

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
August 5-6, 2009**

Education Building, Raleigh	Wednesday, August 5, 2009	Board Room, 3:30 PM
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

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

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Jessica Garner, Teacher of the Year Advisor
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CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Harrison called the Wednesday session of the August State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. Chairman Harrison noted the absence of Board members Tom Speed and Ms. Christine Greene. He welcomed Mr. Reginald Kenan, the new District 2 SBE member who will be sworn in during Thursday's meeting. In addition, he announced that Dr. Terry Holliday, who was to have served as the Superintendent Advisor, is moving to Kentucky to serve as the Commissioner of Education. The Chairman also introduced Ms. Jessica Garner, AT&T North Carolina Teacher of the Year and SBE Advisor.

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.

At this time, Chairman Harrison 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 with the Board attorneys on attorney-client privileged matters, and to consider the attorney's advice and instructions in the case of *Atkinson vs. State of North Carolina, et. al.*, and to consider one or more issues related to a public officer or employee specified in G.S. § 143-318.11.8.6 .*

Following the closed session, the Board reconvened in open session. Chairman Harrison announced that Associate Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson would be joining the Board on Thursday morning to perform the swearing-in ceremony for the newly appointed and reappointed Board members.

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

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board of Education meeting until Thursday, August 6, at 9:00 a.m.

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

William Harrison, Chairman
Melissa Bartlett
Janet Cowell, State Treasurer
Christine J. Greene
Shirley Harris
Kevin Howell

Reginald Kenan
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Kathy Taft
John Tate
Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent
Jessica Garner, Teacher of the Year Advisor

Wendell Hall, Local Board Member Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Harrison called the Thursday session of the August 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.

He noted the absence of Board member Tom Speed and Teacher of the Year Advisor Ms. Cindi Rigsbee. In addition, the Chairman welcomed special guests Ms. Clair Fabrizio and Ms. Maria Fabrizio, who are daughters of Dr. Lou Fabrizio.

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. Ms. Patricia Willoughby noted the appearance of a conflict of interest with Board item LFI 1 - Recommendations for Preliminary Approval of 2009 Charter School Applications. Mr. Reginald Kenan noted the appearance of a conflict of interest for TCS 1 – Approval of Grants. In addition, because Mr. Kenan does not have the background to form an opinion since this meeting of the Board is his first meeting, he recused himself from the vote on LFI 1 – Recommendations for Preliminary Approval of 2009 Charter School Applications. The conflicts of interest were so noted. 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 recognized Mr. Wayne McDevitt to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Harrison introduced The Honorable Patricia Timmons-Goodson, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina to conduct the first order of business.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

- The Honorable Patricia Timmons-Goodson, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of North Carolina
 - Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Marshall, Education District 8 SBE Member (Reappointment)
 - Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Raleigh, At-Large SBE Member (Reappointment)
 - Mr. Reginald Kenan, Warsaw, Education District 2 SBE Member

Associate Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson administered the oath of office to Mr. Wayne McDevitt from Marshall, North Carolina. Mr. McDevitt was reappointed by Governor Beverly Perdue to the Education District 8 seat.

Associate Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson administered the oath of office to Ms. Patricia Willoughby from Raleigh, North Carolina. Ms. Willoughby was reappointed by Governor Beverly Perdue as an At-Large SBE member. Ms. Willoughby was joined by her husband, Mr. Colin Willoughby.

Associate Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson administered the oath of office to Mr. Reginald Kenan from Rose Hill, North Carolina. Mr. Kenan was appointed by Governor Beverly Perdue to the Education District 2 seat. Board members welcomed newly confirmed State Board member Kenan to his first official meeting by presenting him with an SBE brief case, pin, and mug. Mr. Kenan was joined by his mother, Margaret; his brother, Samuel; other family members, friends, and 20 students from Duplin County where Mr. Kenan has served on the Board of Education for several years.

The swearing-in ceremony and presentations were photographed.

MINUTES

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2009, Board meeting. Upon motion made by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the July 9, 2009, meeting as presented.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADVISORS

➤ Ms. Jessica Garner, AT&T North Carolina Teacher of the Year Advisor

Chairman Harrison explained that each year at this time the Board welcomes its new advisors. Unfortunately for the Board, Dr. Terry Holliday, who would have served as the Superintendent Advisor, has accepted the position of Education Commissioner for the State of Kentucky. The Board is now awaiting a new appointee from the Governor's Office for this role. In addition, Mr. Vann Pennell, the new Principal of the Year Advisor could not join the meeting today due to a long-standing commitment that he could not change.

