

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
January 6, 2010**

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

William Harrison, Chair
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Melissa Bartlett
Shirley Harris
Kevin Howell

Reginald Kenan
Kathy Taft
John Tate
Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

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

Jack Hoke, Superintendent Advisor
George Litton, Local Board Member Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman William Harrison called the Wednesday session of the January 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, Chair 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 Chair 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 noted the absence of Board member Christine Greene explaining that she is the President of the American Association of State Counseling Boards and is attending its annual conference in Orlando, Florida.

Issues Session

Race to the Top

Chairman Harrison prefaced this presentation by expressing appreciation to Governor Perdue for her leadership, Dr. Glenn Kleiman and staff from the Friday Institute, and Dr. Atkinson and staff for their diligence and efforts during this process.

State Superintendent Atkinson and staff (Mr. Adam Levinson, Ms. Angela Quick, Dr. Rebecca Garland, and Dr. Pat Ashley) provided Board members with a full briefing on the state's Race to the Top application, including the plan for submission by Jan. 19, the key initiatives proposed in each section of the application, and the metrics that

will be used to track the success of the initiatives. The application is comprised of five sections: state success factors and how we'll measure our success, standards and assessments (aligned with common core), data systems to support instruction, great leaders and teachers (part of application that carries the most weight and the most controversy), and turning around the lowest-achieving schools. Assurances and certifications are required for each of the sections. The Department has received Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) supporting the state's application from 106 local districts and is working on obtaining the remaining nine. The local school superintendent, chair of the local board of education and president of the local teacher's union (or organization) each signed the MOU. Grants will be awarded in two rounds: first round (no more than five grants) will be awarded in April and the second round will be awarded in September. States can revise and resubmit their applications if they do not receive an award in the first round.

After reactions were shared, questions answered, and recommendations made, Board members were referred to a typed statement in their notebooks under the "Other" tab. Chairman Harrison asked Board members to review the statement and ask any related questions they might have.

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the statements as written. For the benefit of the audience, he read the statements.

The North Carolina State Board of Education agrees to:

- Committing North Carolina to using student achievement growth data as a significant part of teacher and principal evaluation, after undergoing a process engaging all stakeholders to determine a valid, fair, and reliable way to do so.
- The North Carolina State Board of Education approves of the Regional Leadership Academies for principal certification.
- The North Carolina State Board of Education endorses North Carolina working in collaboration with other states on formative, benchmark, diagnostic, and summative assessments based upon the Common Core standards.

Chairman Harrison also asked that the Board approve the state success factors as presented.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the statements as written, and the success factors recognizing that we are going to leave the college readiness of the community college system to the DPI staff and the staff at the Friday Institute to determine a goal under 50 percent if reasonable.

Closed Session

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to convene in closed session.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Reginald Kenan, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consider the handling of cases involving Sandra P. Chaser v. State Board of Education and Frederick P. Moore v. State Board of Education, DPI, and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions, or appointment of 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 Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board of Education meeting until Thursday, January 7, at 9:00 a.m.

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
January 7, 2010**

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

William Harrison, Chair
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair
Melissa Bartlett
Shirley Harris
Kevin Howell

Reginald Kenan
Kathy Taft
John Tate
Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

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

Cindi Rigsbee, Teacher of the Year Advisor
TeDarryl Powell, Senior Student Advisor
Brittney Del Pizzo, Junior Student Advisor

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman William Harrison called the Thursday session of the January 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, Chair Harrison reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. Board member Tate indicated that he would abstain from discussion and voting as it relates to LFI 1 and LFI 2. The Chair 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 noted the absence of Board member Christine Greene explaining that she is the President of the American Association of State Counseling Boards and is attending its annual conference in Orlando, Florida.

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

MINUTES

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2-3 meeting and the December 14 Conference Call meeting.

Ms. Shirley Harris made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2-3 and December 14 meetings. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft.

Discussion/Comments:

- Board member Bartlett noted that on pg. 10 of the December 3 minutes, under discussion of LFI 1 it states, "She stated that she was still not particularly comfortable with the changes..." Ms. Bartlett recommended a word change to reflect that the "Committee" was still not particularly comfortable with the changes.
- There was no further discussion.

