

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

<b>Education Building, Raleigh</b>	<b>Thursday, December 3, 2009</b>	<b>Board Room, 10:00 AM</b>
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair  
Melissa Bartlett  
Walter Dalton, Lt. Governor  
Christine Greene  
Shirley Harris

Kevin Howell  
Reginald Kenan  
Tom Speed  
Kathy Taft  
Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

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

Vann Pennell, Principal of the Year Advisor  
Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher of the Year Advisor  
Brittney Del Pizzo, Junior Student Advisor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

In the absence of Chairman Harrison, Vice Chair Wayne McDevitt called the Thursday session of the December State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He explained that Chairman Harrison and Board member John Tate were traveling to China with the Center for International Understanding. In addition, Senior Student Advisor TeDarryl Powell was taking an exam and would not be present.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Vice Chair McDevitt 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 Vice Chair then requested that, if during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest, they bring the matter to the attention of the Vice Chair. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

Vice Chair McDevitt recognized Ms. Patricia Willoughby to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

*Vice Chair McDevitt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 4-5, 2009, Board meeting. Upon motion made by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 4-5, 2009, meeting as presented.*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION – OUTGOING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADVISOR**

- Mr. Wendell Hall, Outgoing Local Board of Education Advisor

On behalf of the Board as a whole, Vice Chair McDevitt thanked Mr. Wendall Hall, NCSBA's Raleigh Dingman award winner and Local Board Member Advisor for 2009, for his commitment to public education and his service to the State Board of Education. He noted that Mr. Hall has offered insightful comments during Committee and Board meetings and has served his community well for many years through his support of public schools in many different capacities. Superintendent Atkinson and Vice Chair McDevitt presented Mr. Hall with an SBE mug and plaque commemorating his service. Pictures were taken of the presentation.

**KEY INITIATIVES REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- ACRE Report - Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Ms. Angela Quick (Assistant State Superintendent/Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Accountability Services)

Dr. Garland prefaced the ACRE report by first speaking about the common core. North Carolina is one of 48 states involved in the common core movement. North Carolina is fortunate that the SBE is the authorizing Board to adopt the Standard Course of Study. In many states, responsibility lies with the legislature, and in many states there are time requirements for public comment. There are two groups of states - one group will have to align with the common core because of those long-time commitments in order to be able to have an adoption, and other states will be adopting. The Department understands that in order to participate in the common assessment, states will be required to adopt. In addition to being a resource issue, the purpose of the common core is so that the United States is competitive with other countries, and that we have very high and clear standards that are internationally benchmarked. In terms of the timeline, in August, the College and Career-Readiness Standards and outcomes were released in English language arts and math. DPI was asked to provide feedback about those standards which were validated in September. These standards are still embargoed. State agencies are being asked to provide comments, and we are currently comparing them to our state standards and preparing comments. We anticipate the standards will be made public in December once state agencies have had an opportunity to comment. When the K-12 standards are determined and validated, every state will have the opportunity to adopt or align to the common core. North Carolina will have to pick up the common core, verbatim, and drop it into our existing Standard Course of Study in English language arts and mathematics. Each state has the opportunity to add to the common core standards (up to an additional 15 percent). The Department has established a timeline of how we would make that determination. The common assessments will be based on the common core curriculum. Participation will require the Board's approval of the standards. Dr. Atkinson announced that the NC Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is one of four states chosen to receive a grant to help promote and help parents understand the common core.

Ms. Quick provided a brief status report about ACRE highlighting two of the workgroups, Change Management and Communications. Record numbers of schools applied to take part in the writing instructional system. A large number of 4<sup>th</sup> graders are participating in the electronic portion. Samples of work will be shared with the Board along with a brief update in January. The Change Management group is helping to prepare communications to ensure that, when we communicate about ACRE, that the information

and documents are getting to the school districts free of all education jargon terms and put in simplistic terms that communicate what students need to do and are expected to do. Several external stakeholder focus groups (NCAE) have been working in collaboration with the Department to provide communication sessions specifically geared to ACRE. In addition, the Sandhills RESA recently hosted 15 principals at a meeting to discuss the essential standards. Department staff are traveling to RESAs and blanketing the state to garner input into the process. She noted that the feedback is evident through the changes made in the writing instructional system.

