

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
September 2-3, 2009**

Education Building, Raleigh

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

Board Room, 3:30 PM

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

William Harrison, Chairman
Melissa Bartlett
Christine Greene
Shirley Harris
Kevin Howell
Reginald Kenan

Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Tom Speed
Kathy Taft
John Tate
Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

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

Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher of the Year Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Harrison called the Wednesday session of the September State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session.

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. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consider the handling of the cases *John David Erwin v. NCDPI*, *Courtney M. Sears v. NCDPI*, *Jennifer Satinsky v. NCSBE*, and *Allen M. Coyle v. NCSBE*; and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment or conditions of initial employment of a current or prospective public officer or employee.*

Following the closed session, the Board reconvened in open session. Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board of Education meeting until Thursday, September 3, at 8:30 a.m.

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
Walter Dalton, Lt. Governor	Tom Speed
Christine Greene	Kathy Taft
Shirley Harris	John Tate
Kevin Howell	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Jack Hoke, Superintendent Advisor
Jessica Garner, Teacher of the Year Advisor	Vann Pennell, Principal of the Year Advisor
Wendell Hall, Local Board Member Advisor	Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher of the Year Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Harrison called the Thursday session of the September 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 State Treasurer Janet Cowell and explained that her schedule would not permit her attendance at this meeting.

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. Shirley Harris noted the appearance of a conflict of interest with Board item TCP 3 - Clarification of the Effective Date of the Adjusted Praxis II Score for Physical Education. The conflict of interest was 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 Ms. Shirley Harris to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5-6, 2009, Board meeting. Upon motion made by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 5-6, 2009, meeting as presented.

Preceding a motion to approve the August 12 conference call minutes, Lt. Governor Dalton noted that the motion published regarding Attachment 2 - Increased Local Education Agency Funding Flexibility for FY 2009-10 and FY 2010-11, needed to be amended to read "flexibility recommended for children with disabilities will be granted to the extent only that it did not decrease the per pupil allotment based upon the fiscal year 2008-2009 funding levels subject to the legislative adjustments."

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2009, SBE conference call meeting with amendments. Upon motion made by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2009, meeting as amended.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADVISORS

- Mr. Jack Hoke, Alexander County, Superintendent Advisor
- Mr. Vann Pennell, Wachovia North Carolina Principal of the Year Advisor

Chairman Harrison prefaced this presentation by speaking briefly about the role that the advisors play on the State Board of Education, noting that Mr. Hoke and Mr. Pennell will serve as advisors for the 2009-10 school year. Mr. Hoke and Mr. Pennell were welcomed to their first official meeting and were presented with plaques, SBE briefcases, pins and mugs. The presentations were photographed.

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

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

INFORMATION

LFI 1 – Data from Turnaround Schools

Policy Implications:

Presenter(s): Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, District and School Transformation)

Description:

The 2008-09 results for Turnaround Schools are presented for information. Eighty-seven of the 103 schools served in Turnaround improved their performance composites when compared to the previous year's scores, with 29 schools improving more than 10 points. Thirty-four schools achieved performance composites above 60%, which allows them to move into Self-Directed Turnaround status. The report detailing the schools' progress over time is attached.

Recommendations:

None at this time.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett introduced Dr. Ashley to present the District and School Transformation results for Turnaround Schools for 2008-09.
- Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Ashley explained that the Turnaround initiative was to support increasing student achievement in high schools with performance composites below 60 percent and in selected middle schools with composites below 60 percent that fed into high schools identified for Turnaround. The initiative was ending its third year. The initial number of high schools was 66 and 37 middle schools. The work is about improving professional practice. Dr. Ashley noted that since the Turnaround inception, 46 percent of the initial 66 high schools (or 30 high schools) will have exceeded the target performance composite of 60 percent. Dr. Ashley explained that middle schools have been in Turnaround one year less, and only four of the initial 37 middle schools have exceeded the 60 percent target, but they have an additional year.

- Dr. Ashley directed Board members to Attachment 1, located in their notebooks, for the data on how each school has performed. The data are rank ordered from the highest performance composite per high school to the lowest performance composite, and pg. 3 of the attachment ranks the middle schools in Turnaround. Dr. Ashley explained that the fourth column shows the change in performance composite over three years, noting significant gains by schools over time. She did note that there were a few schools that did not progress. In addition, Dr. Ashley noted that the data in the last column shows the graduation rate of each school. She explained the importance of keeping an eye on the graduation rate while a school is in Turnaround because if a school's graduation rate increases and their performance composite goes up, then the school is retaining more students in addition to getting advances in student achievement simultaneously. Eleven high schools improved their graduation rate over three years by at least 10 percentage points; seven high schools increased their graduation rate over three years by at least 15 percentage points.
- Dr. Ashley explained that since a number of schools have gone above 60 percent, and have been treated as cohorts, the Department now recommends dissolving the existing cohorts and revising the Turnaround Assistance Plan based on a school's 2008-09 performance. If a school exceeds a 70 percent performance composite, the school will be placed in Self-Directed Turnaround and monitored at the end of the school year to ensure they are maintaining their progress. If a school has a performance composite between 60-70 percent, it will be placed in Self-Directed Turnaround and monitored mid-way through the school year and at the end of the school year to ensure academic progress is continuing. If a school has a performance composite between 50-60 percent, it will continue to receive Turnaround assistance, a framework for action, a leadership facilitator and instructional coaches that will go to the school on a routine basis. For the smaller cohort of schools with a performance composite below 50 percent, they will receive intensive, customized assistance, a framework for action, a leadership facilitator and instructional coaches. If they still don't make progress, a comprehensive needs assessment will be conducted.
- After a brief discussion about the data, Board members requested a list of schools that have fallen into low-performing status since the inception of the Turnaround initiative, and, in the future, would like to have information about trends.
- There was no additional discussion.

