for the effective and efficient operation of a charter school. The SBE will review the progress of the school(s) no later than the March 2010 SBE meeting when final approval may be granted.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends the LFI Committee present three (3) applicants to receive preliminary charters to the SBE for Action at the July 2009 SBE meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett distributed a copy of the votes taken by the LFI Committee members showing their recommended rankings for the three charter school openings. Board members will receive the ranking forms and background material in order to make the most informed decision prior to voting in July.
- A brief discussion ensued about the voting process specifically as it relates to recasting a voting preference by a Committee member. Special Deputy Attorney General Tom Ziko clarified that when the subcommittees were created, it was never determined that the subcommittees would operate under Roberts Rules of Orders. The committees would bring to the Board as a whole reports, consensus, and feelings of the committee. Further, Mr. Ziko explained that this function was not an official vote, rather a survey to bring rank order preferences of the members on the LFI Committee. Mr. Ziko said that he would not legally categorize this activity as a vote, but a numerical description of peoples' opinion at a point in time. Therefore, it would be appropriate and nothing legally that would prohibit the Committee member to change his/her numerical opinion.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in June and will be presented at the July meeting for action. (See Attachment LFI 3)

DISCUSSION

LFI 4 – Standardization of Waiver/Exemption List for Cooperative Innovative High School Program Application

Policy Implications: N/A

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

Description:

The Cooperative Innovative High School program follows a multi-step annual process for approving programs, assessing and approving program exemptions for the State Board of Education as well as North Carolina Community College Board policies and procedures. The current process unnecessarily burdens personnel in the school districts and at the NCDPI. The process requires significant time to identify required waivers at the school district and at NCDPI to prepare for SBE approval. In most cases, the exemptions requested are routine, having been repeatedly approved for similar programs in past years. A similar procedure used by the NCCCS Board requires additional time.

NCDPI Academic Services and Instructional Support (ASIS) proposes that the routine waivers included in this item become part of the Cooperative Innovative program approval process and be granted automatically with program approvals, thus saving school districts from identifying and requesting these waivers. Any exemptions not clearly identified here should be considered non-routine and will, as in the past, require an explicit request and subsequent approval by the SBE.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve routine waiver exemptions to become a part of the application process. It is also recommended that the State Board Chair be authorized to approve these routine waivers for LEAs that are opening innovative programs not requiring Board approval.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett directed Board members to an insert in their notebooks for their review.
- There was no discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in June and will be presented at the July 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:

- District and School Transformation Update
- NC Virtual Public School/Learn and Earn Online (LEO) Director's Report
- 2010 Charter Schools for Renewal

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**Cyber Summit on 21st Century Skills**

In her Superintendent's Report, Dr. Atkinson announced that The Partnership for 21st Century Skills is hosting the Cyber Summit on 21st Century Skills from June 1–12, 2009. The summit, which takes place solely online, affords thousands of education, policy, civic, community and business leaders the opportunity to interact with one another and discuss important education reform initiatives. These webinars focus on what is happening at the national, state, and district levels and best practices for how 21st century skills fit into core class instruction.

On June 2, a North Carolina team presented a webinar on the topic of "Transforming Teaching for 21st Century Learning."

Team members were

- June Atkinson, State Superintendent

- Tricia Willoughby, Executive Director, NCBCE, and SBE Member
- Kathy Sullivan, Senior Policy Adviser, SBE
- Carolyn McKinney, Executive Director, NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission
- Jesse Dingle, Director, Talent Management and Development
- Cheryl Fuller, Lead Consultant, Office of Professional Development

Board member Patricia Willoughby noted that it was appropriate that North Carolina presented since North Carolina was the first state to have a Center for 21st Century Skills that is now the work of the Department through ACRE and other projects. Per the request of our national partners, North Carolina's Principal/Teacher Standards and evaluation instruments were highlighted, according to Board member Willoughby.

For more information, go to www.21stcenturyskills.org.

Press Conference Held By Five Major Education Groups

Superintendent Atkinson reported that on June 1, five major education organizations held a joint press conference to call on the General Assembly to avoid making "disastrous cuts" to North Carolina's public schools. The groups called on the General Assembly to find a balance between cuts and increased revenue as a solution to North Carolina's budget shortfall. To read more about each organization's advocacy on the budget crisis, go to their respective websites. Groups involved in the press conference were NC PTA, NCASA, NCSBA, NCAE, and the Public School Forum.

State-led Common Core of State Education Standards MOA

North Carolina has joined 48 other states in a national effort to develop a common core of state education standards. Governor Beverly Perdue, State Superintendent June Atkinson, and SBE Chairman/CEO Bill Harrison have signed and submitted a Memorandum of Agreement that enables North Carolina to formally join the initiative.

The new common core state standards in English language arts and mathematics for grades K-12 will be aligned with college and work expectations and will include rigorous content and skills. Standards will be internationally-benchmarked and based on research and best practices. The set of college and career-ready standards should be completed by July while grade-by-grade standards work should be finished in December.