➤ **District and School Transformation Report - Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, District and School Transformation)**

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Ashley provided a six-month review of the Halifax County Schools partnership. The goal of the partnership is to Raise Student Achievement and Graduation Rates. A national example does not exist where the state and school district work in harmonious partnership to raise student achievement. The intent of the partnership is to help Halifax County standardize leadership at the district level, leadership at the school level, and instruction in the classroom. Dr. Ashley introduced the Halifax team leading the efforts (Ms. Catherine Brooks, District Transformation Coach; Ms. Ann Brown, Middle School Transformation Coach; Ms. Susan Frazier, Lead for Instructional Coaches; Ms. Loretta Riddick, Elementary School Transformation Coach; and not in attendance, Mr. James Ellerbe, High School Transformation Coach, Ms. Donna Weeks, Personnel; and Ms. Kay Fulp, Business and Financial Services). In addition to this team, the Department as a whole provides continuous support to the effort.

In the past six months, the following leadership changes have occurred: School Board chair, superintendent, personnel director, exceptional children director, technology director, testing coordinator, instructional coaches, and two principals. Dr. Ashley spoke briefly about how DPI has supported district leadership and effective instruction. Next steps include developing strategic targets that are measurable, helping the new superintendent review and redesign the central office and organize the district to maximize human capital and time. In addition, the Department will work with Halifax to help develop a calendar to maximize instructional time and a stronger process for benchmark assessments.

**INFORMATION AGENDA**

**LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION  
COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**

**(Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Chair; Ms. Christine Greene, Vice Chair)**

***INFORMATION***

**LFI 3 – NC WISE Parent Assistant Module**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # EEO-C-018

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Peter Asmar (Associate Superintendent/Chief Information Officer) and Ms. Ann Tyndall (Business Analyst, Enterprise Development Group, Technology Services)

**Description:**  
To help our LEA's and Charter Schools build a better parent/school relationship by using an academic tool to keep parents informed about student progress.

**Recommendations:**

To inform the State Board of Education of the NC WISE Parent Assist Module and show value added steps to make this component of NC WISE available along with the next release of NC WISE upgrade.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Asmar provided an overview of the NC WISE Parent Assist Module and how districts and charter schools could use it to build better parent/school relationships. Through this module, parents could view their child's attendance, assignments, grades, credits toward graduation and any disciplinary action. Districts offering the Parent Assist Module have received only positive response from parents. To offer this module to all districts would require additional hardware purchases that would cost between \$800,000-\$900,000. It would take an additional \$300,000-\$500,000 to operate the module annually. If funding is acquired, the Parent Assist module would be available to parents with the next release of NC WISE upgrade.
- Using a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Tyndall provided a demonstration of the product and its capabilities noting its capability to interpret in French and Spanish.
- A brief discussion occurred around funding the Module. A process is in place to protect students who are in non-custodial environments.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for information. (See Attachment LFI 3)

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

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

***ACTION***

**GCS 1 – Changes to Policy Delineating End-of-Grade and End-of-Course Retests and Review Procedures**  
**Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-C-031**

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

**Description:**

In the best interest of students, the NCDPI requests that the option for LEAs to administer a third administration (i.e., Retest 2) of end-of-grade and end-of-course tests be removed from the testing and accountability program effective with the 2010-11 school year. Retest 2 is no longer required by the state, and scores are not included in ABCs or AYP. Following Retest 1, schools may use the results from both the Regular administration and Retest 1 along with other available information (e.g., formative or benchmark data, portfolios) to make promotion decisions. After Retest 1 the standard error of measurement may be used at the discretion of the LEA.

References to testing windows in the policy were discussed at the November meeting but were removed for the December meeting. The implementation date for the policy was moved from 2009-10 to 2010-11.