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

INFORMATION

LFI 2 – Plan for Statewide Assistance for Schools

Policy Implications:

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

Description:

Historically, immediately following the adoption of the annual ABCs of Public Education test results, the State Board of Education approves the deployment of assistance teams. However, in 2007-08 the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) instituted a new system of district and school assistance that replaced the assistance team model.

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

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

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

Recommendations:

None at this time.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett recognized Dr. Garland to share the Department's plan for a Statewide System of Support.
- Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Garland explained that using a formula that incorporates ABCs status, No Child Left Behind status, court requirements, the Governor's priorities, and a district's capacity to provide resources, the NCDPI's Academic Services and Instruction Support Division will compile a priority list of schools needing assistance. Statewide System of Support (SSOS) targets schools when performance is below 50 percent and not meeting growth expectation (ABCs [state statute]; or has gaps – NCLB [federal law]; or is below 60 percent proficiency target [NC Executive & Judicial]). SSOS targets districts when performance is challenged by performance gaps or capacity or is under consent order.
- Schools and services to be provided will be identified through a roundtable approach: an internal strategic roundtable will identify schools/districts that need immediate assistance, agency roundtables comprised of directors of academic services will assist in identifying support for these schools/districts, and regional roundtables will work with districts to determine what resources are needed and develop a regional comprehensive list to customize services. Considerations that will be taken into account include whether the district is rural or urban, duration of low-performing status and prior assistance. Names of schools in the various assistance categories will be provided to Board members at their October meeting.
- Board member John Tate recommended that staff make this presentation to legislators to help influence additional and future funds. Board member Melissa Bartlett requested a copy of the PowerPoint presentation.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment LFI 2)

**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 – High School Courses Taken in the Middle School; Considerations for English I

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-M-0001

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela 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 GCS Committee on expanding the current policy GCS-M-001 to allow middle school students to take and receive credit for high school English I.

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to approve the expansion of the existing policy to include English I.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted extensive Committee conversations regarding this item with concern voiced about some of the language in this policy. She noted Committee consensus to delay action on this item until the Board's October agenda to allow for additional discussion and language changes.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in September and will be submitted for additional discussion and action at the October meeting. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION

GCS 2 – K-12 Mathematics, English 10, Occupational Course of Study, and K-12 Information and Technology Essential Standards

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

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services) and Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, 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 and 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 approve the new Essential Standards for K-12 Mathematics, English 10, Occupational Course of Study, and K-12 Information and Technology. The Board is also requested to accept the technical changes to policies GCS-F-002 and GCS-F-004, and the deletion of policy GCS-F-006, as the *North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Computer and Technology Skills* and *Information Skills* have now merged.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted extensive Committee discussion regarding this item.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the new Essential Standards for K-12 Mathematics, English 10, Occupational Course of Study, and K-12 Information and Technology, and to accept the technical changes to policies GCS-F-002 and GCS-F-004, and the deletion of policy GCS-F-006, as the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Computer and Technology Skills and Information Skills, effective with the 2011-12 school year. (See Attachment GCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 3 – Approval of Providers for Supplemental Educational Services (SES) for 2009-10

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 students attending schools in Title I School Improvement for the second year (failure to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for three years) receive supplemental educational services paid with Title I funds. An evaluation committee reviewed the applications to determine that the SES providers that met all required components of the application be recommended for approval.

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to approve the proposed attached list of providers as SES providers.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that there were one hundred fifty-five recommended providers of Supplemental Educational Services for Title I students for the 2009-10 school year.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Reginald Kenan, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed list of providers that meet minimum requirements as set by the U.S. Department of Education. (See Attachment GCS 3)

DISCUSSION

GCS 4 – 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 provide feedback.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted major revisions by staff which make this evaluation policy much more rigorous and will be used to monitor the quality and effectiveness of services offered by approved Supplemental Educational Services providers. The policy also outlines procedures for withdrawing approval from providers that fail for two consecutive years to increase the academic proficiency of the students they serve. Board members and stakeholders were asked to review the proposed policy and provide feedback prior to the October SBE meeting.
- Board member Howell asked if this proposed policy will be included in the communications when the SES providers are notified of approval under GCS 3. Mrs. Hughes explained that staff is meeting with the approved SES providers on September 18. Since action will not occur on GCS 4 until after this meeting takes place, the SES providers will receive a “draft” of the proposed policy on September 18.
- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 5 – Honors Course Policy Revisions

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-L-004

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

Description:

The K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Division has provided the findings of the Honors Course Review and recommends changes in current policy GCS-L-004 outlining standards and including a formal review process for all courses eligible for honors weight.