The Chairman asked Board members to welcome Ms. Jessica Garner to the Board as the new Teacher of the Year advisor. Ms. Garner is a Spanish teacher at Porter's Ridge High School in Union County. Ms. Garner was welcomed to her first official meeting and was presented with a plaque, SBE briefcase, pin and mug. The presentation was photographed.

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)

INFORMATION

GCS 5 – Field Testing and Special Studies for the 2009-10 School Year

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-174.12; SBE Policy # GCS-A-015

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:

General Statute § 115C-174.12 (b1) states:

“The Superintendent shall notify local boards of education by October 1 of each year of any field tests that will be administered in their schools during the school year, the schools at which the field tests will be administered, and the specific field tests that will be administered at each school.”

Attached is the list of the 2009-10 field tests and special studies. Consistent with General Statute §115C-174.12(a2) and SBE policy GCS-A-015, no school will be required to participate in more than two field tests at a given grade.

LEAs are permitted to file an official appeal requesting that a school be excluded from a specific field test sample based on the written justification submitted by the LEA superintendent along with the Request for Appeals form. All Requests for Appeals will be collected by the Division of Accountability Services and presented to the Compliance Commission for Accountability in September. The appeals, along with the Compliance Commission recommendations regarding each of the appeals, will be provided to the SBE at the October SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE provide input to the NCDPI regarding the 2009-10 field test and special studies list and provide any necessary guidance prior to schools being notified in August regarding required participation.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft explained that LEAs are permitted to file an official appeal to be excluded from the 2009-10 field test and special studies. This item provides guidance to the LEAs about the process.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was submitted for information only.

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

INFORMATION

TCP 4 – 2008 Teacher Working Conditions Survey Data and Research

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-284(c2)(1)

Presenter(s): Mrs. Carolyn McKinney (Executive Director, North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards Commission) and Mr. Eric Hirsch (Special Projects Director, New Teacher Center)

Description:

In the spring of 2008, more than 104,000 (87%) teachers and administrators across our state completed the NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey. One hundred percent of the state’s traditional schools, 62% of charter schools and 81% of our special schools have reports online. Mr. Hirsch has completed the research from the 2008 survey. He will present a summary of the 2008 findings, including connections to student achievement and teacher retention, support for new teachers, tools for using data at the school level to inform school improvement conversations, principal working conditions, and support for the new teacher/principal evaluation instruments. The coaching-based supervision professional development assists principals in the evaluation of teachers. The NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey is a key artifact in the evaluation of principals.

Recommendations:

N/A

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris introduced Mr. Eric Hirsch, Special Projects Director, New Teacher Center, to present the summary findings of the 2008 Teacher Working Conditions (TWC) Survey Data and Research.
- Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Hirsch noted that this was the most successful iteration of the TWC Survey to date. Over 104,000 (87%) educators in the state completed the 2008 survey, and 100% of the state's traditional schools have a data report online. A unique feature in 2008 was a survey of principals about the supports that they receive from their school districts. Almost 2,000 principals responded. The greatest value of the survey is in the conversation that begins when School Improvement Teams or other groups sit down and talk about their schools’ results together, according to Mr. Hirsch. It is all about understanding how educators perceive the conditions in their school. In his presentation, Mr. Hirsch included findings on connections to student achievement and teacher retention, support for new teachers, tools for using data at the school level to inform school improvement conversations, principal working conditions, and support for the new teacher/principal evaluation instruments. The entire report, in addition to a School Improvement Guide, is located on the Website at www.ncteachingconditions.org.
- A brief discussion occurred regarding the possibility of a yearly administration of the survey, concern for schools that do not use the data to improve conditions, and professional development.
- 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)**

DISCUSSION
GCS 2 – Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Evaluation Policy
Policy Implications: PL 107-110, No Child Left Behind

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Mrs. Charlotte Hughes (Director, Program Monitoring and Support)

Description:

The reauthorization of ESEA, Section 1116 of Title I in No Child Left Behind, requires that the State Education Agency (SEA) develop, implement, and publicly report on standards and techniques for monitoring the quality and effectiveness of services offered by approved supplemental educational services (SES) providers. Additionally, the SEA must establish procedures for withdrawing approval from providers that fail, for two consecutive years, to contribute to increasing the academic proficiency of students served by the providers. SES provides additional academic instruction that is provided outside of the regular school day and designed to increase the academic achievement of eligible students in schools required to provide such services in accordance with NCLB. These services may include academic assistance such as tutoring, remediation, and other educational interventions. Attached are descriptions for the process and evaluation measures that will meet this federal requirement for evaluating SES providers.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is requested to review the proposed policy as written and make any recommended changes

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft announced that this item will not be presented for *Action* in September because further discussion and improvements are needed before this policy is submitted by the GCS Committee for action.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in August and will be presented again in September for discussion. (See Attachment GCS 2)