Additionally, edits to the policy have been made regarding the references to LEP students.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended the Board approve the changes to the GCS-C-031 policy for the 2010-11 school year.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that the GCS Committee has thoroughly vetted the recommended policy changes. The policy is more clear and concise, and includes the deletion of procedures from the policy.
- Vice Chair McDevitt reminded the Board and staff that communications will be very important for local school districts regarding these changes.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended changes to SBE Policy # GCS-C-031 for the 2010-11 school year. (See Attachment GCS 1)*

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 2 – Changes to NC’s NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCS-I-005; No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

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

**Description:**

Each year the U.S. Department of Education (USED) allows the states to make amendments to their Accountability Workbooks. Changes for the 2009-10 school year, pending USED approval, include the following:

- 1) First retest results on end-of-course assessments in the calculations of ABCs Performance Composites and for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), where appropriate.
- 2) References to “Intermediate High” on the state’s English language proficiency test changed to Level 4.0 expanding on the state’s English language placement test.
- 3) North Carolina’s Checklist of Academic Standards (NCCLAS) removed from the testing program per decision of the USED and the peer review process.
- 4) Cohort Graduation Rate improvement indicators will be adjusted.

**Recommendations:**

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

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft stated that changes to the NCLB Accountability Workbook are perfunctory and that this item is available for public comment and input for the next 30 days.
- There was no further discussion.

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

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 3 – Discussion of North Carolina’s Proposed New Accountability Model**

**Policy Implications:** SBE’s “*Framework for Change*”

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

**Description:**

The Department of Public Instruction established the Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) to develop and implement a response to the *Framework for Change* adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE). In the *Framework for Change* (June 5, 2008), the SBE directed the Department to examine the K-8 accountability model with a 21<sup>st</sup> century focus and to develop a new high school accountability model (p. 5, items 6 and 7). The ACRE Assessment and Accountability Committee drafted a proposal for a new accountability model to address both K-8 and high school accountability. Components of the proposed model include student performance, value-added performance for teachers, schools and districts, long-term (longitudinal) growth, graduation rate, Future-Ready Core, and postsecondary readiness. However, there are decision-points related to each proposed component that merit discussion and input from the SBE before moving ahead with the proposed plan. The attached document (originally shared with the SBE at its October meeting) provides a vehicle for discussion of key issues and identifies questions for consideration by the SBE.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to discuss and provide guidance to the Department.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported that the GCS Committee received a good presentation concerning the new accountability model on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item will be part of Board discussion through April 2010; it is anticipated to be taken to the SBE for Action at the May 2010 meeting. (See Attachment GCS 3)

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 4 – K-12 Science Essential Standards**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # GCS-F-008

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

**Description:**

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

**Recommendations:**

State Board of Education members are requested to review and provide feedback on the new Essential Standards for K-12 Science. The Board is also requested to approve the technical changes to SBE Policy # GCS-F-008.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft reported a great presentation by staff and good discussion concerning this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday. The standards will be available for public comment and input for the next 30 days.
- There was no further discussion.

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

**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
(Ms. Shirley Harris, Chair; Mr. John Tate, Vice Chair)

***ACTION***

**TCP 1 – State Evaluation Committee Teacher Education Program Approval Recommendations**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-B-003

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Advisor, NC Education Cabinet)

**Description:**

The State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education (SEC) is charged with reviewing reports of on-site program approval visits and recommending program approval actions to the State Board of Education. Attached is the SEC's recommendation related to the Brevard College Teacher Education Program based on a Spring 2009 follow-up visit.

Also attached are the SEC's recommendations related to the approval of revised teacher education programs. The revised programs are based on the standards for teachers adopted by the Board in June 2007 and the redesigned program approval process approved by the Board in January 2008. Over 700 programs submitted in June 2009 have been reviewed by panels of public school teachers, DPI staff, and higher education faculty.

**Recommendations:**

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

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris asked Board members to be aware of the editorial changes.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the program approval recommendations from the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education as presented. (See Attachment TCP 1)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCP 2 – Teacher and Principal Evaluation Data Collection Policy**

**Policy Implications:** N/A

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

**Description:**

The Race to the Top (RTTT) guidelines and other federal reports are requiring North Carolina to submit principal and teacher summative ratings. This has been discussed at previous State Board meetings. Based on the new federal guidelines, the State Board is required to collect this data to meet these requirements.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended the State Board adopt a process whereby principal ratings utilizing the North Carolina Principal Evaluation Instrument and teacher ratings utilizing the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Instrument are collected and analyzed.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted thorough vetting by the TCP Committee. Ms. Harris drew attention to a correction in the policy that makes the recommendation for districts to submit the principal and teacher evaluation rating annually for the Department's analysis.
- For public record, Ms. Bartlett reminded Board members that during the Committee meeting she voiced concern about the policy assuming anonymity of the summative evaluations, and that the intent of the collection of this data is anonymous. She noted that this recommendation was not included in the revisions. Ms. Harris concurred that the TCP Committee would like the anonymity reflected in the policy. Mr. Ziko, attorney with the Attorney General's Office, clarified that the collection of the information would be confidential and would not be disseminated with personal information attached.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a process whereby principal ratings utilizing the North Carolina Principal Evaluation Instrument and teacher ratings utilizing the North Carolina Teacher Instrument are collected and analyzed annually. (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 2008-09 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.