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to review revisions of policy GCS-L-004.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that the GCS Committee has had lengthy discussions concerning this item. Ms. Taft directed Board members to pg. 4, #7, on the yellow revised attachment which reflects an editorial change from honors weight under Project Lead the Way (PLTW) to courses approved for college credit are eligible for Advanced Placement (AP) weight.
- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 6 – Healthy Youth Act Implementation

Policy Implications: General Statute § HB 88; SBE Policy #GCS-F-007

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. David Gardner (Section Chief, Healthy Schools)

Description:

In response to HB 88 Healthy Youth Act of 2009, the Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Division has developed a plan to support LEAs in the implementation of this bill and the revisions to the requirements for instruction for reproductive health and safety education.

Recommendations:

State Board of Education members are requested to review the implementation plan for instructional support to LEAs.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted the staff’s diligence in moving forward with this plan to support LEAs in the implementation of this bill to ensure that local school districts, schools and health educators are appropriately prepared to deliver reproductive health and safety education in grades 7-9 as mandated through this Act.
- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION – MOVED TO ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 7 – Changes to Policy Delineating the Components of the ABCs Accountability Program for the 2009-10 School Year

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #GCS-F-007, 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:

To comply with Senate Bill 202/S.L. 2009-451, the NCDPI requests that the Competency Tests in Reading and Mathematics, the End-of-Course Tests in Chemistry and Physics, and the Computer Skills Tests be removed from the testing and accountability program effective with the 2009-10 school year. This will remove chemistry, Physics, and Computer Skills from ABCs performance composite calculations.

In response to the technical peer review letter (attached) from the U.S. Department of Education (USED), the NCDPI requests that the NCCLAS Alternate Assessments be removed from the testing and accountability program for the 2009-10 school year. This will remove NCCLAS Alternate Assessments in Science Grades 5 and 8, Algebra II, Biology, Chemistry, Civics and Economics, Geometry, Physical Science, Physics, and U.S. History from ABCs performance composite calculations. NCCLAS Alternate Assessments in Reading Grades 3-8, Mathematics Grades 3-8, Algebra I, English I, and Writing Grade 10 will be removed from ABCs performance composite calculations and AYP results. Finally, reference to the High School Comprehensive Test of Mathematics is removed from the footnotes because the test has not met peer review.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the amendments to GCS-C-020 be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- With the Board's approval, GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft moved GCS 7 from discussion to action on first reading so that the LEAs will have the information noted in the description above immediately.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amendments to SBE Policy # GCS-C-020 delineating the components of the ABCs accountability program for the 2009-10 school year, as recommended. (See Attachment GCS 7)

LATE ITEM - ACTION ON FIRST READING**GCS 8 – Changes and Clarifications to Policy GCS-A-012: Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for NCLB Title III**

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #GCS-A-012, NCLB Title III, Part A, Section 3122(a) (3)

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:

Because of the transition to a new ELP test (ACCESS for ELLS ©) during the 2008-09 school year, North Carolina's Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO) criteria and targets need further revision. We have continued our working relationship with the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center (ARCC) and Mr. Robert Linqanti, Project Director for English Learner Evaluation and Accountability Support at WestEd, to assist NCDPI in this effort. NCDPI is also working with Dr. H. Gary Cook, Research Director for Wisconsin Center for Education Research, through the WIDA Consortium, the test publishers of the ACCESS for ELLs ©.

Revising AMAO 1 criteria and targets is not advised at this time for the 2008-09 school year because we need two years of ACCESS data. Under the guidance of Mr. Linqanti and Dr. Cook, Accountability staff examined different scoring and ranking strategies to establish the 2008-09 proficiency target for AMAO 2 and define the criteria for attaining English language proficiency on the ACCESS for ELLS ©. Decision consistency analyses were performed to provide evidence for these recommendations. AMAO 3 was revised to be consistent with the most recent guidance from the United States Department of Education (USED).