Following Ms. Bartlett's recommendation, Ms. Shirley Harris changed the motion to reflect the amendment. Seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 2-3 meeting as amended and the December 14 Conference Call meeting as presented.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – NEW SBE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION ADVISOR

- Dr. George Litton, Chairman, Cleveland County Board of Education
Winner of the NC School Board Association's 2009-10 Raleigh Dingman Award

Chairman Harrison introduced Dr. George Litton as the incoming State Board of Education Local Board of Education Advisor. Dr. Litton was welcomed to his first official meeting and was presented with a plaque, SBE briefcase, pin and mug. The presentation was photographed.

KEY INITIATIVES REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- ACRE Report - Dr. Rebecca Garland (Associate State Superintendent/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)

Ms. Quick prefaced her presentation by directing Board members to the status report located in their notebooks. She noted that the GCS Committee received a presentation on Wednesday about the Phase I and II Essential Standards on the Science Standards. The Department is working on those standards that have been approved and on instructional tool kits that will be used to train teachers and provide additional help to teachers as the state transitions to the new essential standards. In terms of the New Accountability System, Wednesday's focus was on the Future-Ready Core Matrix and how that will be entered into the Accountability System. In response to a question raised during the GCS Committee meeting about formative assessments, the Department will provide a demo presentation of the formative assessment professional development in March or April depending on the Board's schedule.

Ms. Quick provided a brief statistical report about the Writing Instructional System. She recognized the Writing Committee for its work on a forecast three-year plan. Committee members include: Mr. Jim Kroening, Ms. Phyllis Bloom and Ms. Tracey Greggs. One of the enhancements under development for the Moodle System is adding an artificial intelligence scoring engine utilizing the Pearson software. In one year's time, 86,540 fourth grade students are logged onto the Moodle System. In grade seven, 83,715 students are logged on. In closing

comments, Ms. Quick noted that another innovation spin-off comes out of a partnership between Craven County, DPI and NC State University regarding common on-demand assessments which ties into our new formative assessment and benchmark assessment.

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

Prefacing her presentation, Dr. Ashley introduced new staff member Ms. Maria Pitre-Martin (Regional Lead Coordinator) who comes to North Carolina from the Philadelphia School District. Dr. Ashley and Ms. Pitre-Martin provided a brief report about assistance to all districts and schools across North Carolina highlighting the development of regional and agency strategic roundtables. There are ten strategic roundtables with responsibility to prioritize our service. Their role is to review the data on a large-scale level and set priorities. The Agency Roundtable's responsibility is to target agency resources and roll out the initiatives. The Regional Roundtables that operate in each region of the state are to assess the needs and to serve those needs in those individual regions, providing a point of contact and delivery of service. Needs assessment and services are not just those identified as low performing or under NCLB, but for all districts and schools statewide. This structure provides a way to improve our own internal communications within the divisions of DPI, a network to roll out initiatives to help districts and schools strengthen instructional delivery, and provide a point of contact at the regional level for LEAs to share needs. Challenges include a collaboration system for the entire roundtable structure.

➤ CEDARS Update – Mr. Adam Levinson (Director, Policy and Strategic Planning)

Mr. Levinson provided a brief update on the Unique Identifier for Students (UID) System which is operational statewide with the exception of Mecklenburg and Wake counties. The process to bring those two systems onto the NCWISE system is underway and will be completed by the end of January. Mr. Levinson explained that because those two LEAs are not part of the centralized system of NCWISE, and until enhancement of the NCWISE system take place, there is an extra challenge in keeping the UID synchronized when students move from Charlotte or Wake to other LEAs around the state.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Harrison moved to the Consent Agenda which is reserved for items that generally create little or no debate such as routine appointments, items that come for information purposes only, routine reports, and final approval of reports that the Board has already discussed. Board members have always seen these materials prior to the Board meetings, and may ask that items be removed from the Consent agenda to be discussed on an individual basis. Consent items will be adopted as a whole.

Noting only one item on the Consent agenda, Chairman Harrison asked if any Board members wanted to remove GCS 5 from the Consent agenda. Board member Kevin Howell requested that TCS 1 – Approval of Grant – Reading First Educational Grant to Lenoir County be added to the Consent Agenda. The Reading First educational grant in the amount of \$80,000 is to provide a K-3 reading coach for Northeast Elementary School (Lenoir County Schools) Hearing no objections, Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve GCS 5 and TCS 1.

Upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve GCS 5 – Report to Governor and JLEOC on Plan for Restructuring ABCs Accountability System, and TCS 1 – Approval of Grant – Reading First Educational Grant to Lenoir County. (See Attachments GCS 5 and TCS 1.)

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

CONSENT

GCS 5 – Report to Governor and JLEOC on Plan for Restructuring ABCs Accountability System

Policy Implications: General Statute § SL 2009-451 “Budget Bill” Sec. 7.11(b)

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:

The General Assembly in SL 2009-451 “Budget Bill,” Section 7.11(b) indicated that the State Board of Education (SBE) shall develop a plan to restructure the ABCs Accountability System and report the restructuring plan to the Governor and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) by January 31, 2010. The State Board of Education shall not implement a plan unless authorized by an act of the 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) initiated the Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) in response to the State Board of Education’s “Framework for Change: The Next Generation of Assessments and Accountability.” The report to the Governor and JLEOC reflects the current status of the ACRE project specifically related to the accountability component. It addresses the various indicators being discussed by the SBE including student performance, student growth, post-secondary readiness, graduation rates and academic course rigor. The uses of each indicator will be identified for one or more of the following areas: reporting, rewards and sanctions, and targeting assistance. Questions about incentive awards, sanctions for schools and LEAs, and the definition of low-performing schools will need to be addressed.

Recommendations:

The SBE is asked to approve this report before it is submitted to the Governor and to the JLEOC.

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

ACTION ON FIRST READING MOVED TO CONSENT AGENDA

TCS 1 – Approval of Grant – Reading First Educational Grant to Lenoir County

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCS-O-001; No Child Left Behind (Reading First)

Presenter(s): Dr. Cindy Williamson (Director, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology) and Ms. Jackie Colbert (Director, Office of Reading First)

Description:

DPI is requesting to use \$80,000 of Reading First funds to provide a K-3 reading coach for Northeast Elementary School in Lenoir County.

Recommendations:

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

**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 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. Additional information on Title III LEP (see pages 30-31) also included since the December meeting.
- 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 and the amendments to TCS-I-005.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft recognized Dr. Fabrizio to clarify one of the four recommendations.
- Dr. Fabrizio provided clarification about the component of the Accountability Workbook related to the graduation rate. He explained that in the Race to the Top application, DPI will recommend a two-percentage point increase from year-to-year. With the Accountability Workbook, DPI has some additional flexibility where we can also require a two-percentage point increase from year-to-year OR a three-percentage point increase on a five-year cohort graduation rate. It allows more flexibility to the schools and allows the schools that were not able to graduate the students in four years an incentive to keep those students for that fifth year and get credit for it. With the Accountability Workbook, the cohort graduation rate is the other academic indicator and is used to determine if a school can access safe harbor. Dr. Fabrizio asked Board members for their consent to add that option in the Accountability Workbook before submitting it to the U.S. Department of Education.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended changes to the North Carolina Accountability Workbook and the amendments to SBE Policy # TCS-I-005. (See Attachment GCS 1)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

GCS 2 – 2009-10 Title III Addendum to the NCLB Consolidated State Plan

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # GCS-A-011, GCS-A-012, TCS-I-005; and ESEA

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:

States must submit revisions to their assessment and accountability systems to be consistent with the “Notice of Final Interpretations of Title III,” published in the *Federal Register* on October 17, 2008. Official information regarding the process for submitting the revisions was sent to Chief State School Officers by USED in late October, 2009. Requests for amendments that would affect a state’s Title III assessment or accountability system for the 2009-10 school year are due to USED no later than January 15, 2010.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE accept the 2009-10 Title III addendum to the NCLB Consolidated State Plan.