At this meeting, the Mentor Task Force will present for discussion Revised Standards for Mentor Programs, Revised Standards for Mentors, and a system of accountability and support enhance induction quality for beginning teachers throughout North Carolina.

**Recommendations:**

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

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris asked Board members to be mindful that teacher standards are aligned with the mentor standards. She encouraged Board members to reread the materials prior to the vote in January.
- There was no further discussion.

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

***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 4 – Awarding of CEUs for Retired Teachers**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-005

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

**Description:**

Currently retired teachers can only work up to their maximum earning capacity as defined by the North Carolina Retirement System; thus, they are unable to earn a year of CEU credit for the time they taught or were employed by the North Carolina Public School System as a retiree. To improve conditions for the retired teachers, and to encourage retired teachers to go back in the classroom, this proposed change would enable them to comply with the North Carolina Retirement System’s requirement while still earning a year of CEU credit for the time they taught while retired.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed changes to TCP-A-005.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that this item is presented in part because of a legislative change that allowed teachers to go back into the classroom under an earnings cap. The proposed policy revision allows retired teachers to earn CEUs (Continuing Education Units) for time taught while complying with the North Carolina Retirement System’s earnings cap.
- There was no further discussion.

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

***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 5 – Adding Teaching Areas Based on 24 Semester Hours of Coursework**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-001, TCP-A-003

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

**Description:**

The proposed policy change will enable licensed teachers to apply to the Licensure Section of DPI to add teaching areas to their license upon completion of 24 semester hours of coursework earning a C or better in a subject area.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed changes to policies TCP-A-001 and TCP-A-003.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris explained that the proposed policy changes would enable licensed teachers to apply to the NCDPI Licensure Section to add teaching areas to their license if they completed 24 semester hours of coursework and earned a C or better in the subject area.
- There was no further discussion.

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

***NEW BUSINESS REPORTS***

Under New Business, TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris directed Board member's attention to the North Carolina Superintendents' Evaluation Process available in their materials. The rubric is also included in the Board notebooks. The Committee received a report about the status of the pilot taking place this year.

**LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION  
COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT  
(Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Chair; Ms. Christine Greene, Vice Chair)**

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**LFI 1 – Charter School Task Force Policy Changes**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § N.C.G.S. 115C-238.29A *et seq.*; SBE Policy #TCS-U-001, TCS-U-010, TCS-U-011 (delete)

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Katie Cornetto (Staff Attorney, Office of the NC State Board of Education)

**Description:**

In August 2009, the State Board of Education convened an Ad Hoc Charter School Task Force to address areas of concern related to North Carolina Charter Schools. After multiple meetings, the Task Force Co-Chairs are recommending the attached policy changes for the SBE to adopt in December 2009. SBE action is required to improve the academic accountability of charter schools and to clarify existing procedures for charter applicants to follow. SBE adoption of this policy in December 2009 will enable the SBE to continue expanding its expectations that students are globally competitive and respond to the Governor's request for higher expectations for all students in North Carolina.

**Recommendations:**

The Task Force recommends the SBE adopt the attached policy changes.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that, although this item is designated as Action on First Reading, the Committee has had thorough discussion since the Board's September Planning meeting. The areas of concern were extracted from the Committee's work and given to the Ad Hoc Charter School Task Force to address and make recommendations. Ms. Bartlett provided explanations to the Board as a whole for each of the recommended revisions.
- Mr. Ziko provided clarification concerning the revocation of a "charter."
- Under SBE Policy #TCS-U-012, Ms. Bartlett shared the Committee's concerns about the issue of prohibiting communication with Board members. The GCS Committee was still not particularly

comfortable with the changes and would make a motion recommending that Section (b) be extracted from the policy with the understanding that the Board must address Section (b) at a future meeting. A brief discussion occurred about (b) (1) which Ms. Taft believes is consistent with a similar feature in the Textbook policy. Ms. Greene shared a difference of opinion in that textbook publishers are not the Board's constituents. Mr. McDevitt reminded Board members that policies can be changed when issues are identified. Mr. McDevitt concurred that Section (b) should be deleted from the policy at this time giving the Board an opportunity to have further discussions about the issue later.

- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommended policy changes recommended by the Ad Hoc Charter School Task Force with revisions with a notable exception that Section (b)(1) and (2) is extracted and tabled for further discussion in the future. (See Attachment LFI 1)*

**DISCUSSION**

**LFI 2 – Enrollment Increase Requests Above 10% and Charter School Grade Expansion**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-238-29D(d); SBE Policy # TCS-U-000

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Business Services) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

**Description:**

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

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

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

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the SBE approve the enrollment increase and grade expansion requests as recommended by the Office of Charter Schools.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that a thorough discussion was held regarding each of the charter school applications for enrollment increases and grade expansions. The Committee requested that the Office of Charter Schools provide Board members with additional information to inform the decision-making process prior to the January meeting. This item is available for public comment for 30 days, and will be presented for action in January.
- There was no further discussion.

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

**TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS  
BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT  
(Mr. Kevin Howell, Chair; Mr. Tom Speed, Vice Chair)**

***ACTION ON FIRST READING*****TCS 2 – Access for Non-public School Children in North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) and Learn and Earn Online****Policy Implications:** Legislative Directive**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) and Dr. Bryan Setzer (Director, North Carolina Virtual Public School)**Description:**

Legislative directive:

**Statutory Reference: Session Law 2009- 451, Section 7.33**

**SECTION 7.33.** Notwithstanding section 7.10(j) of this act, the State Board shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division prior to December 15, 2009, on (i) its policy regarding access for non-public school children to the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Program and Learn and Earn Online and (ii) funding sources it authorizes, including tuition, for non-public school students in the programs.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve this request.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCS Committee Vice Chair Tom Speed reported that the TCS Committee recommended additional changes to the policy for clarifying purposes. He directed Board members to a revised attachment for this item.
- A brief discussion occurred regarding the portion of the tuition to be retained by the local board of education. Ms. Taft wanted to know where else the tuition could be appropriated. Mr. Price explained that the charging of the tuition is to help offset the cost of the NCVPS program. Therefore, the funding would come to Raleigh as receipts into the NCVPS operations account. Some money, if the Board so desires, would be retained at the local school district to help them with the cost of registering students.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. Tom Speed, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy changes and clarifications as revised. (See Attachment TCS 2)*

**STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT****Race to the Top**

State Superintendent June Atkinson discussed the seven factors North Carolina will need to prove success in order to be a top candidate for Race to the Top Grant funds: increasing student achievement by demographic groups, increasing high school graduation rates, producing more career-ready and college-ready graduates, increasing the number of students who complete challenging capstone courses, increasing the college-going rate, decreasing the need for remedial mathematics and language arts courses and improving student achievement growth in low-performing schools. In addition, the state needs to show how we are fostering a culture of continuous

improvement, what we are doing to promote great leaders and teachers, how we are fostering 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning, and how we are promoting successful, safe and healthy students.

Dr. Atkinson reviewed the RttT Selection Criteria and Points Overview with the Board (See below). She stated that the criteria are very specific as to how each issue is addressed. Directing Board members to their materials, Dr. Atkinson spoke briefly about the importance of collaborating with our partners. For example, fifty points are awarded to states for getting buy-in from LEA superintendents, local board of education chairs, and NCAE representatives to sign a Memorandum of Understanding. At a meeting on Monday, November 30, Superintendent Advisor Jack Hoke facilitated a discussion about the MOU and the Department’s proposal. NCAE, the Local Boards Association and the Principals Association were in attendance.

A. State Success Factors	125
B. Standards and Assessments	70
C. Data Systems to Support Instruction	47
D. Great Teachers and Leaders	138
E. Turning Around Lowest-Achieving Schools	50
F. General	55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>

First round funding applications are due to the U.S. Department of Education on Jan. 19, 2010.