Recommendations:

The Department requests that the State Board of Education approve the amendments to SBE Policy #GCS-A-012.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft stated that GCS 8 was submitted as a late item for action on first reading with policy changes and clarifications to SBE Policy # GCS-A-012. This is an annual measurable achievement objective for No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Title III. These revisions were needed as a result of a new English language proficiency test during the 2008-09 school year. Approval of this item enables schools to meet the federal timeline of notifying parents of eligibility for services to LEP students.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amendments to SBE Policy # GCS-A-012, as recommended. (See Attachment GCS 8)

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING

HRS 1 – Schools At-Risk of Being Labeled Persistently Dangerous

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HRS-A-006, 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:

According to State Board of Education policy, a “persistently dangerous school” is a public elementary, middle or secondary school or a charter school in which a total of five or more violent criminal offenses were committed per 1000 students (0.5 or more per 100 students) during each of the two most recent school years and in which the conditions that contributed to the commission of those offenses are likely to continue into another school year. Two schools, Longview School in Wake County Public Schools and Metro School in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Schools, were reported to have .5 or more violent criminal offenses per 100 students during each of the two most recent school years. These data reflect incidents during the 2007-08 and the 2008-09 school years.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board place these two schools on probationary status and that the Program Monitoring and Exceptional Children Divisions monitor these schools during the 2009-10 school year.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft directed Board members to the report in their notebooks.
- Mr. Tate seconded the motion with a clarification that these schools are not listed “persistently dangerous.” Mrs. Hughes clarified that the Board has the option in the policy to put a school on probation, to do nothing, or to label it persistently dangerous. The recommendation is that they not be labeled, but just placed on probationary status for support and monitoring for the 2009-10 school year. The two schools are Longview School (Wake County Public Schools) and Metro School (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Schools).
- Chairman Harrison noted that staff will send a letter to the schools, sharing the discussion of the Board recognizing the efforts of the schools to deal with this issue.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to place these two schools on probationary status and that the Program Monitoring and Exceptional Children Divisions monitor and support these schools during the 2009-10 school year. (See Attachment HRS 1)

**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 # TCS-O-001

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology), Mr. Neill Kimrey (Section Chief, Instructional Technology Section), Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support), Mrs. Charlotte Hughes (Director, Program Monitoring and Support Division), and Mr. Danny Holloman (Section Chief, Recruitment, Retention, and Recognition Section)

Description:

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

- Attachment 1 – 21st Century Community Learning Center
- Attachment 2 – NCLB Enhancing Education through Technology Continuation Grant Awards – IMPACT II, IMPACT III, and IMPACT IV 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 60 proposals were received for 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant funds totaling \$7.1 million to provide academic enrichment opportunities for students who attend high poverty, low-performing schools and who are academically at-risk. Thirty proposals have been recommended for funding.
- In addition, Mr. Howell noted that 31 schools/12 LEAs are recommended for grants totaling \$13.1 million so that they can continue their IMPACT model. The grant monies are provided through No Child Left Behind's Enhancing Education through Technology (EETT) grant. Additional American Recovery and Reinvestment Act EETT funds will be allocated to North Carolina this year and will be used to enable IMPACT II and IMPACT IV schools to participate in the NC 1:1 Learning Technology Initiative as well as become pilot sites for ACRE initiatives.
- At this time, Chairman Harrison recognized Mr. Allen Johnson, Superintendent, Asheville City Schools, who spoke briefly about the impact grant and how it has helped to continue the work of IMPACT in Asheville City. He invited Board members to visit Asheville City Schools to witness the transformation that the IMPACT grant has made in their classrooms.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 21st Century Community Learning Center and NCLB Enhancing Education through Technology Continuation Grant Awards – IMPACT II, IMPACT III, AND IMPACT IV Awards, as recommended. (See Attachment TCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

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

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

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Mr. Danny Holloman (Section Chief, Recruitment, Retention, and Recognition Section)

Description:

A teacher for whom the state pays the participation fee for National Board Certification who does not complete the process or who completes the process but does not teach in a North Carolina public school for at least one year after completing the process is required to repay the participation fee to the state. In compliance with G.S. § 115C-296.2, the State Board of Education established an appeals process through which individuals could request waiver of the repayment obligation. The appeals of 20 teachers who did not complete or attempt the process were considered by an appeals panel. Action on First Reading is requested.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell explained that in compliance with G.S. § 115C-296.2, the Board is asked to approve the recommendations of the Appeals Panel to consider the appeals of 20 teachers who did not complete or attempt the process. He noted that it is the consensus of the TCS Committee to recommend denial of all 20 requests for those who did not attempt or complete the National Board Certification process.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to deny the 20 requests for waivers of the participation fee for National Board Certification. (See Attachment TCS 2)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 3 – Governor’s School Board of Governors

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # HSP-D-009

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Innovation and School Transformation) and Ms. Mary N. Watson (Director, Exceptional Children Division)

Description:

The Board of Governors of the Governor’s School of North Carolina is established as an advisory body in federal and in state law as an Advisory Council to the State Board of Education. Its establishment is set forth in HSP-D-009 of State Board of Education policies. The policy requires that a state associate superintendent serve on the Board and that the other nine members shall include a local superintendent, a teacher, a local director of gifted programs, the president or president’s designee of the Alumni Association of the Governor’s School, and lay persons and shall be selected so as to represent the eight education districts of the state. Presidents (or their designees) from each of the host institutions (i.e., Salem College and Meredith College) serve in an ex officio non-voting capacity. The term of appointments for all members appointed is three years, with no person serving more than two consecutive three-year terms.