Discussion/Comments:

- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that all of the Title III components have been brought together for this addendum.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Kathy Taft, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the 2009-10 Title III addendum to the NCLB Consolidated State Plan. (See Attachment GCS 2)

DISCUSSION

GCS 3 – 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, K-12 Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology)

Description:

The K-12 Curriculum, Instruction and Technology 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.nepublicschools.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 an excellent presentation from Dr. Williamson and Ms. Beverly Vance during the GCS Committee meeting in which all Board members were present. Staff have continued to receive feedback from educators and stakeholders regarding the standards and are incorporating comments as appropriate and plan to have available Draft 4.0 for review and comment on

January 18. This item will also include technical changes for SBE Policy #GCS-F-008 when the Board takes action.

- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

GCS 4 – 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 21st 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 this month’s discussion focused on how the Future-Ready Core could be counted in the model and how current student accountability measures should be updated. Discussion on this item is scheduled to continue through April.
- 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 4)

HEALTHY, RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS

(Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Chair; Mr. Reginald Kenan, Vice Chair)

Under New Business, HRS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby noted a good presentation during the Committee meeting about the following new business item:

- Recommendations from the NC Institute of Medicine Task Force Involving Education Entities

Ms. Willoughby asked Board members to review the recommendations and share comments, questions and concerns with Ms. Paula Collins.

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

ACTION

TCP 1 – Revised Mentor Standards and Training

Policy Implications: 2007 and 2008 Budget Bills

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Associate State Superintendent/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 to enhance induction quality for beginning teachers throughout North Carolina.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the proposed mentoring and education program standards.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the revised Beginning Teacher Support Program Standards and the NC Standards for Mentors as presented. (See Attachment TCP 1)

ACTION

TCP 2 – Accrual of CEUs for Retired Teachers

Policy Implications: N/A

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Associate State Superintendent/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 retirees. To improve conditions for the retired teachers, and to encourage retired teachers to go back in the classroom, this proposed change would enable teachers 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 SBE Policy # TCP-A-005.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted thorough vetting by the TCP Committee.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed changes to SBE Policy # TCP-A-005 as presented. (See Attachment TCP 2)

ACTION

TCP 3 – 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 (Associate State Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

Description:

The proposed policy change will enable all teachers who have a clear license to apply to the Licensure Section of DPI to add teaching areas to their license upon completion of 24 semester hours of coursework, in which they earn a C or better in a subject area.

Recommendations:

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

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris reported that Dr. Garland presented this item for consideration during the TCP Committee meeting. Initially, the Committee began to look at this policy in response to the new guidelines for exceptional teachers, but this policy speaks to all teachers who complete the requirements.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed changes to SBE Policy # TCP-A-001 and TCP-A-003. (See Attachment TCP 3)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 4 – 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 (Member, State Board of Education)

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. 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 explained that this item was discussed and action was taken during closed session.
- There was no further discussion.

This item, submitted for Action on First Reading, was voted on in closed session. (See Attachment TCP 4)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

TCP 5 – Final Decision in Contested Cases: Sandra P. Chaser v. State Board of Education and Frederick P. Moore v. State Board of Education, DPI

Policy Implications: General Statute § 150B-36

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

Description:

Sandra P. Chesser filed a petition for a contested case to challenge the denial of her request for reinstatement of her teaching license. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the Agency’s action.

Frederick P. Moore filed a petition for a contested case to challenge the denial of his application for a teaching license. 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 discussion on this item took place during closed session on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed Administrative Law Judge’s recommended decision in the contested case of Sandra P. Chaser v. SBE, and Frederick P. Moore v. State Board of Education, DPI as the State Board of Education’s Final Agency Decision as recommended in each of the contested cases. (See Attachment TCP 5)

DISCUSSION

TCP 6 – Crediting Experience for NCVPS Teachers Currently Ineligible for Experience Credit

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-006

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

Description:

Currently there is no language in SBE policy that is specific as to how NCVPS teachers earn teaching experience credit. This proposed policy modification is intended to add language to the existing SBE policy (TCP-A-006) to specify how experience credit is earned for NCVPS teachers who are not otherwise eligible for experience credit and to clarify language related to experience credit earned for college teaching. Both NCVPS teachers who are not otherwise eligible for experience credit and college teachers must teach a minimum of six semester hours taught per term or semester to qualify for half-time experience credit and a minimum of twelve semester hours per term or semester for full-time experience credit.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed changes to SBE Policy # TCP-A-006.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris noted that during the TCP Committee meeting Mr. Price highlighted that we currently have seven out-of-state teachers and one international teacher which led to a discussion around the implications and application of our globally competitive initiatives. This item will come back in February for action.
- There was no further discussion.