DISCUSSION

GCS 3 – High School Courses Taken in the Middle School; Considerations for English Language Arts Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-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 Dr. Marilyn Palmer (Section Chief, K-12 English Language Arts)

Description:

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

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to approve the expansion of the existing policy to include English Language Arts courses, specifically, English I.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reminded Board members that GCS-M-001 identifies high school courses taken in the middle school for high school credit. The recommendation is to add English Language Arts courses, specifically, English I, to the existing policy. Ms. Taft announced that this item may not be ready to present for Action in September.
- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 4 – K-12 Mathematics, English 10, Occupational Course of Study and K-12 Information Technology Essential Standards

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-F-002, GCS-F-004, GCS-F-006, and GCS-F-010

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 Division)

Description:

The Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Division, at the direction of the State Board of Education, has developed Essential Standards for K-12 Mathematics, English 10, Occupational Course of Study, and K-12 Information Technology. These essential standards are the result of analysis of current research, national and international standards, as well as business and labor market standards. Essential Standards are presented by content area and grade level with clarifying objectives. These standards can be found at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/>.

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to review the new Essential Standards for K-12 Mathematics, English 10, Occupational Course of Study, and K-12 Information Technology. It is also recommended that policy GCS-F-006 be deleted as the *North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Computer and Technology Skills* and *Information Skills* have now merged.

Discussion/Comments:

- Noting minor changes in these essential standards, GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft stated that this item would be presented in September for Action.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Honors Review Follow Up
- Update on National Standards

OLD BUSINESS REPORTS

Under Old Business, Ms. Kathy Taft provided a brief announcement about an inquiry sent to LEAs regarding continuing the Graduation Project; noting that only three LEAs did not respond (Anson, Halifax, and Weldon City). Eighty LEAs will continue to require the graduation project as a local exit standard.

**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), Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology), Ms. Jackie Colbert (Section Chief, Reading First), Mrs. Charlotte Hughes (Director, Program Monitoring and Support Division), and Ms. Diana Bowman (NCHE Director, The SERVE Center at UNC-G)

Description:

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

- Attachment 1 – 2009-10 Unallotted Reading First Funds
- Attachment 2 – Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grant Awards

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 explained that the 2009-10 Unallotted Reading First Funds in the amount of \$1,188,571.00 will be allotted directly to the grant schools to offset the 62 percent budget reduction from the U.S. Department of Education.
- Mr. Howell further explained that the McKinney-Vento Act includes provisions to ensure that students experiencing homelessness are provided with a free, public education and have equal opportunity to enroll and succeed in school. The 2009-10 allocation from the U.S. Department of Education is estimated to be \$1,503,440.00 and includes support for statewide activities as well as competitive sub-grants to LEAs.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted to approve the 2009-10 Unallotted Reading First Funds and the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grant Awards as recommended. Board member Reginald Kenan recused himself from the discussion and vote. (See Attachment TCS 1)

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.
- Board member Kathy Taft expressed concern over some contract amounts and asked for clarification.
- There was no further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Communications Update
- Budget Update
- Intern Update – Presentation of Projects/Reports

TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell recognized the interns who presented their research to the TCS Committee on Wednesday. The first report was *Assessing Current Course Scheduling Practices of High Schools*. The policy question was: How can the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education modify the current high school scheduling practices to improve student achievement and encourage cost savings for North Carolina? The second report was *Exploring the Relationship Between Healthful Living and Graduation Rates*. The policy question was: Is there a relationship between health and dropout rates that could create future policies addressing high school completion? The research was conducted by student interns Corliss Brown, Shanyce Campbell, and Breonte Guy. Mr. Howell invited Ms. Allison Anderson who is responsible for selecting the interns and Associate Superintendent Philip Price for a photograph with the interns. The research reports can be found online at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/intern-research/reports/>.

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

LATE ITEM - ACTION ON FIRST READING - MOVED TO DISCUSSION

TCP 5 – Clarification of the Effective Date of the Adjusted Praxis II Score for Physical Education

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-003

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

Description:

In May, the State Board adjusted the required passing score for the Physical Education Praxis II test from 158 to 152. An effective date of July 1, 2008 forward was established. The Board is asked to establish an effective date of May 6, 2009 with the clarification that applicants for a physical education license after this date with a score of 152 or higher on the required Praxis II exam for Physical Education be deemed to have satisfied the testing requirement regardless of when the test was taken.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board establish May 6, 2009 as the effective date for the adjusted Praxis II Physical Education passing score and that applicants for the physical education license after this date with a score of 152 or higher on the required Praxis II exam for Physical Education be deemed to have satisfied the testing requirement regardless of when the test was taken.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris explained that when the State Board passed the policy in May the new cut score was applicable beginning in July 1, 2008. After further review, the Committee decided that since it is the same test, the recommendation is that everyone who takes that same test should use the same cut score regardless of when the test was taken. Therefore, the recommendation is a clarification of policy and change in the effective date.

