



North Carolina State Board of Education

The State Board of Education is charged with supervising and administering "the free public school system and the educational funds provided for its support."

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sbe highlights

Notes on the state board of education...

December 1-2, 2004

Special Note: To review background materials on each item, please go to http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0412_sbagenda.html Click on the appropriate agenda category, High Student Performance (HSP); Quality Teachers, Administrators and Staff (QP); Effective and Efficient Operations (EEO); Healthy Students in Safe, Orderly and Caring Schools (SS); or Strong Family, Community and Business Support (FCB).

Issues Session - Action Plan for High School Innovation Conference

The Board attended the North Carolina Action Plan for High School Innovation conference on Dec. 2 in Raleigh or Dec. 3 in Charlotte as the December Issues Session. This event, co-sponsored by a variety of host organizations, was designed to launch the North Carolina Action Plan for High School Innovation. Participants heard presentations by Dr. Bill Daggett, President, International Center for Leadership in Education, about the need for high school and education change to meet the demands of a competitive global economy and of fast-changing technology. In addition, a video presentation premiered featuring comments by North Carolina high school students reflecting on how high school is meeting their learning needs. Teams of educators from across the state attended this event. More information is available at <http://www.newschoolsproject.org/>.

Action on First Read

- *Report on Effectiveness of Representative Mentor Programs (QP 1)* — The Board approved on first reading a report on the effectiveness of mentor programs. The report reviewed representative Initial Licensure Programs as well as full-time mentoring programs in North Carolina and noted other selective models. The report recommends and supports the State Board of Education's expansion budget request for a full-time mentoring program funded at a ratio of one mentor teacher per 15 beginning teachers.
- *Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding Programs for 2004-05 (HSP 2)* — Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding was approved for Elizabeth City/Pasquotank Schools, Franklin County, Hyde County and Montgomery County. Robeson County's plan is expected to be submitted to the Board for approval in January.

Action on First Reading

- *Compliance Commission Recommendations Regarding Middle Schools and ABCs Results (HSP 1)* — The State Board of Education chose to leave the 2003-04 ABCs results as they were originally reported. The Board's decision came after three months of discussion and consideration of this complex issue. About one-third of the middle schools met their growth goals for 2003-04. Discussion across the state has centered on whether the ABCs growth calculations should be re-calculated without including sixth grade reading, the subject and grade with the lowest performance. It is important to note that this issue does not affect individual student scores. It does affect how the growth of a school as a whole is calculated using the ABCs formulas.

For the 2004-05 school year, the values in the ABCs formulas are being re-evaluated to see if any need to be adjusted for this year only. This would be a short-term measure until the more comprehensive review is completed and possible changes are made. A thorough and comprehensive review of the entire ABCs model now is underway. This will be completed by late winter or early spring. At that point, recommendations for changes and improvements to the ABCs will be considered for the 2005-06 school year. This model will be reviewed every five years.

- *Reappointment or Replacement of Compliance Commission Members and Appointment of a New Chairperson (EEO 2)* — Jeffrey Jernigan was appointed as the Chair of the Compliance Commission. Jernigan is a principal in Cumberland County. In addition, several new appointments were made. They are: Rebecca Garland, director of Middle Schools, Gifted and Arts Education in the Alamance-Burlington School System; Vanessa Howerton, principal of Grandview Middle School, Hickory, and Sallie Bailey, teacher, Holmes Middle School, Rockingham County, were appointed as new members

Discussion Agenda

- *Report and Recommendations from the Select Committee on Lateral Entry (QP 2)* — In November 2003, the State Board convened a Select Committee on Lateral Entry. This committee, co-chaired by Board member Wayne McDevitt and Krista Tillman, president of North Carolina Operations for BellSouth, presented the Committee's report, including 26 recommendations. The Committee studied existing lateral entry licensure policies and provided a framework for the development of targeted policies that articulate and recognize the role of community colleges in teacher preparation and also offered a review of systems in place for monitoring and mentoring lateral entry teachers. The 26 recommendations addressed licensure requirements; accountability of the Regional Alternative Licensure Centers for support of lateral entry teachers; accountability of local education agencies, community colleges and institutions of higher education for support of lateral entry teachers; funding support; continued monitoring; and related issues.
- *Response to the Report on Professional Development from the Center for School Leadership Development (QP 3)* — Board members discussed their response to the Report on Professional Development from the Center for School Leadership Development. Members voiced concerns about the alignment of the Center's work and the State Board's priorities. Members expressed interest in inviting Center representatives to present to them at a future date.
- *State Evaluation Committee Program Approval Recommendations (QP 4)* — Approval was granted to the teacher education programs at three institutions of higher education as follows:
 - Belmont Abbey College, full approval through 2010-11 with the stipulation that by June 1, 2005, Belmont Abbey must submit a report to the State Evaluation Committee addressing concerns about faculty diversity.
 - Brevard College, temporary authorization for teacher education programs in English, Physical Education, Social Studies and Theater Arts, effective Spring 2005.
 - Queens University, full approval through 2007-08 pending continuing NCATE Accreditation.
- *Individual Class Size Exceptions Waiver Request (EEO 4)* — Two class size waivers were considered at the request of Currituck County Schools and will be presented for approval in January.
- *Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools Established in 2001 (EEO 5)* — Six charter schools were discussed as candidates for 10-year renewals. Next month, the renewals will be on the agenda for action for the following schools:
 - A Child's Garden Charter School
 - Clover Grade School
 - Gaston College Preparatory
 - Hope Elementary School
 - The New Dimensions School
 - Queens Grant Community School
- *SBE/NC DPI Response to House Bill 1354: Short Title: Strengthen Domestic Violence Laws (SS 1)* — The Board reviewed a report prepared in response to HB 1354, Strengthen Domestic Violence. The study group for the bill provided six recommendations for DPI, including continuing to offer existing anti-violence programs and curricula, stronger collaboration to provide training and services to local schools and districts, a comprehensive review of community-based programs currently in use by local districts and schools, collaboration with universities and colleges to ensure that anti-violence issues are adequately addressed in teacher preparation programs, requesting funding for a school-based position to address anti- and domestic violence needs, and the local review of Safe Schools Plans to ensure that goals and objectives are aligned with the issue of addressing anti-violence and domestic violence topics.

State Superintendent's Report

- *Agency Reorganization* — The State Board approved several appointments this month, including the three new directors in the Division of Curriculum and School Reform Services. The new directors will serve in the restructured area under the leadership of Associate Superintendent Elsie Leak. They are Jackie Colbert, Director of the Division of Pre-K - Elementary Education; Marvin Pittman, Director of the Division of Middle School Education; and Wandra Polk, Director of the Division of Secondary Education. Each of these individuals has extensive experience in local public schools as well as in the Department of Public Instruction.

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