The State Board of Education is asked to approve the appointment recommendation of Reginald Mathis to a three-year term as a representative for District 2. Mr. Mathis would be a selected lay person on the Board of

Governors. The previous representative's term expired on June 30, 2009. The current membership roster is attached.

Recommendations:

The State Board of Education is recommended to appoint Reginald Mathis to represent District 2 on the Governor's School Board of Governors with a first term expiring on June 30, 2012.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell noted TCS Committee consensus on the appointment of Mr. Reginald Mathis to represent District 2 on the Governor's School Board of Governors with a first term expiring on June 30, 2012.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Reginald Mathis to represent District 2 on the Governor's School Board of Governors with a first term expiring on June 30, 2012, as recommended. (See Attachment TCS 3)

LATE ITEM - ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCS 4 – Educational Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) Teacher Module Policy Modification

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCS-C-021

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services)

Description:

To modify the Educational Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) Teacher Module policy (TCS-C-021) by removing the restrictions to use this data as part of summative teacher evaluations.

Recommendations:

This item is being presented for Action on First Reading at the September Board meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell directed Board members to the language modification that is included on pg. 2 of the revised policy (yellow sheet). The new language is recommended by the TCS Committee in consultation with the Board's attorneys and other interested parties, and is intended for the Race to the Top (RTTP) funding.
- There was a brief discussion regarding the certainty of the RTTP federal criteria changing. Mr. Howell explained that while there is uncertainty about the federal requirements, the TCS Committee wanted to remove the restrictions to use this data as part of summative teacher evaluations. Chairman Harrison explained that one of the provisions is that there shall be no laws or policies that inhibit innovation. Removal of that clause is in no way an endorsement of using EVAAS for that particular purpose. This item can be revisited after the final guidelines are received.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the new language modification for SBE Policy # TCS-C-021, as recommended. (See Attachment TCS 4)

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

(See Attachment in book)

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

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- Communications Update
- Budget Update

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

ACTION

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

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-001

Presenter(s): Mrs. Susan T. Ruiz (Section Chief, Teacher Licensure Section)

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 hours of graduate coursework that will be offered by approved North Carolina universities. Based on specific masters degree requirements at the universities, some or all of the courses may be applied toward existing degree programs.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the addition of the elementary (K-6) content area as license areas based on the completion of 18 hours of graduate coursework that will be offered by approved North Carolina universities.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris explained that this item was originally submitted as an action item; however, in consultation with the TCP Committee, consensus was reached to pull this item for additional clarification concerning the 18 hours of graduate coursework.
- There was no further discussion.

This item will be presented in the future for additional discussion and action. (See Attachment TCP 1)

ACTION

TCP 2 – Proposed Qualifying Score for the Revised School Leaders Licensure Assessment School Leadership Series

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-003

Presenter(s): Mrs. Susan T. Ruiz (Section Chief, Teacher Licensure Section)

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 test regeneration process, and prior to the standard setting studies, updated 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. The updated core content remains appropriate for assessment of individuals seeking licensure as North Carolina school executives. However, the structure and formatting of the test have been revised.

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. Upon the Board's approval of the recommended score, and during the interim of implementation of revised IHE approved programs, policy will be developed to align licensure requirements for out-of-state and in-state school executive applicants.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted a lengthy discussion about the qualifying score of 163 (formerly 155) for the revised School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA). She noted that the MSA programs are revisioning at this time and will be in place next fall. In the interim, it is recommended that the revised SLLA should be administered beginning in September 2009. The core content remains the same but structure and formatting are updated and is now being given as the current test is no longer available. The recommended score is 163.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to accept this recommendation to approve a qualifying scaled score of 163 for the revised SLLA School Leadership Series as the equivalent of the current score of 155, and directed the Department to develop policy to align licensure requirements for out-of-state and in-state school executive applicants. (See Attachment TCP 2)

ACTION

TCP 3 – Clarification of the Effective Date of the Adjusted Praxis II Score for Physical Education

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-001

Presenter(s): Mrs. Susan Ruiz (Section Chief, Teacher Licensure Section)

Description:

In May 2009, the State Board of Education 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

with a score of 152 or higher on the required Praxis II exam for Physical Education will be deemed to have satisfied the testing requirement regardless of when the test was taken.

Recommendations:

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 with a score of 152 or higher on the required Praxis II exam for Physical Education will be deemed to have satisfied the testing requirement regardless of when the test was taken.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris recused herself from discussion and voting on this item. She recognized Mr. John Tate to take the lead on the discussion.
- Board member Tate noted extensive conversation concerning clarification of the effective date of the adjusted Praxis II score (from 158 to 152) for Physical Education to May 6, 2009, as opposed to July 1, 2008. Subsequently, applicants scoring a minimum of 152 will be deemed to have successfully completed the requirement regardless of when they took the test.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted to approve an effective date of May 6, 2009, with the clarification that applicants for a physical education license with a score of 152 or higher on the required Praxis II exam for Physical Education will be deemed to have satisfied the testing requirement regardless of when the test was taken. Ms. Harris abstained from voting. (See Attachment TCP 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 4 – Final Decision in Contested Cases: Courtney M. Sears vs. DPI; John David Erwin vs. DPI; Jennifer Satinsky vs. NCSBE; and Allen M. Coyle vs. NCSBE

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:

Courtney M. Sears filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI's denial of Petitioner's request for Graduate Pay. The Administrative Law Judge granted Petitioner's request.