- A brief discussion ensued about the impact of this technical correction and the wording of the policy. Board member Bartlett provided a rewording recommendation for policy clarification.
- After a brief discussion, Ms. Harris agreed to table this item until September for further vetting and clarification.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was submitted as a late item for Action on First Reading. However, after discussion, this item will now be presented at the September meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 5)

DISCUSSION

TCP 1 – Addition of Elementary (K-6) Content Area Concentration as License Areas

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-001

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

Description:

To encourage elementary teachers to pursue graduate study in the academic content areas (English, math, science, and social studies), a proposal to add content area concentrations to the elementary license area is presented. Individuals with an elementary (K-6) license would be eligible to have the elementary concentration areas added to their license based on the completion of 18 semester hours of graduate work in the content area.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board approve the addition of the elementary (K-6) content area concentrations as license areas.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted much discussion in the TCP Committee meeting with concerns expressed surrounding the current graduate pay policy as written. Clarification will be provided during the next Board meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in August and will be presented at the September meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 1)

DISCUSSION

TCP 2 – Proposed Qualifying Score for the Revised School Leaders Licensure Assessment Praxis II Exam

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-003

Presenter(s): Mrs. Susan Ruiz (Section Chief, Teacher Licensure Section) and Dr. Cory Murphy (Client Relations Director, Educational Testing Service)

Description:

On April 21-22 and May 12-13, 2009, Educational Testing Service (ETS) convened two distinct expert panels to conduct Multi-State Standard Setting Studies for the revised School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA). Panelists from North Carolina and 16 other states were asked to review the updated test for the purpose of recommending a qualifying score to the departments of education in participating states. Initially in the revision process and prior to the standard setting studies, new SLLA test content was defined by a National Advisory Committee of experts, aligned with Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC) Standards for School Leaders, and confirmed by a national survey of practitioners.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve a qualifying scaled score of 163 for the revised SLLA School leadership Series as the equivalent of the current score of 155. (The revised SLLA test will be administered beginning in September 2009 at which time the current test will no longer be available. This is a regeneration initiative by ETS whereby the core content remains the same; however, the structure and formatting of the test have been updated.)

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris recalled that administrators took the Praxis II examination as a part of receiving their license. We are in the process of revisioning the MSA programs which should be in effect this fall at which time candidates will be moved to an electronic evidence product rather than a Praxis II test. The concern is that reciprocity will be an issue with individuals coming from out of state who will not have participated in North Carolina's MSA program. In addition, since the test North Carolina was using is no longer available, North Carolina must adopt the new test being proposed or recommend another process for licensure.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

DISCUSSION**TCP 3 – Revised Mentor Standards and Training**

Policy Implications: 2007 and 2008 Budget Bills

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Mr. Eric Hirsch (Special Projects Director, New Teacher Center)

Description:

Both the 2007 and 2008 budget bills contained special provisions regarding

- the appropriate use of mentor funds;
- plans, both local and state, that should guide the expenditures of mentor funds; and
- the need for adequate mentor training.

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the State Board authorized a task force to address new program standards, the establishment of a network of mentor programs, a new training program for mentors, and a review of the current NC SBE policies on Beginning Teacher Support.

Attached for review is the first set of recommendations from the Task Force for the State Board to consider.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education discuss the proposed mentoring and education program standards for adoption at the September SBE meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris directed Board members to their Board books for this item stating that the work is ongoing and will be available for public input for several months.
- Board member Kathy Taft noted concern expressed by several superintendents in the Northeast that while they support the mentoring, this is a great deal of paperwork where the effectiveness is questionable.
- Board member John Tate expressed concern about the level of accountability of the mentor in his/her capacity with new teachers.

- Ms. Harris reiterated that this item is available for public input and the work is ongoing.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in August. (See Attachment TCP 3)

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

ACTION

LFI 1 – 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 General Statute § 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. The following seven (7) applicants were interviewed by the LFI Committee:

- Bear Grass Charter School (Martin County)
- Duplin Charter School (Duplin County)
- Henderson Collegiate (Vance County)
- Lake Lure Classical Academy (Rutherford County)
- McKinney Academy Charter School (Mecklenburg County)
- Mountain Island Charter School (Gaston County)
- New Bern International Academy (Craven County)

Three applications will be chosen by the State Board of Education for preliminary charter approval at the August 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 approval of three (3) applicants for preliminary charters to begin training in August, 2009.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board members Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Mr. Reginald Kenan, and Lt. Governor Walter Dalton (via written correspondence) recused themselves from discussion and voting on this item.
- SBE Assistant Executive Director Ms. Betsy West distributed the ballots to be used to select the three applicants for preliminary charters to begin training August, 2009. At this time, Mr. Jack Moyer instructed Board members to select their top three applicants and to number them 1-3 accordingly on the ballot. He explained that the ballots would be tallied by point value.
- There was no additional discussion.