**RTTT Stakeholder Events**

Multiple webinars and meetings have been held and are ongoing to inform stakeholders about the Race to the Top requirements.

RTTT Webinars

- Association Leaders
- Elementary School Principals
- Middle School Principals
- High School Principals
- Teachers ( PM and Evening)
- NCAE Executive Committee

RTTT Meetings

- Local Superintendents
- NCAE Local Presidents
- NCSBA Local Presidents

**CCSSO Annual Policy Forum – November 19-22, 2009**

Superintendent Atkinson attended the recent CCSSO Annual Policy Forum which focused on three major areas:

- RTTT guidelines
- ESEA reauthorization
- SFSF fund requirements

**Superintendents’ Meeting – November 30, 2009**

The recent Superintendents’ meeting included

- RTTT guidelines
- Discussion and input about North Carolina’s proposal

Governor Bev Perdue attended the meeting to discuss the requirements of the RTTT application and the need for their support of North Carolina’s proposal. Also in attendance were representatives from NCAE, NCASA, NCPAPA, NCSBA, and NCSSA.

**2009 Milken Award**

On November 19, Cynthia Rudolph, a biology teacher at Hopewell High School in Huntersville (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools), was named North Carolina's 2009 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award recipient. Rudolph is among more than 50 secondary educators in the nation to receive the unrestricted financial award of \$25,000 this year and has become the newest member of a network of over 2,400 past recipients. Milken Family Foundation Senior Vice President Jane Foley made the surprise announcement during a school-wide assembly. Rudolph is the only North Carolina educator to receive the award this year.

Rudolph co-teaches two biology inclusion classes as well as honors classes and is noted for her unconventional and successful teaching techniques. She integrates art, dance, and song into her classes to accomplish this goal and test results for her inclusion classes show all of her students exceed state standards. Rudolph also helps to show her colleagues and educators across the country that science instruction can be creative.

**Recent Activities of the State Superintendent**

In closing remarks, Dr. Atkinson also updated the Board on her recent activities.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Under the Chairman's Remarks, Vice Chair Wayne McDevitt noted that the Board adopted the Future-Ready Goals for the 21<sup>st</sup> century in 2006. He reviewed excerpts of the document that speak specifically to global competitiveness, and reminded the Board of its work since 2006 to meet those goals. At this time, Mr. McDevitt presented a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Office of Chinese Language Council International, the Center for International Understanding, and the State Board of Education. The goals of the MOU are to build and/or strengthen Chinese language programs and North Carolina-China school-to-school partnerships; to build knowledge and understanding of each other's countries and cultures among K-12 educational leaders, educators and students; and to develop a framework for a sustainable relationship between Hanban, the Center and the State Board. According to Mr. McDevitt, this MOU has been thoroughly vetted by the legal team, partnering agencies, the finance office, etc.

**Memorandum of Understanding between  
the Office of Chinese Language Council International,  
the North Carolina Center for International Understanding, and  
the North Carolina State Board of Education**

The Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban), the North Carolina Center for International Understanding (the Center), and the North Carolina State Board of Education (the State Board) agree to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop 45 Chinese language programs and North Carolina-China school partnerships in North Carolina. This MOU recognizes that:

- Parties to this MOU are committed to building Chinese language programs in North Carolina schools;
- Parties to this MOU are committed to building school-to-school partnerships in North Carolina and China;
- Language education and school partnerships are mutually-reinforcing;

**Goals**

The goals of this MOU are as follows:

- To build and/or strengthen Chinese language programs and NC-China school-to-school partnerships in North Carolina;

- To build knowledge and understanding of each other's countries and cultures among K-12 educational leaders, educators and students; and
- To develop a framework for a sustainable relationship between Hanban, the Center, and the State Board

**Activities**

Hanban, the Center, and the State Board agree to recruit, select, and support as further described below 45 Chinese language programs in North Carolina, with corresponding school-to-school partnerships, through a program called the "North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative."

The parties mutually agree that funding for activities shall be identified and agreed upon before any party will be obligated to participate in any activity.

All activities must be in accord with the policies, regulations, and laws governing the parties' activities.