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

DISCUSSION

TCP 7 – Removal of Barriers to Lateral Entry Into Teaching

Policy Implications: SBE Policy # TCP-A-001, TCP-A-002, TCP-A010, TCP-A-014, TCP-B-010

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

Description:

A team was formed with members of DPI staff including Academic Services, Exceptional Children, Career and Technical, Teacher Education, English as a Second Language, Licensure and Financial and Business Services was established in response to Section 7.21(a) of the Budget Bill (detailed below) to review the lateral entry policy and remove barriers to lateral entry.

REMOVE BARRIERS TO LATERAL ENTRY INTO TEACHING

SECTION 7.21(a) The State Board of Education shall:

- (1) Review the lateral entry program and identify and remove from it barriers to the lateral entry of skilled individuals from the private sector into the teaching profession;
- (2) Reduce the coursework requirements for lateral entry by consolidating the required competencies into fewer courses and fewer semester hours of coursework; and
- (3) Provide additional opportunities for individuals to complete coursework online and at community colleges.

SECTION 7.21(b) The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 15, 2010, on its implementation of this section.

The team recommends that the pedagogy coursework be modified to align with the new Professional Teaching Standards, thereby reducing the current required pedagogy course work from nine courses to five courses. The proposed pedagogy courses are listed below.

- o Planning
- o Diverse Learners
- o Instructional Methods
- o Classroom Management
- o Ability to Impact Student Learning

Additionally, the team recommends that DPI source with an outside online learning vendor to create online course modules for the Planning course, the Meeting Special Learning Needs; Exceptionalities; Diversity course and the Instructional Methods course to offer lateral entry teachers expanded options for course completion in addition to those currently only available via IHE's. The Classroom Management/Organizing the Classroom to Maximize Learning requirement and the Ability to Impact Student Learning requirement would be signed off on by the respective LEAs.

We will bring to the Board meeting suggested policy changes to the attached policies that will incorporate the above modifications.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE provide feedback relevant to the discussion of these policies.

Discussion/Comments:

- In response to legislation concerning lateral entry licensure, TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris reported a lengthy discussion which is scheduled to continue for several months.
- Board member Taft requested a copy of the report.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is submitted for discussion in January. (See Attachment TCP 7)

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

ACTION

LFI 1 – 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 (Associate State Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Business Services) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

As per G.S. § 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.

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 State Board of Education approve the enrollment increase and grade expansion requests as recommended by the Office of Charter Schools.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett reminded Board members that Mr. Tate recused himself from discussion and voting on this item due to a perceived conflict of interest.
- Ms. Bartlett directed Board members to the list of requests and recommendations by the Office of Charter Schools. She noted that with the exception of two schools, the motion was to approve the enrollment increase and grade expansion requests as recommended. She indicated a separate motion would be made for The Children’s Village Academy and Sallie B. Howard School of the Arts.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted to approve the enrollment increase and grade expansion requests as recommended by the Office of Charter Schools with the exception of The Children’s Village Academy and Sallie B. Howard School of the Arts. Board member John Tate recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment LFI 1)

Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted to deny approval of the enrollment increase above 10 percent and grade expansion requests for The Children’s Village Academy and the Sallie B. Howard School of the Arts. Board member John Tate recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment LFI 1)

DISCUSSION

LFI 2 – Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2010

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

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

Description:

Based on G.S. §115C-238.29D(d) and SBE Policy # TCS-U-007, the following schools are requesting renewal of their charters:

- Cape Lookout Marine Science High School
- The Academy of Moore County

The attachment lists the charter schools with charters expiring in June 2010. The performance and compliance of each school is outlined per the criteria of the renewal rubric. The process and timeline followed by the Office of Charter Schools are included in the materials.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE accept the renewal recommendations of the LFI Committee.