Voting by ballot, SBE members voted to approve Henderson Collegiate (Vance County), Lake Lure Classical Academy (Rutherford County) and Mountain Island Charter School (Gaston County) for preliminary charters to begin training in August 2009. Board members Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Mr. Regional Kenan, and Lt. Governor Walter Dalton recused themselves from the vote. (See Attachment LFI 1)

DISCUSSION

LFI 2 – Charter Termination of PreEminent Charter School

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-238-29D(d); SBE Policy # EEO-U-007

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

Description:

The renewal requirements for PreEminent Charter School to retain its charter are stated in a letter to the school dated February 6, 2009. “Preeminent Charter School shall meet or exceed expected growth in the next two consecutive academic years (2008-'09 and 2009-'10). Failure to meet this growth for any reason will subject PreEminent Charter School’s charter not to be renewed.”

Recommendations:

The Department of Public Instruction recommends termination of PreEminent’s charter.

Discussion/Comments:

- Pending receipt of additional information, LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett explained that the LFI Committee consensus is to postpone discussion of LFI 2 until the September Board meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in August and will be presented again at the September meeting for discussion. (See Attachment LFI 2)

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:

- Redesign of High School Turnaround
- NCVPS Director’s Report
- Update on School Transformation Efforts

STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Recommended Standards for Afterschool Physical Activity

State Superintendent Atkinson directed the Board’s attention to a booklet developed through a collaborative effort of the Department of Public Instruction’s 21st Century Community Learning Center Program staff. This resource is designed to help afterschool providers meet physical activity guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. While the Move More Afterschool Standards are voluntary, adoption is highly recommended for afterschool programs. The document will be placed on the Department of Public Instruction’s 21st Century Community Learning Center website, in addition to the websites of all of the collaborative partners.

Reading First

Under the direction of Ms. Jackie Colbert, Director of Reading First, Dr. Atkinson recognized the Reading First staff while distributing a pamphlet developed by the North Carolina Reading First Initiative entitled *How READING FIRST Increases Student Reading Performance in North Carolina*. She noted that the Reading First initiative has yielded many positive results which are detailed in the pamphlet.

Race to the Top

The U.S. Department of Education has released the criteria for comment for Race to the Top (RTTT) which can be found on the Website. Several entities are providing feedback about those criteria, including the Council of Chief State School Officers, according to Dr. Atkinson. The Superintendent noted that the Department has an initiative underway through the Friday Institute to work with Chairman Harrison and others to provide comment about the criteria. Further, she noted that because of the State Board's Mission and Goals, North Carolina is ahead of many states when it comes to developing district and school assistance, teacher effectiveness standards, accountability and innovation. Through the work that North Carolina will do in a collaborative way, North Carolina will be able to obtain buy-in from administrators, teachers, and business/industry across the state and should have an excellent proposal to submit to the U.S. Department of Education in December.

Writing Instruction System Pilot

Under the direction of DPI Deputy Chief Academic Officer Angela Quick, North Carolina's new Writing Instruction System Pilot project received the 21st Century Skills Practice-of-the Year Award. North Carolina was among seven states recognized for this national award from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. This organization brings together the business community, education leaders and policymakers to define a powerful vision for 21st century education to ensure every child's success as citizens and workers in the 21st century.

At this time, State Superintendent Atkinson presented Ms. Quick the award which summarizes the innovations and the hard work of the Department to carry out the Board's Writing Assessment Project to develop a more comprehensive K-12 writing system. Ms. Quick accepted the award on behalf of the following team members:

Nancy Carolan (Education Testing/Accountability Consultant)

Jim Kroening (Education Testing/Accountability Consultant)

Hope Tesh (Testing Policy and Operations Consultant)

Nadine McBride (Psychometrician)

Melinda Taylor (Psychometrician)

Janis Meek (Family & Consumer Sciences Education/Business, Marketing and Health Occupations Consultant)

David Wehbie (Industrial Technology and Human Services Consultant)

Shayne Goodrum (School Turnaround/Needs Assessment Team Lead)

Dreama McCoy (Behavioral Support and Special Programs Consultant)

Connie Steigerwald (Program Improvement and Professional Development Consultant)