John David Erwin filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI's denial of credit for non-teaching work experience. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Jennifer Satinsky filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI's denial of Petitioner's request for a waiver to repay the NBPTS participation fee. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Allen M. Coyle filed a petition for a contested case to challenge DPI's denial of Petitioner's request for a waiver to repay the NBPTS participation fee. 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 Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that the motions below are based on the Board's closed session discussion.
- There was no additional discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to reverse the Administrative Law Judge's decision in the contested case of Courtney M. Sears vs. NCDPI and adopt the decision discussed in closed session as the State Board of Education's final Agency decision. (See Attachment TCP 4)

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge's recommended decision in the contested case of John David Erwin vs. NCDPI, Jennifer Satinsky vs. NCSBE, and Allen M. Coyle vs. NCSBE as the State Board of Education's final Agency decision, as presented. (See Attachment TCP 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING**TCP 5 – Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements**

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-021, TCP-B-009

Presenter(s): Ms. Shirley Harris (State Board of Education Member)

Description:

In April 2006, the Board adopted a policy to allow individuals who have not met licensing requirements due to extenuating circumstances to request an exception from the requirement or an extension of time. The request must include documents from the teacher, the principal, the superintendent, and the chair of the local board of education. In June, a similar policy was approved to allow colleges and universities to submit requests for exception to Praxis I testing requirements on behalf of students seeking admission to teacher education programs. Requests are evaluated by a panel chaired by a member of the State Board of Education. Panel recommendations will be presented in closed session.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the actions related to each request be approved.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that this item was discussed in closed session around the Advisory Board's requests for exception from teacher licensing requirements. The decision has been given to licensure and the applicant has been notified about next steps.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item was discussed in closed session. (Attachment TCP 5)

DISCUSSION

TCP 6 – Proposed Standards for the Evaluation of School Psychologists

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-C-006

Presenter(s): Ms. Teresa A. Smith (K-12 Student Support Services Consultant, Division of K-12 Curriculum, Instruction & Technology)

Description:

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new standards for the evaluation of teachers. In December 2008, the Board approved new standards for the evaluation of school counselors and school social workers. New standards for the evaluation of school psychologists, aligned with the new teacher standards, have been developed and are presented for discussion this month. When approved by the Board, the new standards will be the basis of the new evaluation instrument for school psychologists, which are aligned with the new instruments that have been developed by McREL.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the proposed standards for the evaluation of school psychologists. It is also recommended that the job description be used as professional standards support document.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that Ms. Teresa Smith presented to the TCP Committee the proposed standards for the evaluation of school psychologists that are aligned with the new teacher standards. When approved, the new standards will be the basis of the new evaluation instrument for school psychologists. Ms. Harris stated that North Carolina is the only state in the nation with all of our standards aligned.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in September and will be presented at the October meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 6)

DISCUSSION

TCP 7 – Annual Report on the Reasons Teachers Leave (Teacher Turnover Report)

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

Presenter(s): Mr. Danny Holloman (Section Chief, Center for Recruitment and Retention, Division of Talent Management and Development)

Description:

General Statute § 115C-12(22) requires the State Board of Education to monitor and compile an annual report on the decisions of teachers who leave the teaching profession. To this end, LEAs are asked to complete an annual report on the reasons teachers leave their systems. The report for the 2008-09 school year is attached.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the report.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris directed Board members to the full *Annual Report on the Reasons Teachers Leave (Teacher Turnover Report)* report in their notebooks. This annual report explores the numbers of teachers leaving the profession, a school, and LEA, and the reasons they give for doing so. Ms. Harris emphasized looking at all of the variables included in the report. The 2008-09 state turnover rate was 8.86 percent. This represents a decrease in the turnover rate (13.85 percent) reported for 2007-08.

- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in September and will be presented at the October meeting for action. (See Attachment TCP 7)

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

Under New Business, TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris provided a brief overview about the following new business items:

- Licensure Operational Update
- Licensure Request Volume Report

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

NEW BUSINESS REPORTS

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

- District and School Transformation Districts 2008-09 Performance

Ms. Bartlett noted a comprehensive report by Dr. Ashley, and requested that a copy of the PowerPoint presentation be made available to Board members.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Project Bright IDEA 2

Superintendent Atkinson noted that Project Bright IDEA 2 is getting national attention. On the first day of school at Northeast Elementary School in Lenoir County, Kaoru Wang began filming the benefits of the Project Tomorrow's Project Bright IDEA curriculum. Wang will include Northeast Elementary in the documentary title "Something Far Finer." The documentary will be completed later this year and shown at film festivals. For more information, go to www.enctoday.com/news/elementary-58092-kfpress-school-northeast.html.