Local Superintendents' Weekly Webinars

In order to stay abreast of current issues, local superintendents participate in a weekly webinar conducted by the NCDPI staff. Major topics include:

- State Board of Education Actions
- Federal Stimulus Funds
- State Budget and Legislation

State Superintendent's Career-Ready Commission

At the request of Governor Beverly Perdue, a non-standing commission was recently created to study and make recommendations about the following issues facing North Carolina:

- How do we align the goals of workforce development, workforce education, and economic development in North Carolina?
- How do we develop and implement structures and systems, both educationally and economically, to meet future labor market needs and demands?
- What is the role of entrepreneurship in creating and sustaining North Carolinians?
- How should the 16 career clusters identified by the U.S. Department of Education be implemented effectively in public education?

- How do we develop systems to engage business/industry with workforce education, especially at the public school level?

The recommendations will be shared with Governor Beverly Perdue, the General Assembly, the State Board of Education, economic development boards, and educational institutions.

The membership list, minutes, presentations, and handouts are posted at www.ncpublicschools.org/statesuperintendent/office/commissions/

Good News

Derek Graham, Section Chief for Transportation Services, was instrumental in the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's project "Clean School Bus WEPN" being selected for funding in the amount of \$509,000. The funding is based on the 2008 application for the Southeast Diesel Collaborative grant competition and is being funded as part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Appropriation.

North Carolina DECA recently attended the 2009 International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, CA. National DECA reported the largest conference ever with over 16,000 in attendance. North Carolina's 200 competitors brought home 143 Gold Seals of Excellence; 21 percent of all North Carolina competitors advanced to the final round of competition; and 41 students in 18 different events were finalists and presented again to be recognized as the best in the world. NC DECA had six top 10 finishers.

One North Carolina top competitors, Jacob Dewitt from C.B. Aycock High, was number one in the Entrepreneurship Participating Independent Business. Mr. Dewitt's project was to start a therapeutic horseback riding business for individuals that are physically and mentally challenged. The judge for the event was the executive producer for the public TV series BizKidz which is a series where kids teach kids about money and business.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Harrison reported that the State Board members participated in Ethics refresher training on Wednesday which is required every two years. Next, he reminded the audience that the July 9 State Board meeting is scheduled to be held via conference call. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:30, and will be broadcast, as usual, over the Internet. The August State Board meeting will begin with a planning and goal-setting retreat which will be held in Raleigh. Board members were reminded to mark their calendars for Tuesday, August 4, as their arrival date. More information will be forthcoming.

Chairman Harrison introduced Mr. Donald Ballenger, Jr., a new member of Governor Perdue's staff, who will serve as the Governor's Teacher Advisor. The Chairman noted that Ms. Ann McArthur Maddock, although not present, was leaving her post as Education Advisor in the Governor's office (she was appointed by Governor Easley). He expressed appreciation for her work on the Teacher Working Conditions Survey which has been a revealing tool that has helped identify improvements that could be made for teachers and has been replicated across the country by a number of other states.

Update on the *Framework for Change*

Chairman Harrison recognized Chief Academic Officer for Academic Services and Instructional Support Dr. Rebecca Garland to provide an update on the *Framework for Change*. Dr. Garland directed Board members to the June 2009 status update located behind the "Other" tab in their Board notebooks. Dr. Garland reported good news as all of the systems remain on track against the schedule and list of deliverables. K-12 Science, Math, Computer Skills, English 10, and Occupational Courses of Study essential standards, clarifying objectives, and samples of assessment prototypes have been submitted for final feedback. June 15 is the anticipated date for having all of the feedback. In terms of preliminary feedback, most of the concerns are in the area of the science standards, specifically the K-5 kit and how they will be cross

walked over to the new standards, topic-based v. spiraling. Both sets of standards encourage inquiry-based instruction. Dr. Garland reported that the Department's greatest concern centers on the Comprehensive Assessments-Next Generation (CANG). She explained that the budget may have an impact on the timeline for rollout of a benchmarking tool.

Halifax County Update

Chief Academic Officer for Academic Services and Instructional Support Dr. Rebecca Garland provided a detailed report on the major initiatives and progress with Halifax County Schools. She directed Board members to the June 2009 Status Report located behind the "Other" tab in their Board notebooks. Once the consent order was signed in Halifax County, the Department has had a real opportunity to influence in terms of personnel, curriculum and finance decisions, according to Dr. Garland. The Department has been dealing with three areas: balancing the budget, ensuring that all 2nd graders have an assessment prior to the start of the 2009-10 school year which includes training for teachers to administer the K-2 assessment next year, and conducting a testing inventory and providing technical assistance. The Department will employ a Reading First assessment as a temporary measure.

Legislative Update

Legislative Liaison Chris Minard provided a brief report on legislative activity with implications for education. She also noted that the House Appropriations meeting was being held immediately following session today. Agreement has not been met by the House or the Senate on a revenue package. According to Speaker Hackney, the target date to release the budget from the floor is next week.

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the June 4, 2009, meeting of the State Board of Education.