Julie Kagy (Visually Impaired/Assistive Technology Consultant)

Tara Almeida (K-5 English Language Arts Consultant)

Carolyn Southerland (K-5 English Language Arts Consultant)

Phyllis Blue (6-8 English Language Arts Consultant)

Pat Chalmers (6-8 English Language Arts Consultant)

Johanna Chase (Health/Driver Education Consultant)

Anne Marie Gunter (Second Languages Consultant)

Glenda Harrell (English as a Second Language Consultant)

Joanne Marino (English as a Second Language Consultant)

Lisa Llewellyn (K-5 Social Studies Consultant)

Lisa Mackey (Reading First Consultant)

Steve Molinari (6-8 Social Studies Consultant)

Ouida Meyers (Instructional Technology Grant Administrator)

Marilyn Palmer (K-12 English Language Arts Section Chief)
Mary Russell (6-8 Mathematics Consultant)
Leonie Gill (More at Four Consultant)
Mia Sherard (More at Four Consultant)

Staff in attendance were asked to join Ms. Quick for the presentation which was photographed.

Budget Webinars

Dr. Atkinson reported that the Department continues to provide weekly Webinars for LEA superintendents. The purpose of the Webinars is to keep superintendents up-to-date with State Board of Education and General Assembly activities on the budget and other legislative and policy issues.

Performance Management Tool

At this time, State Superintendent Atkinson recognized Mr. Adam Levinson, Director of Policy and Strategic Planning, for a brief presentation on the Performance Management Tool. Based on discussions with the State Board of Education, in 2008, DPI created a web-based Performance Management Tool to give the SBE, DPI staff, and any other interested stakeholders a clear, accessible view of how DPI has organized its work to move the state toward achievement of the SBE's measurable objectives for North Carolina students. The tool is designed to increase DPI's strategic focus and transparency. To view the tool, go to www.dpi.state.nc.us/performance/.

State Superintendent's Career-Ready Commission

The third Career-Ready Commission meeting took place on July 28, 2009. Agenda items included:

- Workforce Boards in NC
- Career-Readiness Certification
- Community College Completion Rates and Placement Tests

Commission members have begun to formulate recommendations. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 8. For more information, go to www.ncpublicschools.org/statesuperintendent/office/commissions/.

Superintendents' Quarterly Meeting

The Superintendents' Quarterly meeting was held on July 30, 2009. Agenda items included:

- State Budget
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- Race to the Top Funding
- LEA Federal Funding Flexibility
- Accountability and Curriculum Revision Effort (ACRE) Project

The primary objective of the meeting was to prepare local superintendents for financial decisions for the upcoming school year.

Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

- Delivered remarks/keynote address at
 - WTVI-TV Carolina Business Review with South Carolina State Superintendent Jim Rex
 - WRESA Virtual Summer Leadership Conference
 - NCDPI Career and Technical Education Summer Conference
 - NCDPI Financial and Business Services Summer Conference
 - Halifax County Schools Professional Development Series
 - North Carolina Sheriff's Association
 - Montgomery Chamber of Commerce Meeting

- ❑ Participated in
 - CCSSO Next Generation Learners Preconference
 - CCSSO Summer Institute
 - Governor's Transforming NC Public Schools Initiative
 - NC Graduation Summit/American Promise Planning Team; Summit is planned for October 22, 2009, at NCSU McKimmon Center

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Announcements/Reminders

Chairman Harrison stated that the Board's planning and work session that was originally scheduled for the August meeting was postponed until September since budget issues will be important in some of the work. Consequently, the Board needed the postponement until the budget was complete. He asked Board members to schedule time on their calendars beginning with late Sunday afternoon, August 30, through the end of the day on Tuesday, September 1. The Board will meet in Raleigh at the Sheraton downtown.

He reminded Board members and the audience that a press event will be held in the Board Lounge immediately following today's meeting. The purpose of the event is to respond to any questions from the press regarding today's release on the ABCs and AYP results for the 2008-09 school year.

Update on the *Framework for Change*

The GCS Committee received an Update on the *Framework for Change* during its committee meeting on Wednesday. For this reason, Chairman Harrison noted that it was not necessary to share a report at this time.

Halifax County Update

Chief Academic Officer for Academic Services and Instructional Support Dr. Rebecca Garland provided a brief status report on Halifax County Schools. She noted that the Department has worked all summer to ensure that Halifax County Schools open in August with a new direction and vision. Dr. Garland acknowledged the work of Instructional Services, Talent Management and Development, Exceptional Children, Career-Technical Education, and Technology staff as everyone has worked together to provide the level of professional development needed in Halifax County. Dr. Garland provided examples of the work taking place. Governor Perdue, Drs. Atkinson and Harrison, and several legislators were in Halifax County on the first day of staff development for principals where they discussed some of the critical issues. Staff development is ongoing. In addition, the high school transformation coach has been hired. The Department is still in the process of searching for an elementary coach. Prior to school opening, the Department will provide K-2 Assessment training.