Discussion/Comments:

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that that the LFI Committee is beginning to consider renewal recommendations for charters expiring in June 2010. Board members should expect additional information concerning this item prior to the next Board meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Under New Business, LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett provided a brief overview of the following new business item:

- Ad hoc Committee on Charter Schools

Chairman Harrison reported that at the conclusion of the LFI Committee meeting on Wednesday, a request was made that the Bear Grass Charter School application be reconsidered in light of the non-renewal/revocation of a charter school. Chairman Harrison's comments were as follows:

"I have consulted with my legal staff regarding the status of the Bear Grass application for a public school conversion to a charter. The concerns raised by all interested persons are important.

Counsel has not identified any legal obstacles, per se, if the SBE chose to suspend its process in this situation. It does, however, set an unclear and dangerous precedent for the SBE and all applicants seeking a charter.

In the interest of consistency, it is unwise to modify the selection process. Each applicant is considered at a specific point in time and evaluated based on certain, specific qualifications. This evaluation was done as a comparison at one point in time. Since that time, these qualities, for all applicants individually and with respect to one another, has undoubtedly changed.

The SBE educates all students in our K-12 public schools, including those who are best served by our charter schools. The charter school selection process cannot be altered without setting a precedent. We have not deviated from our processes in the past, and it is dangerous to begin doing so now."

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

DISCUSSION

TCS 2 – 2010-11 Supplemental Budget

Policy Implications: General Statute § 115C-12(1a)

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate State Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) and Mrs. Becky McConkey (Director, Financial Services Division)

Description:

Supplemental budget requests for 2010-11 must be finalized and submitted to the Governor in February 2010. At this meeting, in order to assist the Board with the discussion of the supplemental budget requests, Board members will be presented a list of reductions and how those reductions are impacting school districts. In addition, the Race to the Top (RttT) guidelines will be presented along with a traditional list of initiatives that the SBE feels are underfunded and in need of additional resources and any new budget requests from department staff or Board members.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education discuss future budget needs and specific budget requests in order to construct the SBE's 2010-11 Supplemental Budget Request.

Discussion/Comments:

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell recognized Mr. Philip Price for a report.
- Mr. Price provided Board members with an initial overview of the 2010-11 supplemental budget process. The 2009-10 budget year required \$780 million in budget reductions and \$1 billion in reductions in 2010-11. The budget for textbooks has been completely eliminated; including modified textbooks for students with special needs.
- The revenue forecast has not met projections with a \$111 million shortage reported by the State Budget Office in November. There is the expectation that the forecasted 3.2 percent budget growth will be adjusted downward. This could result in additional monies being requested. Economic recovery is not expected to ramp up until late 2010/early 2011.
- The Department has been given two assignments: build an expansion budget request for next year that meets a three percent cap, or an additional \$221 million in revenue. The revenue can only be used to support programs previously reduced. The second assignment is to send in budget cut recommendations equaling three percent, five percent and seven percent to the Public School Fund. These cuts, which range from \$226 million to \$528 million, are in addition to the \$1 billion already required. After next year, the \$700 million additional funds received from stabilization will be gone.
- A brief discussion occurred regarding formula shifts. With 80-90 percent of the Public School Fund tied up in salary and benefits, there is no way to achieve these cuts without affecting people.
- Mr. Price will meet with State Board Chairman Bill Harrison and State Superintendent June Atkinson to schedule a meeting with the State Budget Office and then discuss options for the Board's consideration at its February meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

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

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.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SERVE Evidence-Based Study

Dr. Atkinson reported that at her request, the SERVE/Regional Educational Laboratory conducted an evidence-based study to determine the correlation between EOC test scores and scores students receive on community college placement tests in North Carolina.

Results: Correlations were run for the English I EOC and the ASSET Reading and Writing scores and for the Algebra I EOC and the ASSET Numeric and Algebra scores. All correlations were at moderate to moderately high levels and all were significant at $p \leq .001$.

Conclusion: The size and significance of the correlations among the EOCs and ASSET tests suggest that the two tests are measuring some of the same content. With more than a third of the variance (commonality) shared among the two assessments, they will provide for some similar score results for many students.