**Duration**

The duration of this MOU shall be one year, starting on January 1, 2010. Any party may discontinue this MOU without cause by alerting the other parties in writing ninety (90) days prior to the MOU's expiration. The MOU will automatically renew for two one-year periods unless canceled by any party. After the initial term and two renewal terms, the parties may renegotiate this MOU depending on mutual interest.

**Obligations of the Parties:**

Hanban will:

- Provide yearly funding to the Center for International Understanding for administration of the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative. The amount of funding and other material terms associated with this funding shall be negotiated and included in separate annual contracts the effective dates of which shall be conterminous with this MOU and any subsequent renewals..
- Directly appropriate grants to participating schools upon consideration of school plans collected by the Center. These funds will be used to give direct support to schools in the form of conference attendances (including National Chinese Language Conference), community programs, travel costs, and professional development programs. The terms and conditions of these direct grants will be negotiated and entered into between Hanban and the individual participating local education authority (LEA).
- Grant the Center the ability to designate a number of participants per year in the summer Chinese Bridge Delegation. These participants will include: school officials (one principal and one or two other representatives from each Confucius Classroom school); and at least five state-level leaders of education from North Carolina. As part of the Chinese Bridge, representatives of North Carolina schools will visit their school's partner schools.
- Offer at least one guest teacher per year per school, for which Hanban will pay the salary directly to the teacher, and in addition to salary, include a cost of living stipend of \$1500 per month to be paid directly to the teacher, which covers such living expenses as lodging, meals, and local transportation. Hanban will be responsible for securing visas for guest teachers separately from this MOU. Alternatively, Hanban will reimburse a participating local board of education one-half (1/2) the salary and benefits of a teacher assigned to teach Chinese in a participating school.
- Provide classroom teaching materials to each North Carolina school selected to participate in the program (1000 volumes per school).
- Provide airfare and return airfare for guest teachers from China to Raleigh, NC.

- Provide small conference space for up to one week per year at Hanban Headquarters for North Carolina China Programs Coordinator to conduct interviews of Confucius Classrooms teachers.

The Center will:

- Lead and manage the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative in North Carolina, as detailed in the above referenced annual contracts between Hanban and the Center.
- Direct and review all Confucius Classroom plans for programs and activities and make a summary of annual project funds requests from the Center and participating schools at the beginning of every academic year.
- Conduct a yearly meeting of representatives of the schools participating in the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative to share best practices.
- Provide access to and training about collaborative technologies to Chinese and participating schools for use in communications between partners and selection of Confucius Classrooms teachers.
- Build and provide access to an academic networking internet site for teachers participating in the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative to use.
- Provide leadership and support of several other key members of the Center’s staff, including Executive Director, Director of Programs, and existing Program Assistant.
- Disseminate program results to North Carolina network and the State Board through a monthly newsletter
- Disseminate program results and methods at the National Chinese Language Conference, upon the request of Hanban and Asia Society.

The State Board will:

- Communicate opportunities and results of the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative to the North Carolina Governor’s office, North Carolina legislature, and school districts around North Carolina.
- Assist the Center with identifying and recruiting schools in each of the eight North Carolina State Board of Education regions to participate in the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative.
- Offer Hanban and/or the Center the opportunity to address the State Board to report on the North Carolina Confucius Classrooms Initiative.

**Signatures**

The participants respectively authorize the following representatives to sign this Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed in Beijing, China, on December \_\_\_\_, 2009, in duplicate, in English and Chinese Languages, each version being equally valid.

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Madam Xu Lin  
Executive Director  
The Office of Chinese Language  
Council International  
Beijing 100088

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Edward Fiske  
on behalf of  
Center for International  
Understanding  
Raleigh, NC, USA

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William Harrison  
Chair  
North Carolina State Board of  
Education  
Raleigh, NC, USA

*Vice Chairman McDevitt requested a motion to approve the MOU. Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Office of Chinese Language Council International, the North Carolina Center for International Understanding and the North Carolina State Board of Education as submitted.*

**Legislative Update**

Vice Chairman McDevitt stated that the Legislative Report is located in the Board notebooks behind the "Other" tab. In addition, a small workgroup will be convened to establish the legislative process.

**OLD BUSINESS**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**

N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Indicating no other business, Vice Chair McDevitt requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the December 3, 2009, meeting of the State Board of Education.*