Dr. Garland noted that 64 percent of the schools in Halifax County Schools will be identified low performing when the ABCs report is released during this meeting. She noted that by G.S. § 115C-105 that percentage meets the limit over which the State Board of Education has the authority to remove a superintendent, and to appoint an interim superintendent, or take authority of that local board of education. While the State Board currently has a consent order through the court giving some authority, she suggested that the Board may, in the next months, opt to become even more directive in how Halifax County should move forward to ensure that the students get a sound basic education that they are entitled to.

Legislative Update

Noting the final budget passed both Chambers on August 5, Legislative Liaison Chris Minard distributed a copy of the Money Report for Public Education and briefly highlighted legislative activity with implications for education.

Of the \$19 billion budget, \$11 billion was earmarked for education. The kindergarten start date resulted in a decrease of 11,562 students for the 2009-10 fiscal year (which netted approximately \$70 million). Per student spending for 2008-09 was \$5,523; and with the addition of the stimulus funds, per student spending will be \$5,577 for 2009-10. Budget negotiators protected the K-3 class size and dropped the provision which would have raised class size in grades 4-12. Instead, individual school systems will determine where to cut since local school boards are in a better position to set priorities in their school districts. The budget stipulated a delay in the adoption of grades 6-12 math textbooks. The 2010-11 fiscal year reflects a complete moratorium on new textbook adoptions. The public school budget also eliminates funding for most of the state administered tests not required by federal law or the condition of federal grants. The General Assembly directs the State Board of Education to use the fiscal 2009-10 savings yielded from eliminating these tests to support the development and implementation of a new Standard Course of Study for all content areas and grade levels. The goal is to develop a new accountability model. Literacy coaches were not funded; however, there is no provision that would prevent an LEA from using discretionary funding to fund literacy coaches. District and school transformation efforts have received an additional \$2.5 million. The Department of Public Instruction was ordered to cut 64 state-supported positions in 2009-10, and 36 more positions were cut for the 2010-11 fiscal year (a combination of 75 state-supported and 25 positions funded by other sources over the two years; includes the 64 positions cut in 2009-10). NC Virtual Public School (NCVPS) requires the development of an allotment formula for funding. Public school students have priority with Learn and Earn; non-public school students will be admitted only if space is available. The State Board of Education was directed to place a one-year moratorium on the ABCs bonuses for the 2009-10 fiscal year and directed to develop a plan to restructure the ABCs Accountability System.

A brief discussion occurred regarding the Wilkes County Pilot passed in the budget bill; it adds 45 minutes to the school day resulting in 18 fewer days of school. Board member McDevitt read part of the provision – which states that “the State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) by March 15, 2010, on the impact of this decision on student achievement.” Concern was expressed by the timeframe in which to report impact results.

Upon motion made by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consult with the Board attorneys on attorney-client privileged matters, and to consider the attorney’s advice and instructions in the case of Atkinson vs. State of North Carolina, et. al., and to consider one or more issues related to a public officer or employee specified in G.S. § 143-318.11.8.6 .

Following the closed session, the Board reconvened in open session. Chairman Harrison called on GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft to present GCS 1 - ABCs/AYP Report for the 2008-09 School Year for *Action on First Reading*.

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 1 – ABCs/AYP Report for the 2008-09 School Year

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-105.20.40 (Article 8B); 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 2008-09 ABCs/AYP results are presented for approval. The report is published electronically at <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org>. The site reports results for ABCs growth and performance and the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status for each individual school. The report includes results for all schools, including

Honor Schools of Excellence; Schools of Excellence; Schools of Distinction; Schools Making High Growth; Schools Making Expected Growth; Schools of Progress; Priority Schools and Low-Performing Schools. PDF and Excel formats are available, and links to Schools Not Included in the ABCs and Schools with Unresolved Data Issues are provided. Retest scores in grades 3 through 8 were used for the first time in calculating ABCs performance composites and AYP results.