ARRA – Investing in Innovation Fund

Recently, Secretary Duncan announced the Department's proposed priorities for grants under the \$650 million Investing in Innovation (i3) Fund. The fund -- part of the historic, \$5 billion investment in school reform in the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (ARRA) -- will support efforts to start or expand research-based innovative programs that improve student achievement for high-need students. Eligible applicants include school districts and non-profit organizations in partnership with districts or schools. Applicants might also address other aspects of the President's education agenda: improving early learning outcomes; supporting college access and success; and better serving the learning needs of students with disabilities, English language learners, and students in rural districts.

Under the proposed priorities, grants would be awarded in three categories:

- **Scale-Up Grants.** This largest possible grant category (up to \$50 million) is focused on programs and practices with the potential to reach hundreds of thousands of students. Applicants must have a strong base of evidence that their program has had a significant effect on improving student achievement.
- **Validation Grants.** This next grant category (up to \$30 million) is focused on programs that have good evidence of their impact and are ready to expand within their own and other communities.
- **Development Grants.** This final grant category (up to \$5 million) is designed to support new and high-potential practices whose impact should be studied further.

All grant recipients will be required to match federal funds with public or private funds and demonstrate how their programs will be sustainable after their federal grants are completed. The plan is to publish a final application in late winter/early spring 2010, accepting proposals in the spring. All the funding must be obligated by September 30, 2010.

Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council - December 8, 2009

The recent Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council agenda included

- RttT guidelines
- North Carolina's RttT proposal
- ACRE and accountability update
- Educator Recruitment and Development Division update

An outgrowth of the meeting was the teachers of the year becoming content experts in collaboration with DPI's Professional Development Staff for the Teacher Evaluation System.

Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

- Delivered remarks/keynote address at
 - MCNC/NCREN Celebration and Panel Discussion
 - Wake County Delta Kappa Gamma Meeting
 - EPFP Panel Discussion
 - NC Child and Family Leadership Council
 - Youth Accountability Task Force
 - Central RESA Superintendents' Council
 - Public School Forum Board
 - NC Adolescent Health Summit
 - Race to the Top Workshop for NCAE Local Presidents
 - Race to the Top Workshop for NCSBA Local Chairs
 - Race to the Top Webinar for Charter Schools

- Participated in
 - German Embassy Representatives Visit to DPI
 - NC Technology Commission

Attachment:

- SERVE Evidence-Based Study

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**NC Virtual Public School Update**

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Bryan Setser (Director of NC Virtual Public School [NCVPS]) provided a brief update on NCVPS. He reported about virtual learning and efficiencies across the nation with common programs and blended instruction, and addressed some concerns regarding recent budget discussions. Spring enrollments elevate NCVPS to the second largest virtual school in the nation; second to Florida. In development for approximately eight months, NCVPS mobile will be launched this spring to help support lessons. In closing, Dr. Setser shared a video clip demonstrating immersive learning and assessment. He explained that NCVPS is preparing for and trying out more interactive experiences in the future for North Carolina's students.

China Update

Chairman Harrison reported briefly about the trip to China attended by Mr. Tate and him to help strengthen partnerships and understanding of China, and distributed a copy of the MOU signed during the trip. Mr. Tate shared briefly some of his learning in terms of cultural differences in China and India specifically as it relates to the family unit, educational expectations, etc.

Meeting in Halifax County

Chairman Harrison suggested that the March SBE meeting take place in Halifax County. A meeting there will allow SBE members an opportunity to interact with the community and local board of education. Hearing no objections, Dr. Harrison directed Ms. Betsy West to make the arrangements.

Joint Governing Boards Meeting

Chairman Harrison reminded Board members about the Joint Governing Boards meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, in Kannapolis. Governor Perdue will address the group. Board members were asked to confirm their attendance with Ms. West.

Legislative Update

Board members were referred to the Legislative Report located in the Board notebooks behind the “Other” tab.

OLD BUSINESS

Board members asked several clarifying questions regarding the dropout prevention grants. Ms. Minard was instructed to send the link to Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

Noting the Board’s interest in Financial Literacy Education, Board member Willoughby shared that the Marbles Kids Museum in Raleigh is scheduled to have a financial literacy program to promote healthy money habits for children ages 4-10 beginning January 26. “Moneypalooza” is in partnership with the North Carolina Bankers Association.

Board member Bartlett encouraged Board members to volunteer to serve as exam proctors.

ADJOURNMENT

Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the January 7, 2010, meeting of the State Board of Education.