Project Bright IDEA 2 was designed as an integrated approach to transforming the classroom for kindergarteners, first and second graders into a vibrant community of learners and problem solvers. This unique K-2 research model, funded by the Javits Program of the United States Department of Education, was designed and implemented by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the American Association for Gifted Children at Duke University in response to a legislative mandate to increase the number of gifted children from underserved populations into gifted and academically challenging programs.

NC Graduation Summit

Communities in Schools of North Carolina and NCDPI are partnering to host the North Carolina Graduation Summit on October 22 at NCSU McKimmon Center. The summit is one of 100 such events nationwide in which local leaders will develop workable solutions to prepare our youth for success in college, work, and life. The event will feature

- a business breakfast

- a five-member county action team
- information stations describing programs, initiatives and organizations from North Carolina that provide replicable, proven, research-based strategies and solutions
- speakers - Bob Balfanz, Associate Professor at Everyone Graduates Center, Johns Hopkins University, and Bill Milliken, Founder & Vice-Chair, Communities In Schools, author of *The Last Dropout*.

SBE members will be invited to this invitation-only event where the action teams will develop a regional plan open to education, business, and community leaders.

Read for the Record

Superintendent Atkinson encouraged Board members to join the national campaign: Jumpstart's Read for the Record, by obtaining a copy of Eric Carle's classic book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, to read to students in their regions on October 8.

Transition Plan for Competency and Computer Skills

Superintendent Atkinson noted that the Department has received many inquiries about how the Department and State Board will handle the elimination of the Competency and Computer Skills Test. Superintendent Atkinson provided detailed information about how the Department will comply with Senate Bill 202/S.L. 2009-451.

For Students Currently Enrolled: Effective July 1, 2009, all currently enrolled public school students who have not met proficiency on the North Carolina Reading and/or Mathematics Competency Test(s) and/or the North Carolina Computer Skills Test(s) and/or their alternate assessment(s), are no longer required to meet the competency or computer skills standards.

For Students Not Enrolled: Effective July 1, 2009, students not enrolled in a public school who have met all state and local graduation requirements except for achieving proficiency on the North Carolina Reading and/or Mathematics Competency Test(s) and/or the North Carolina Computer Skills Test(s) and/or their alternate assessment(s), are no longer required to meet the competency or computer skills standards. These students may petition their former school for a diploma.

To help ensure that students, parents, and other stakeholders receive information concerning the elimination of the competency and computer skills proficiency standards, the NCDPI has developed a plan of action for disseminating information which will be communicated to LEAs.

Some Initiatives to Support SBE Goals

- Monthly webinars for local superintendents
- Virtual statewide principals' meeting
- Regional meetings with local superintendents
- Briefings with RESA directors
- Briefings with association leaders

Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

- Delivered remarks/keynote address at
 - NE RESA Superintendents' Council
 - NC Chamber Education Summit
 - Anson County Schools Convocation
 - Halifax County Schools Convocation
 - Macon County Schools Convocation

- Participated in
 - Listening Tour conducted by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and U.S. Agriculture Commissioner Tom Vilsack
 - NCCAT Board of Trustees Meeting

Letters to the U.S. Department of Education (USED)

Superintendent Atkinson directed Board members to the Superintendent's Report tab in their notebooks for a copy of the following letters included in their materials.

- Letter to Secretary Arne Duncan
 - Response to the guidelines issued by the Department of Education for the \$4.35 Billion Race to the Top (RTTP) grant awards on July 17, 2009, which were funded as a part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The primary concern is the overall prescriptive nature of the guidelines including rigid definitions and the emphasis placed on charter schools as the major tool of innovation.
- Letter to Secretary Arne Duncan
 - Response to the proposed regulations regarding Race to the Top posted in the Federal Register/Vol. 74, No. 144/Wednesday, July 29, 2009.
- Letter to Secretary Arne Duncan
 - Response to the notice published in the Federal Register on July 29, 2009, regarding the reporting indicators and descriptors required by the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund.

Beliefs of Teaching and Learning in the 21st Century

In closing remarks, Dr. Atkinson spoke briefly about her Teacher Advisory Council and recognized Teacher of the Year Cindi Rigsbee to present the "*Beliefs of the State Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council About 21st Century Teaching and Learning.*" Board members received a copy of the document.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Prefacing his remarks, Chairman Bill Harrison drew the Board's attention to two policies requiring Board action. Noting minor editorial revisions, Dr. Harrison requested a motion for approval.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board member Shirley Harris noted that under SBE Policy #TCS-C-013, 4. A., the Executive Director of NCCAT was absent from the list. Dr. Harris clarified that it would be added in November.