The ABCs Executive Summary, containing an overview of the accountability year and statistical summary of the 2008-09 ABCs/AYP results, will be presented at the meeting.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the ABCs/AYP status of each school for the 2008-09 school year.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft recognized Dr. Lou Fabrizio to present the report.
- In opening comments, Dr. Fabrizio noted that this report encapsulates the work of many individuals including the 1.5 million student test takers, teachers, educators and administrators, testing coordinators, regional staff, DPI staff members, etc. At this time, Dr. Fabrizio acknowledged staff who were present in the audience for their work in this effort.
- Directing Board members to the material in their folders, Dr. Fabrizio provided a comprehensive statistical summary of the ABCs and AYP results. Of 2,515 schools, the percentage of schools making ABCs expected growth or high growth in 2008-09 is 80.8 percent and of 2,511 schools, 70.8 percent met AYP. (Last school year, only 31.2 percent of North Carolina's schools met AYP.) Dr. Fabrizio explained that there are certain schools that do not receive an ABCs designation because they were special education schools, vocational/career schools, or hospital schools that participated in the ABCs on the basis of the schools they served. In addition, fourteen schools had insufficient data to be assigned an ABCs status, and the status for four schools is unresolved pending the completion of investigations of alleged testing irregularities; thus, the difference in the number of schools reporting.
- Results of the 2008-09 ABCs are presented online at <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org>. AYP results are available by individual school and school district (LEA). There are also links to supplementary documents that explain ABCs calculations and ABCs technical information.
- Dr. Fabrizio highlighted the features that were different from past years. For example, retest scores (first retest only) for students who scored below the Achievement Level III standard on EOG reading and mathematics assessments in grades 3 through 8 and science in grades 5 and 8 were used in calculations of AYP and the ABCs performance composites. For the first time, EOG science scores for grades 5 and 8 were used in calculating the ABCs performance composite in 2008-09. For AYP purposes, students taking the OCS EXTEND2 assessments were counted as non-participants. In addition, when an existing Students with Disabilities (SWD) subgroup missed its AYP proficiency target, scores for students who exited the SWD category within the previous two years, were included in AYP calculations. A quick analysis showed that particular change did positively affect 81 schools.
- Dr. Fabrizio explained the secondary analyses which summarize *The Number and Percent of School Level Targets Met By Subgroup*, *The Number and Percent of Schools By Percent of Targets Missed*, *The Number and Percent of Schools By Number of Targets Missed*, and *The Number of Schools That Met AYP Using At Least One of the Special Flexibilities*. Of the 41,324 total number of targets identified statewide for AYP, the schools successfully met 39,440 of the targets (95.4%). Dr. Fabrizio reminded Board members that retesting results in grades 3-8 were a part of these analyses and reflected in the data.
- In terms of *Impact on Performance Using Retesting Results*, Dr. Fabrizio explained the change in percent proficient for schools that had changes in their overall composites in reading, mathematics and science. Retesting raised the cumulative performance composite in all of these areas by 8.9 percentage points statewide.
- The 2009 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate is 71.7 percent in comparison to 2008's figure of 70.3 percent.

- Next, Dr. Fabrizio presented the 2008-09 Low-Performing Schools list; there are 75 low-performing schools in comparison to the 100 low-performing schools in 2007-08. Low-Performing schools are defined by the ABCs Accountability System as being schools with fewer than 50 percent of the students' scores at or above achievement Level III and making less than Expected Growth.
- In addition, Dr. Fabrizio provided the 2008-09 LEA Improvement Status analyses. LEAs that make all targets in any of the three grade spans in the subject identified for improvement for two consecutive years exit improvement status. This year, four LEAs (Whiteville City Schools, Granville County Schools, Bertie County Schools, and Montgomery County Schools) exited Improvement Status. LEAs that miss any target – not necessarily the same target – in each of the three grade spans, 3-5, 6-8, and high school, in the same subject for two consecutive years enter LEA Improvement. Two LEAs (Asheville City Schools and Hickory City Schools) are eligible to enter LEA Improvement, but may appeal the decision, according to NCLB requirements.
- In closing, Dr. Fabrizio noted that local superintendents, based on their seeing the notification of results, will receive a letter indicating that they can make an appeal for their ABCs growth standard. If a school district does purport an appeal for the growth standard for any one of its schools, the Department will convene the Compliance Commission for Accountability, based on SBE policy, to review the appeals allowing an opportunity for the school district to address the Commission. The Compliance Commission will make recommendations to the State Board of Education in October, and the State Board of Education will then make the final decision. In addition, the Department is instituting the 30-day data collection window to make updates and corrections to the ABCs and AYP data.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the ABCs/AYP status of each school for the 2008-09 school year, as presented. (See Attachment GCS 1)

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of SBE 2010 Meeting Schedule

Dr. Harrison directed Board members to the proposed 2010 meeting schedule. Mr. Tate asked if the schedule could be revisited if circumstances changed; Dr. Harrison replied that it would not be a problem.

After presenting the proposed SBE 2010 Meeting Schedule, Chairman Harrison called for a motion.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the State Board of Education 2010 Meeting Schedule, as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the August 6, 2009, meeting of the State Board of Education.