Upon motion by Mr. Tom Speed, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revisions for SBE Policy # TCS-C-011 – Policy delineating the responsibilities of the SBE in supervising/administering the public school system of NC and the funds provided for its support; and SBE Policy # TCS-C-013 – Policy delineating the delegation of authority from the State Board of Education to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Next, Chairman Harrison summarized the Board's planning session. He publicly expressed appreciation to GlaxoSmithKline, Wachovia and Bank of America for underwriting the associated costs of the planning session. Dr. Harrison noted that Governor Perdue spoke via phone with Board members and expressed her concern regarding low-performing schools, the need to eliminate those performances, and provide a quality education to all students in North

Carolina. One of the areas the Board will be looking at closely this year is charter schools and, the Governor charged the Board with developing a policy to include the following guidelines: A provision to revoke the charters of schools that are consistently low-performing for three or more years; require new charter applicants to sign a waiver from notice of appeal if they remain low-performing for three years; develop an application criteria that supports innovative models for helping all children; and ensure that the policy has provisions to serve balanced socio-economic and demographic populations. In addition, Dr. Harrison added that the State Board will review its policies and how they align with statutes, and clearly define the role of the Office of Charter Schools. An ad hoc committee, to be co-chaired by Harrison and State Board member Melissa Bartlett, will be created to address these and other issues including the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Charter Schools. Board members Speed, Kenan, and Taft will also serve on this ad hoc committee.

Dr. Harrison also outlined six priority areas for the Board for 2009-10:

1. Every student excels in rigorous and relevant core curriculum that reflects what students need to know and demonstrate in a global environment.
2. Every student's achievement is measured with an assessment system that informs instruction and evaluates knowledge, skills, performance, and dispositions as needed in the 21st century.
3. Every teacher will have the skills to deliver 21st century content in a 21st century context with 21st century tools and technology that guarantees student learning.
4. Every learning environment will be inviting, respectful, supportive, inclusive and flexible for student success.
5. School leaders will create a culture that embraces change and promotes dynamics of continuous improvement.
6. Ensuring that processes are in place for financial planning and focus on resource attainment and alignment with priorities to maximize student achievement.

A committee will be formed in the spring that will focus on the state's graduation rate and how the Department can support local districts. State Superintendent June Atkinson will chair this committee.

Dr. Harrison also stated that the Board will be adopting a new committee structure that will enable all Board members to participate in committee meetings. The Globally Competitive Students and Healthy Responsible Students Committees will be combined as will the Business/Finance and Advocacy and Leadership for Innovation Committees. The 21st Century Systems committee will stand alone, but will consider legislative matters as well. Board meetings will begin with updates on the Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) and District and School Transformation. Updates on the NC Common Education Data Analysis and Reporting System (CEDARS) and the performance management tool will be provided in alternate months. The Chairman concluded with a commitment to make the Board's meetings paperless over the coming months.

Update on the *Framework for Change*

Chief Academic Officer for Academic Services and Instructional Support Dr. Rebecca Garland provided a status update on the *Framework for Change*. Under Major Work Streams, a plan for an Instructional Support Toolkit to accompany Essential Standards is being developed. In order to facilitate this work, Academic Services has convened a curriculum advisory council with representation from each of the eight regions. The purpose of the advisory council is to provide feedback to help the Department determine how to best communicate with the instructional leaders across the state. Feedback on the new Accountability Model will be presented to the Board in October. Science Standards have been delayed; they will be presented to the Board in January 2010. Under Assessment and Accountability – Comprehensive Assessments, the Benchmark Assessment is delayed pending funding for the Benchmark Tool. With regard to writing instruction, a Webinar was conducted to provide information on how to implement the writing system using the online tool. Forty LEAs/schools signed up to voluntarily participate in the online system for 2009-10; last year only 19 schools volunteered to participate.

Halifax County Update

Chief Academic Officer for Academic Services and Instructional Support Dr. Rebecca Garland provided a brief status report on Halifax County Schools. Dr. Garland noted that the Department has been deeply involved in trying to improve

conditions for student learning and student achievement in Halifax County. Dr. Garland directed Board members to a status report under the "Other" tab in their notebooks. Halifax County Schools' superintendent Geraldine Middleton has resigned. A vacancy notice has been posted, and according to Dr. Ashley, an interim superintendent will be appointed shortly. A full team has been identified to provide coaching and training support. Summer professional development for administrators was completed and a plan for ongoing support is being developed. In addition, professional development for instructional staff was completed; evaluations revealed that the experience was good and useful. There are concerns about financial analysis, specifically how their money is being spent and where the resources are targeted.

Legislative Update

Legislative Liaison Chris Minard distributed a copy of the Chronological Schedule of Reports Due and Actions Required by the General Assembly for 2009-2010. In addition, Ms. Minard distributed a copy of the 2009 Ratified Public School Legislation. Two thousand seven hundred sixty seven bills were filed during the session, 467 were ratified, and 83 have implications for education. Ms. Minard highlighted several of the bills during her presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the September 2-3, 2009, meeting of the State Board of Education.